As is the case with all the other members of the genus, the sexes present a marked difference in their colouring, the female being destitute of those adornments of the head and neck and the deep grey and chestnut of the under surface which render the male so remarkable.

The male has the head and upper surface of an olivaceous brown, with a lighter stripe down the centre of the head; some of the feathers of the back have light-coloured shafts; and nearly all the feathers of the upper surface are crossed near the tip with a band of black, which, being divided by the light-coloured upper surface are crossed near the tip with a band of black, which, being divided by the light-coloured upper surface are crossed near the tip with a band of black, which, being divided by the light-coloured upper surface are crossed near the tip with a band of black, which, being divided by the light-coloured upper surface and the sides of the back shaft, has the appearance of double spots; these are largest or most conspicuous on the centre of the back and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the wings nearest the body; forehead, stripe over the eye and the sides of the neck, and on the feathers of the back and nearly all t

The female is similar in the colouring and markings of the upper surface, but is darker on the head, has the forehead and stripe over the eye buff instead of grey, the chin white (passing into a gorget of buff on the breast), and all the under surface pale buff crossed with numerous crescentic bars of brownish black.

The Plate represents the two sexes of the natural size. The plant is the Ariopsis peltata.