



International and South African Edition
Premier Edition

magazine

Vol. 10 N° 3
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CONSERVATION, BIRDING
& AVICULTURE

Photography:
Sean O'Hagan

Infographics

Training a Canary to Sing

The Emma Conure

Lapwings/Plovers

Latest
Videos

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Do you like the work I do?

Why not buy me a coffee?

Will email a free eBook of your choice.

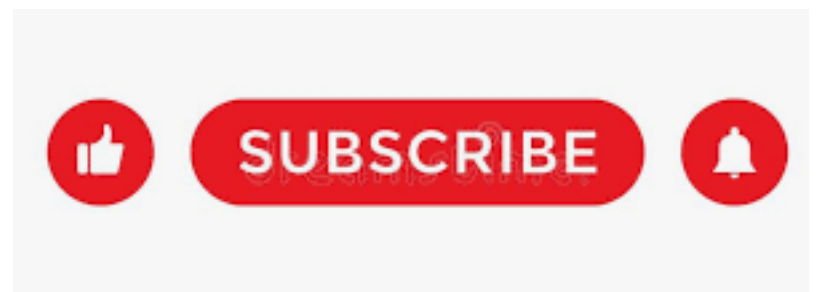


Can Birds Eat Carrots?

Click on thumbnail for full video:



Click below for our YouTube channel:



Click below to receive the magazine on our WhatsApp group and latest videos.

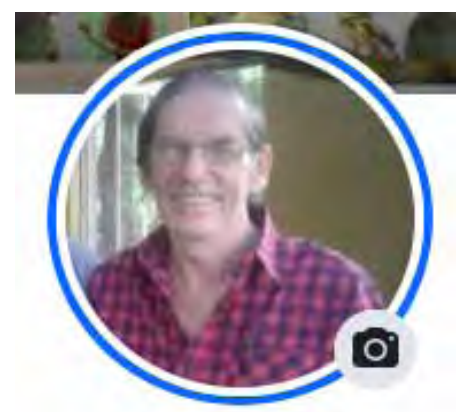


World Wide Birds Magazine

WhatsApp Group Invite

JOIN CHAT

Facebook page, Blue Sky
Twitter & Facebook Profile



WELCOME

As we welcome March, I would like to invite you to become part of our growing Premier family. A Premier subscription to World Wide Birds is far more than just receiving a magazine — it is a complete platform for bird enthusiasts, breeders, clubs, and avicultural businesses who want real value and real exposure.

Premier subscribers receive all 12 monthly editions of the magazine, including exclusive articles not available in the standard edition. Each issue is fully printable and easy to read on both PC and smartphone, making it convenient whether you prefer a printed copy in hand or digital access on the go.

But the benefits extend far beyond reading. Premier members receive 12 free advertisements (10cm x 5cm) in the Standard Edition — each including a clickable hyperlink to your website. With more than 10 000 bird lovers reading the magazine, this alone provides outstanding exposure throughout the year.

You will also receive a collection of fully printable e-books at no additional cost, including Caring and Breeding of Parrots, Feeding Parrots and Recipes, and one of your choice.

Space permitting, Premier members receive extra exposure within the Standard edition at no additional cost. For example, Avifood Products enjoys a dedicated full page each month — demonstrating the level of promotion we provide to our valued partners.

Additional benefits include a video about your bird-related products and/or services. For bird clubs, the value multiplies even more. When a club subscribes, every member receives a free e-book of their choice — strengthening knowledge and adding value for the entire community.

Becoming a Premier subscriber is not simply about receiving content — it is about joining a network that supports education, ethical breeding, conservation awareness, and meaningful promotion within the aviculture world.

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

Cover Photo

Courtesy:

Sean O'Hagan

Cape Batis.

Photo taken at Nahoon Estuary
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East London, Eastern Cape

South Africa

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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.



An advertisement for Avifood products. On the left, a green parrot is shown. Above it is the Avifood logo, which includes a silhouette of a bird in flight and the text 'AVIFOOD®'. Below the logo, it says 'Harrison's® Premium Quality organic bird food available since 1991'. There are also icons for 'BIO' and a leaf symbol. In the foreground, there are several bags of Harrison's bird food in different colors (yellow, