

# **Contents**

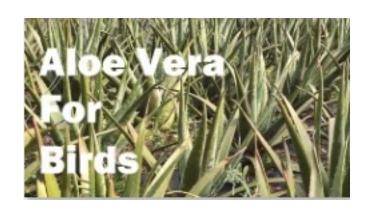
Welcome	3
Eclectus Parrot Book	4
Flypers	6
YouTube Subscribers	7
YouTube Membership	8
How to Breed Meyer's Parrots	9
YouTube Membership Video	10
How to Feed Show Budgies	11
How to Breed the Galah	12
PET ECLECTUS PARROTS	13
Feedback	14
YouTube channel Latest Videos	15
Video Index	16
Premier magazine subscription benefit	18
Virukill	19
Exciting News!	20
How to Breed Amazon Parrots	21
YouTube channel	22
Bird Gardens of Naples	23
Newsletter	24
Monika's Mac Nuts	25
Behavior Vocabulary	26
Budgerigar Health	28
In Premier edition	29
AWEBSA	30
Avifood	31
Cites Bird of the month	33
MDS Africa	34
Harrison's Products	35
Conserving South African Birds	37
Birder-friendly accommodation	38
Gulu Private Resort	39
Birding Los Cabos México	40
Influencer Stats	41
Avian Vets	42
Premier Edition details	43

**Premier Edition INDEX ON PAGE 44** 

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# Can Birds Eat Aloe Vera? Parrots, Budgies, Cockatiels & Finches



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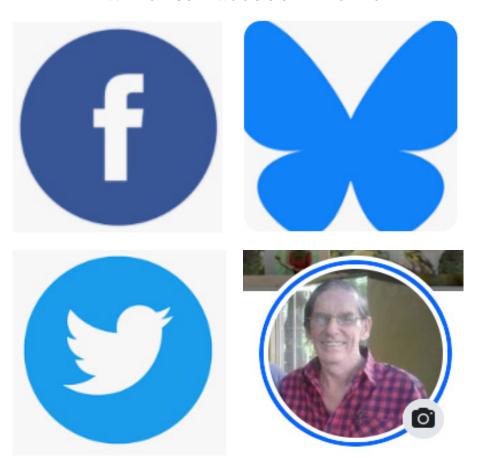
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I am delighted with the growth of my YouTube channel. Thank you so much, everyone, for supporting it. You will find many more Aviculture Insights videos. I plan to create 100, 84 to go. You will also see that I explain more about these videos in the Standard edition.

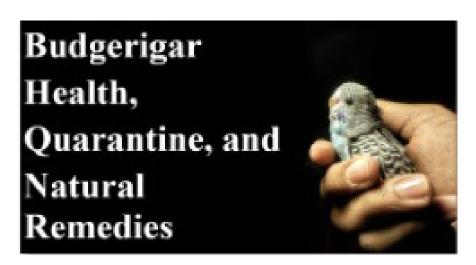
I want to give special thanks to Laurella Desborough for giving me permission to share her amazing experience in creating the Eclectus videos. And then, to Bob Wilson, for allowing me to create videos about budgies. I am looking forward to creating videos about budgie mutations, as Ghalib Al-Nasser permitted me. Thank you so much, everyone. If you want me to share your knowledge with other bird lovers so that we can all grow in the amazing passion, please email me.

In this month's Premier edition: A new section about doves, inspired by Bev Letard, our latest Premier magazine subscriber. Meyer's parrots, Softbills & Weather, Feather Picking/mutilation, Microchipping, Finch Profiles, Caring For Canaries, Recessive Pied budgies, South Africa's Endangered Bird Species, Cites birds, and much more.

I can promote your organization with a video and on our website by becoming a Premier magazine subscriber or as a YouTube member. And the cost? You will not believe it! A yearly Premier magazine subscription. Happy reading, and please do not hesitate to provide feedback to inspire me.

Petrus Albertus van Tonder and The World Wide Birds team (you the subscribers and the sponsors)

### **Latest Video**



### **Latest Subscriber**



### **Cover Photo**

Male Pied Kingfisher
Pic taken at the Gonubie bird
sanctuary in the Eastern Cape South
Africa.

Courtesy: Sean O'Hagan

### Physical and postal address

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### The Edectus Parrot

By Dr Rob Marshall & Tailai O'Brien

This groundbreaking publication is both a comprehensive resource offering in-depth knowledge of the edectus parrot and a valuable reference for carers of all parrot species kept as pets or in aviculture.

Through the lens of the wild edectus parrot, we explain a complete system of care for pet birds. This gold standard level of care is the foundation of superior health necessary to fulfil the cognitive potential of pet parrots of any species. Our pioneering approach creates a robust and resilient companion bird with the extraordinary ability to communicate using human language in context.

Aviculturalist and conservationists can also advance their knowledge through best practice breeding protocols and conservation strategies detailed in sections 4 and 5.

The book combines two decades of fieldwork and over 40 years of avian clinical experience across 740 pages of full colour and is a must have reference book for all parrot owners, avian veterinarians, aviculturalists & conservationists. The book is broadly divided into two halves.

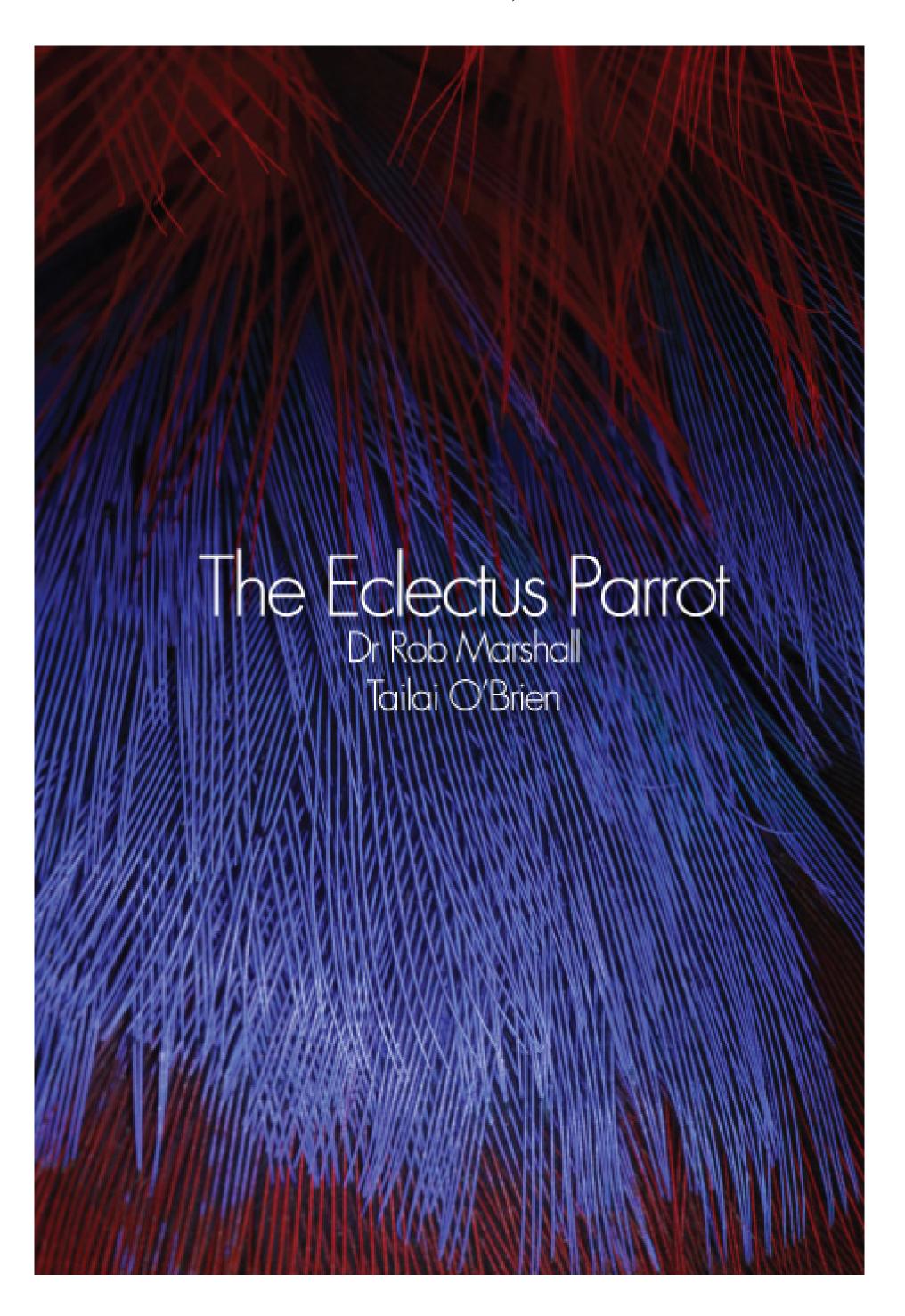
Part one examines the evolutionary origins, life history, wild diet and breeding behaviour of the edectus parrot and contains a detailed chapter on species and sub-species identification. With a focus on conservation-based aviculture, part one is a useful reference for those wishing to learn more about this captivating species and is a blueprint for those interested in developing conservation strategies for other endangered bird species.

Part two is dedicated to the care of companion birds. It is applicable to a wide variety of parrot species and includes comprehensive nutritional and dietary information as well as practical instruction on meal preparation, daily routines, enrichment strategies and advanced training methods.

The final sections are directed towards avian veterinarians and curious owners. The causes and treatment for the most perplexing parrot diseases and behavioural disorders are unravelled through evidence based higher order thinking. This diagnostic process is explained in detail, together with treatment plans and prevention strategies that encompass our innovative and integrative approach to health.

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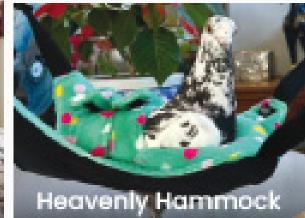
THE ANNOUSE IN THE ANNAEMS Propert (a bird flying disper also known as an Awan Cloper):











### Heavenly Hammock Testimonial

Stu is doing so well in her Flyper Heavenly Hammock! She spends a few hours per day in it (super- vised of course) and enjoys looking around at everyone. I have found that using a milk crate to suspend the hammock in is a great tip. I use soft silicone cups to feed her and figured how to attach them to the milk crate. I use the binder clips that one can buy in a stationary store.

Read further

### We've hit 65,000 YouTube subscribers!

I'm beyond excited and so grateful to each one of you who's supported this bird-loving journey. Thank you for watching, sharing, and helping us grow a community that celebrates nature, conservation, and the joy of birds!

If you'd like to take it a step further, you're warmly invited to become a channel member.

Members get access to exclusive videos, behind-the-scenes content, fun emojis, and more — all while supporting the work we do to keep bringing birdlife to screens around the world.

Click on the photo below to learn more:

Here's to the next 60,000 and all the feathers in between!



### **GOOD NEWS**

My YouTube channel now qualifies for membership. I included the Premier magazine as a perk in levels 2 and 3.

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### LEVEL 2

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Member shout-outs
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### LEVEL 3

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FREE Premier magazine, plus a deep dive video about your bird-related organization.

PLEASE NOTE: An email address will be required to deliver your Premier magazine. A Gmail email address is preferable, as many email providers cannot handle the delivery of our magazine. A test can be done.

### **Exciting News! Introducing Our Custom Bird-Themed Membership Badges!**

These badges will now appear next to your name when you comment, showing off your dedication and love for birds!

Just click on the screenshot for more information.



### How to Breed Meyer's Parrots Expert Tips from Rinus van den Broek Click on thumbnail to watch video.



Discover the secrets to successfully breeding Meyer's parrots.

(Poicephalus meyeri) with hands-on experience and expert advice from Rinus van den Broek. In this video, we'll cover everything from setting up the right environment, nest box requirements, diet during breeding, chick care, and how to support healthy parent birds.

Meyer's parrots are intelligent, playful, and highly rewarding to keep and breed — but they also come with unique challenges. This video gives you the knowledge and confidence you need to succeed in their care and breeding.

Perfect for aviculturists, parrot breeders, or anyone curious about these charming African parrots.

Thank you very much Rinus van den Broek for giving me permission to share your amazing parrot breeding experience.

### YouTube Members only video.



### African Birds B and Canaries with Sounds Bird ID, Gender Differences & Maps

Discover the second part of our alphabetical journey through African birds — featuring species that start with B and Canaries!

- Hear the unique calls of 32 birds
- Learn differences between males and females (when available)
- View distribution maps for selected species

This educational video is perfect for bird ID training, birders, educators, and anyone who loves African wildlife.

### **PUBLIC VIDEO**

# How To Breed Budgie Mutations



### How to Feed Show Budgies Expert Advice from Bob Wilson Click on thumbnail to watch video.

# How To Feed Show Budgies



Feeding show budgies correctly is one of the most important aspects of successful exhibition and breeding.

In this video, we share expert advice from Bob Wilson, a highly respected voice in budgerigar breeding, on how to provide the best diet for show-quality birds.

### You'll learn about:

- Essential seed and grain mixes for show budgies
- The role of greens, fruits, and vegetables
- Supplements and conditioning foods to support feather quality and health
- Feeding routines before, during, and after breeding and showing
- Common mistakes to avoid in budgie nutrition

Thanks so much, Bob Wilson, for allowing me to share your expert advice.

### How to Breed the Galah: Expert Tips from Tony Silva Egg Breaking Behavior Explained. Click on thumbnail to watch video.



Discover everything you need to know about breeding the Galah (Eolophus roseicapilla).

Also known as the rose-breasted cockatoo or pink and grey cockatoo. With expert guidance from Tony Silva, this video covers essential breeding advice, insights into their unique egg breaking behavior, and tips for ensuring a successful breeding season.

Stay tuned until the end for a special song celebrating the Galah as a beloved pet. Whether you're a dedicated breeder or simply fascinated by these intelligent and playful cockatoos, this guide will help you appreciate and care for them even more.

Special thanks to Tony Silva for giving me permission to share his expert advice and photos.

Special thanks to David Monroger for allowing me to share his amazing photos with you.

# PET ECLECTUS PARROTS BASIC CRITICAL INFORMATION

### By Laurella Desborough Click on thumbnail to watch video.



Laurella Desborough shares critical basic information every Eclectus parrot owner needs to know.

With years of hands-on experience and deep knowledge of the species, Laurella provides invaluable guidance for keeping Eclectus parrots healthy, happy, and thriving.

### More resources from Laurella:

**Eclectus Parrot Centre** 

https://eclectusparrotcentre.com/

Eclectus Ark

https://www.eclectusark.com/

Email Laurella directly with questions or comments: laurella.desborough@gmail.com

A huge thank you to Laurella Desborough for making this video possible and for her dedication to improving the lives of Eclectus parrots worldwide.

### Feedback

WOW, what an amazing magazine! I really love all the valuable information. Keep up the good work. I know it's not always appreciated and you spend so much time on the magazine. And now you also create videos, you are a legend, thank you.

Best regards, Maria Kane

Thank you very much for your feedback Maria. You made me feel special and inspred.

This is the best on-line magazine out there, no question. Thank you, just love it.

Regards Graham Venter

Thank you so much. It makes me happy hearing such inspiration words.

Thank you for your YouTube channel. I learned about it through the happy birthday video you shared on my Facebook page. I was very surprised to see all the variety of videos. You are doing great work, keep it up.

Sonia Martin

Thank you Sonia, you are very kind. Thank you for inspiring me.

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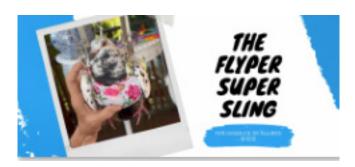














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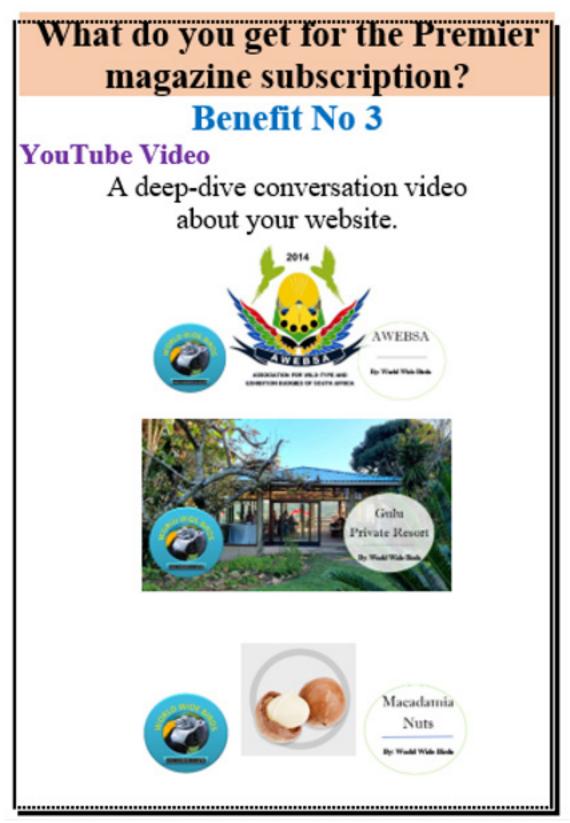




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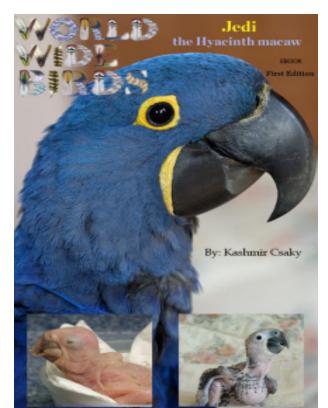


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### **Bird Health**

101 Food Items For Birds

**Parrot Behaviour** 

**101 Parrot Breeding Profiles** 

**Caring and Breeding of Parrots** 

**Feeding Parrots and Recipes** 

**Keeping and Breeding Finches** 

### How to Breed Amazon Parrots Complete Guide plus Rare Mutations Click on thumbnail to watch video.



Discover the fascinating world of Amazon parrots! In this video, we explore how to successfully breed Amazon parrots – from choosing the right pair, housing and diet, nesting requirements, chick care, and common challenges breeders face.

At the end of the video, we also look at some rare and beautiful Amazon parrot mutations, giving you insight into what makes these birds even more special.

Whether you're a beginner breeder or an experienced aviculturist, this guide will help you better understand the needs of Amazon parrots and how to care for them responsibly.

### What you'll learn in this video:

- Popular Amazon species kept as pets and in aviculture
- Breeding behavior
- Aviary setup and nest box requirements
- Proper diet for breeding success
- Egg laying, incubation, and chick care
- Challenges to prepare for
- Amazon parrot mutations

Watch till the end to see some rare Amazon parrot mutations!

**Remember**: Ethical breeding not only ensures healthy parrots but also helps reduce pressure on wild populations.

Special thanks to Peter Kelly for allowing me to share his amazing photos and videos with you. Special thanks to David Monroger for allowing me to share his amazing photos with you.

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Petrus van Tonder

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By: Keriellen Lohrman

### **About Our Organization**

The Bird Gardens of Naples is a non-profit organization whose sole concern is parrot welfare in captivity and conservation of wild parrots. We are an outreach and placement program which places into safe custody, parrots which are abandoned, abused, or in need of a home for any reason. Parrots are intelligent, highly social and complex beings with lifespans of up to 100 years.

The individual bird's best interest and well being of the present flock will determine if a parrot is accepted into the organization. We actively support networking with other parrot welfare groups, animal welfare organizations, the veterinary community, conservation organizations and the general public. Education is of the utmost importance concerning the well being of a parrot and its ability to successfully live with its human companions.

### **Visit The Bird Gardens of Naples**

The Bird Gardens of Naples is located in the green space of Corkscrew Swamp with a variety of flora, fauna, bees, and butterflies. You will have the opportunity to see, learn, and interact with 100+ birds from origins around the world. If weather allows, groups can enter our large macaw aviary with opportunities to take photos and hold birds. Our guided tours last approximately two hours. Please bring sunscreen, bug spray, and comfortable walking shoes.

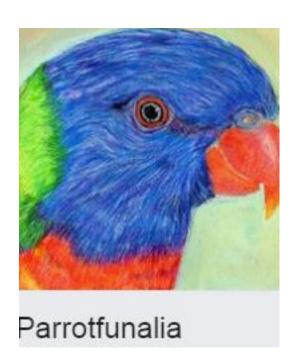
Also feel free to bring unsalted nuts to feed the birds, however, no peanuts as they cause diseases in birds. For safety purposes, please stay on the trail and with your tour guide at all times. If you need to leave early, please advise your tour guide. All guided tours begin promptly 15 minutes after the scheduled time. Our gates open 15 minutes before tours and close 15 minutes after, allowing a 30-minute window for all visitors to arrive. Once the gate closes and the tour begins, late visitors will not be allowed in. Please check our address prior to your scheduled tour to ensure enough time for travel.

We do not charge a fee for our educational tours, but donations are greatly appreciated and go along way to help our charity keep the birds happy and healthy.

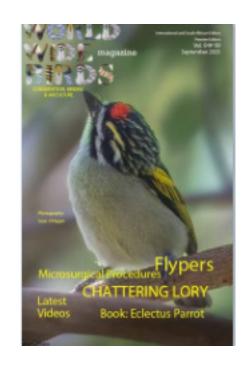


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# HARRISON'S BIRD FOODS



# Previous Edition Pdf bird magazine Vol 9 No 9



Click on cover to download the August standard edition.

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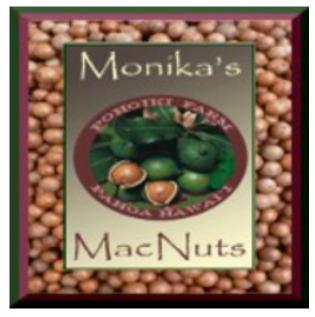
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Monika's Mac Nuts are grown on our family farm on the Big Island. Our Macadamia Nuts are preferred by Birds especially Hyacinth Macaws. Macaw birds love our Mac Nuts! Our Macadamia Nuts are also great for people who are on a raw food diet. Our Nuts are always naturally air dried...never cooked (cooking robs the nuts of flavor and nutrition). Our nuts are 100% pesticide free.

We sell our mac nuts in quantities starting as small as 1 lb up to over 100 lbs. We also offer a subscription program through our website https://www.mac-nuts.com/ where you can choose the quantity and frequency of your order.



Click on photo to visit Facebook page.



Here is one of our gorgeous customers Okalani! She loves our mac nuts!



These are a couple of our adorable customers Grover and Beaky!
Click on photo to read blog post.





### **PARROT BEHAVIOR**

# **Behavior Vocabulary - Functional Analysis (FA)**

By Kashmir Csaky



Now that we covered the meaning of reinforcement, punishment, antecedent and consequence we can tackle functional analysis. The purpose of a functional analysis is:

- 1. Determine the antecedent conditions and non-conditions that predict behaviors.
- 2. To understand the function (purpose) the behavior serves the animal.
- 3. To determine what changes can be made to change unwanted behavior.

A functional analysis (FA) also called the ABCs (Skinner 1959). An FA is the smallest meaningful unit to analyze behavior. It uses the Antecedent (A), Behavior (B) and Consequence (C) to analyze and to determine a course of action to change an unwanted behavior. It is elegant, simple and easy to use once the ground rules are understood.

The immediate antecedent, normally refered to as the antecedent, happens just prior to the behavior and the consequence occurs immediately after the behavior, normally within 1 second. Anything that occurs even 10 seconds after the behavior is neither reinforcing or punishing. Within 10 seconds another series of antecedent, behavior and consequence can occur.

Lets look at a hypothetically situation.

Martha is getting ready to go to work and take her children to school, her parrots Waldo and Dee Dee are out playing on their gyms. The children are gathering their books and homework and have misplaced some of the things they need for school. Her dog Skippy begins running in circles and barking. Martha feels stressed and reaches for Dee Dee to step on to her hand. Dee Dee steps on her hand and is taken to her cage. Martha closes the door turns away and goes to get Waldo.

She yells at the kids to hurry up and reaches for Waldo. Waldo hesitates, steps on her hand. Martha takes Waldo to his cage and as she tries to place Waldo inside he runs up her arm onto her shoulder, to her back and clingy to back. Martha say,"No Waldo, not today." as she reaches around trying to grab him. She swings from side to side and finally is able to grab Waldo's leg. She pulls on his leg and he bites her hand. She screams, lets go and then grabs him again as he bites her a second time. She pulls him off her back and tosses him in his cage.

Martha has been told that Waldo behavior is caused by him trying to dominate her by a consultant who uses dominance training. It is a circular discussion, he is dominating you because he is aggressive and stubborn. He is aggressive and stubborn because he wants to dominate you.

If we were to do a functional analysis for the above situation we would have to first decided whose behavior we want to analyze, Martha, the children, Dee Dee, Waldo or Skippy. Let's pick Waldo. Now we have to decide which behavior to pick, hesitating, stepping onto her hand, running up to her shoulder, back and clingy to her back or biting her. Lets go with biting her. Having the entire history above his helpful and I will discuss that later. We may want to rewrite the history as it pertains to Waldo.

Now that the behavior has been determine we write down A,B, C in a column and fill in B, the behavior.

A.

B. Waldo bites Martha

C.

Note who did the behavior and what the behavior was very simple. Bites, alone is not enough information. However, Waldo bites Martha viciously while Martha struggles to remove him is both subjective and is too much information. It includes Martha's behavior not just Waldo and this is about Waldo, not Martha.

Above B, fill in the blank after the letter A. The antecedent. Remember that the antecedent happens in the environment. It is never something that the animal does.

A. Martha grabs Waldo's leg.

Now we have the stimulus that caused the behavior to happen. Our functional analysis (FA) looks like.

A. Martha grabs Waldo's leg.

B. Waldo bites Martha.

C.

Now fill in C, the consequence. The consequence is also something that happens in the environment. It is a common mistake to fill this spot in with another behavior such as Waldo scream or struggles. However, scream and struggles are more behaviors and not the result of a behavior.

C. Martha screams and lets go of Waldo.

Our FA looks like.

- A. Martha grabs Waldo's leg.
- B. Waldo bites Martha.
- C. Martha screams and lets go of Waldo.

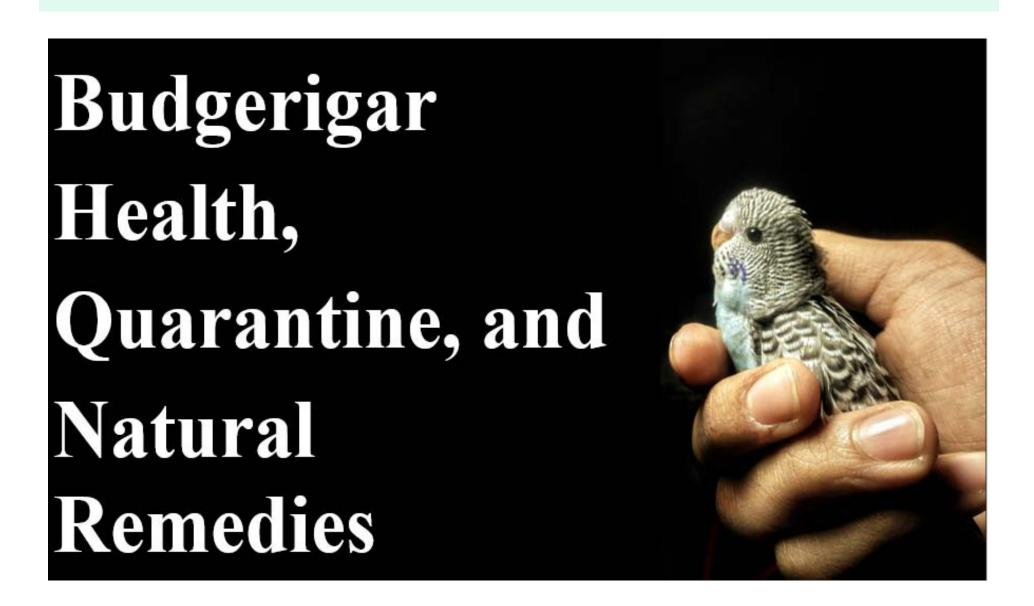
At this point we ask, "Will this behavior increase, decrease or stay the same in the same or similar circumstance?" Odds are good the biting will increase if Martha continues to pull on Waldo's leg, then screams and let go when he bites her.

In both cases of biting Martha ends up letting go of Waldo, even when she toss him is his cage. At this point we now know what caused the behavior and what reinforced it. We can begin working on a solution.

Earlier I said the history is important. Look at all the antecedents that could be changed to help improve the situation. Before going to bed at night the children would be asked to make sure that everything they need is in one place and Martha could go over this with each child. Skippy the dog could be taught to target and station when asked, reducing stress for everyone. Taking Waldo to his cage before Dee Dee might help. Reinforcing Dee Dee for stepping up and going to her cage would provide Waldo with an example and increase Dee Dee's wanted behavior. Reinforcing Waldo when he stepped on to Martha's hand would also help.

Notice that he hesitated when asked to step on to her is body language signaling that stepping up is something that he does not really want to do. Asking Waldo for another easier to do (higher probability behavior) behavior before picking him increases the odds that he will step up when asked. These are not things that are easy to think about when a situation is already tense, so planning ahead and reducing the odds of a stressful situation is the way to go, along with some training for everyone involved.

### Budgerigar Health, Quarantine & Natural Remedies Expert Advice from Bob Wilson Click on thumbnail to watch video.



Keeping budgerigars healthy is every bird keeper's top priority.

In this video, we explore essential health care, quarantine practices, and safe natural remedies to help your budgies thrive.

- With expert guidance from Bob Wilson, you'll learn:
- Why quarantine is critical when introducing new birds
- Signs of common health problems in budgies
- How to support recovery with natural remedies
- Preventive care tips for a long, happy life

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced breeder, these insights will help you raise healthier and happier budgies.

Thanks so much, Bob Wilson, for allowing me to share your expert advice.

### IN PREMIER EDITION

### **AVICULTURE**

# Meyer's parrot Poicephalus meyeri The identification of subspecies.

By Rinus van den Broek (Directly translated from Dutch.)

### **Introduction**:

When I started with the first Meyer parrots at the end of 2016, I discovered that the well-known Meyer's also had 6 subspecies. What do they look like, what is the difference between these subspecies? Questions that, even after a lot of searching, were answered only fairly briefly. Olivier Vercauteren's exam piece for his bachelor's degree already brought some light into the darkness. His test piece was based on his study of the various bellows in the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren (BE) and the conversations with and the writings of various enthusiasts at home and abroad. This description of the meyeri subspecies is largely based on his test piece, but with Olivier his new pictures have been approved and where necessary adapted and expanded, for which I thank.

I also thank Piet Onderdelinden for his photos and support, the Verburg family for the cover photo and the specialized breeders who have allowed us to have their beautiful birds photographed. Thank you very much Rudi Kock, Gert Groen & Jos Jansen!

### CONSERVATION

### Faith in Parrot Conservation

By: LoraKim Joyner

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole.."

- Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On my final night in Paraguay at the end of August 2025, I was asked if I believed parrot conservation would succeed over the long term, and if I had hope. I said no. But I do have faith in parrot conservation.

Just because hope is problematic in conservation, this doesn't keep us from doing all we can to work towards transformation and for saving lives, now, while we can. While in Paraguay in August 2025 we started a National Chapter of the Parrot Conservation Corps in Paraguay at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences at the National University in Concepción. We work for a better future, even if we can't foresee what that looks like or if it will happen.

This discussion begins by examining my reasons why I believe that hope is not regarded as a significant factor in conservation dynamics. It is because after 40 years in front-line parrot conservation I have seen so much death and suffering of individual parrots and people, and of parrot populations and ecosystems. I have not been able to curb this destruction nor have our projects.

Continue in Premier edition	Continue in Premier edition
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# Premier magazine subscriber introduction



Click on logo to visit website.

# Association for Wild-type and Exhibition Budgies of South Africa

AWEBSA is the only National Body in Southern Africa catering for all budgerigars (Exhibition / Wild-Type / Pet Budgies) at our Shows. We also have an Open class where members and non-members show. Exhibition and Wild-Type budgerigars are treated on an equal footing with 25 colour awards each available per show. We invite you to join us and enjoy our wonderful hobby with us.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

### What does "ringing" a budgie mean?

The babies should be "closed rung" so that records can be kept. If you wish to show your birds, you will have to use rings issued by AWEBSA. The young are banded before they develop pin feathers. Then, the toes are still pliable and can be manipulated and pulled through the ring. In a few days, the toes grow and the bones harden. After this time, the ring will neither go on or off.

Rings act as means of identification of the breeder and can clearly date birds.

### What is French Moult?

Budgies that never seem to grow its flight or tail feathers might have "French Moult".

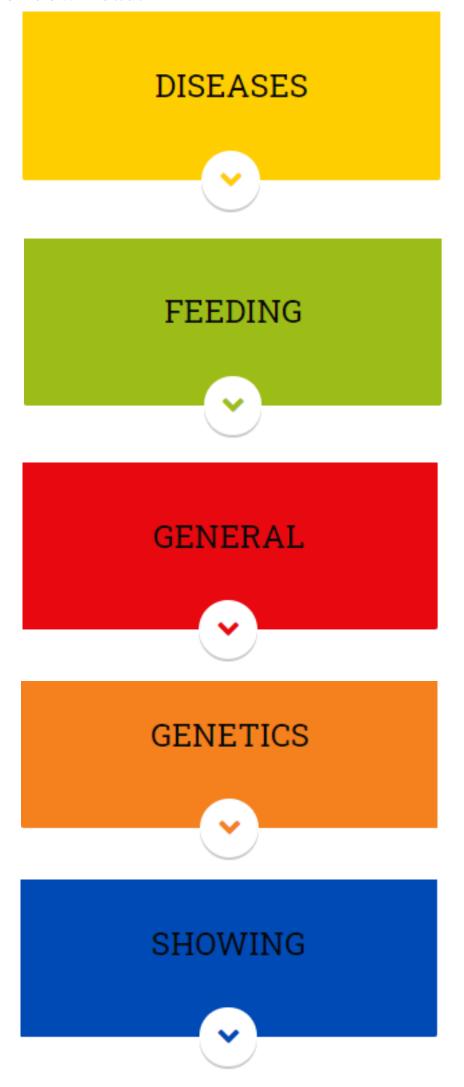
In severe cases they may even loose body feathers. Such birds would not survive in the wild due to natural predators and should under no circumstances be used for breeding.

No cure for French Moult affected birds exists.

### **Useful Articles**

Browse through our articles on our website at your leisure...

Each article is a pdf file which will open in a new window, from where you can read, print or download.



### **Avifood Products**

By Dr. med. vet. Friedrich Janeczek, Veterinary practice limited to Parrots, Graefelfing, Germany

# How do you recognize well-fed young Hyacinth macaws?

It is well known that the quality and composition of the diet for young birds affect the condition of their feathers, skin and beak. This can be seen particularly well in young hyacinth macaws. Poorly and unbalanced nourished young Hyacinth macaws have blackish, dull plumage and pale, sometimes almost whitish skin around the eyes and the lower beak.

The young Hyacinth macaw pictured here is approximately 7 months old and not fully weaned. It has bright blue and shiny plumage and perfect toe skin without hyperkeratosis. Its skin around the eyes is an intense yellow color.

The parents of this bird are fed with Harrison's® High Potency coarse mixed with Palmgloss® and the Harrison's® Power Treats.





Avifood, Dipl. Stat. (Univ.) Monika Janeczek e.K. www.avifood.com, Email: info@avifood.com, Phone +49-89-854-81460 AVIJAN OHG, www.avijan.com, Email: info@avijan.com, Phone +49-89-854-9000 We congratulate our customer to this beautiful young macaw and wish continued success in the next breeding season!

These wonderful Hyacinth macaw progenies can be shipped to all countries which allow the import of captive bred CITES Appendix I species in F2 generation.

Both Hyacinth macaws can be exported in special transport boxes according to the IATA regulations accompanied with CITES export permit, veterinary health certificate and negative test results for avian influenza and Newcastle disease.

Interested persons who have the appropriate facilities to keep Hyacinth macaws should send an email to info@dr-janeczek.de.

I travel a lot to visit our customers and their parrots to check and treat them at their homes. The specialized veterinary video consultations for parrots and parakeets we offer help a lot to get a first impression about the birds and their situation as well as the bird owners problems.

Some cases like nutritional issues can be already solved during the video consultation. However, most cases require thorough diagnostic and therapeutic measures, which I carry out in my veterinary practice limited to parrots at Graefelfing, Germany or as part of my home visits at the customer's location.





### CITES BIRD OF THE MONTH

Palm cockatoo (Probosciger aterrimus) Cites I



Peninsula in Queensland, Australia.

The palm cockatoo is: 55 to 60 cm (22 to 24 in) in length and weighs 910–1,200 g (2.01–2.65 lb). largest parrot in Australia.

Source: Wikipedida

The palm cockatoo (Probosciger aterrimus), Palm cockatoos fashion individual musical also known as the goliath cockatoo or great tools, in the form of wood and seed pods, to black cockatoo, is a large, smoky-grey/black drum on trees to mark their territories and parrot of the cockatoo family native to New attract potential mates. These musical tools Guinea, the Aru Islands and the Cape York are used by the cockatoos to drum out highly personal rhythms and the tools are often highly decorated.

The palm cockatoo is still relatively common in Cape York, where it is nonetheless It may be the largest cockatoo species and threatened by habitat destruction (particularly due to bauxite mining around Weipa) and altered fire regimens in the region. Palm cockatoos are also hunted traditionally in New Guinea. The species is currently listed as Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. It is listed on Appendix I of CITES.

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### How Processing Affects Your Bird's Food – and Their Health

This material is intended to educate consumers about the difference between our Gold Standard extruded diet (nuggets) and our newest addition, Harrison's Organic Premium Pellets - **HOPP**.

### Why Processing Matters

Processing changes the physical structure of ingredients, affecting how nutrients are absorbed in the digestive tract.

### Extrusion & Heat Treatments

Proper heat treatments can deactivate antinutritional factors (e.g., in soy), improving amino acid digestibility. Excessive heat, however, may damage sensitive vitamins or cause Maillard reactions that reduce lysine availability.

### Pelleting

Pelleting is a simpler, more cost-effective process that doesn't fully cook the ingredients. While this can preserve some heat-sensitive nutrients, it may also reduce digestibility. In some pelleting processes (not HOPP), untested grains can raise the risk of mycotoxin contamination.

### Particle Size

A coarse particle size supports healthy digestion, improves stool consistency, and may help lower hindgut pH—offering protection against pathogens. It also promotes proper function of the proventriculus.

Ultimately, two foods with identical formulations can produce very different results depending on the processing method and expertise behind them.



### Harrison's Gold Standard – Adult Lifetime Coarse Extruded Nuggets

- Backed by over 50 years of scientific and practical extrusion expertise
- Crafted from whole, intact ingredients, precisely ground to promote optimal gut health
- Carefully extruded to maximize nutrient availability while protecting heat-sensitive vitamins
- Higher ingredient and processing costs reflect the uncompromising quality and control behind every batch



### Harrison's Organic Premium Pellets (HOPP)

- Created in response to customer demand for a certified organic, balanced, and cost-effective pellet
- Made without peanuts, soy, or corn
- Designed to complement Harrison's extruded diets, offering an ideal option for bird owners who previously mixed conventional or unbalanced pellets with Harrison's formulas
- Provides a seamless, certified-organic maintenance alternative at a lower cost

### SCAN TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE





### Not recommended for special-needs birds, including:

- Birds under one year of age
- Birds recovering from illness
- Molting, breeding, or elderly birds

For these birds, **Harrison's High Potency** formulas remain the best choice for optimal nutritional support.

Where to Buy
Harrison's Extruded Formulas: www.harrisonsbirdfoods.com
HOPP Pellets: www.harrisonspellets.com
or ask your veterinarian/pet retailer

Adapted from Feed Strategy: "Impact of Feed Processing Techniques on Nutrient Availability" – April 21, 2025



# An Ounce of Prevention is worth a Pound of Cure.

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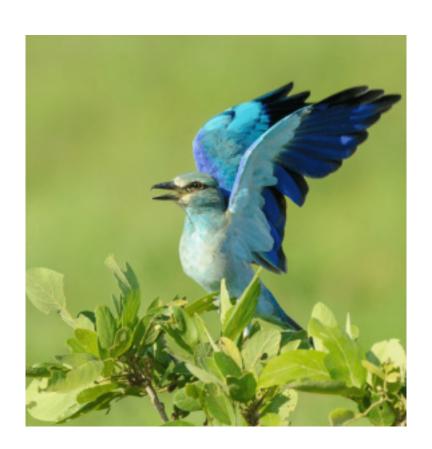


# BirdLife South Africa European Roller CRITICALLY ENDANGERED IN SOUTH AFRICA

Conserving South Africa's European Roller

The European Roller is a spectacular Afro-Palearctic migrant, undertaking an epic journey of over 10,000 km each year to spend the summer months in southern Africa, typically from November to March. While globally listed as Least Concern, the species is considered Near Threatened in southern Africa due to ongoing population declines since the 1970s, including local and national extinctions across parts of Europe.

### Click on photo formmore information.



Video to learn more about African Birds.



### SOUTH AFRICA'S GAME LODGES and SAFARI ACCOMMODATION

South Africa is a country where magic infuses the views and landscapes, where the smiles of the local people can only be matched by the splendour of the ocean, mountains, forests, savannahs, waterfalls and rivers. This country is known the world around for its extraordinary collection of fauna and flora, and some of the best places to see these treasures up close are in the numerous game parks, reserves, sanctuaries and national parks.

Game lodges in South Africa range from rustic bush camps that immerse their guests in the wild side of Africa to luxurious 5-star retreats that showcase the bushveld on a platform of opulence. South Africa is known the world around for its abundance of wildlife, not least of all its many birds. In fact, there is an established avi-tourism industry that invites birding enthusiasts from all over the world to indulge in top-class bird-watching.

### SOUTH AFRICA AS A BIRDING HOTSPOT

Thanks to the abundance of excellent South African hotels and accommodation facilities, as well as an established transport infrastructure (including international car hire companies), South Africa is proving to be one of the world's top birding hotspots.

Visitors can join up with a formal birding tour group or can explore the country and its species on their own. Of the approximate 850 recorded bird species in the country, around 725 are resident birds (or, at least, annual visitors).

### **BIRDER-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION**

The following South African birding hotspots feature on our website.

Would you like to have a link to your website on these blog posts?

All you have to do is to become a Premier magazine subscriber.

### **BLOG POST**

**Austin Roberts Bird Sanctuary** 

# BLOG POST Thornpark East London

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**Boulders Beach** 

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### Mexico Birding Los Cabos México

By: Maria Elena Muriel

### **Birding Journeys In Mexico**







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### Please send an e-mail to:

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Los Cabos is a Birder's paradise, and cruise-ship passengers are welcome too!

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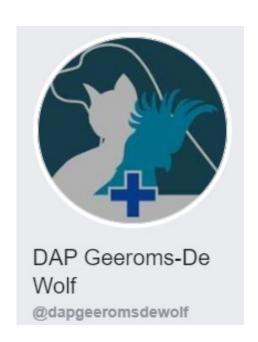
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### IN PREMIER EDITION

Doves
The last flight after death.
Page 45
Meyer's parrot
Page 46



Tony Silva News
Page 49
Softbills
Softbills & Weather
Part I
Page 50
PARROT BEHAVIOR
Page 52
Feather Picking/mutilation
Page 54
Microchipping
Page 55
Finches
Finch Profiles

Page 56

**Caring For Canaries** 

Part II

Page 58

Budgerigar
Recessive Pieds
Page 61
BIRD WATCHING
Jamaican Vireo
Page 64
ENDANGERED SPECIES
Page 65
Conservation
Page 68
Right as Rain
Page 71
Cites Birds
Page 72





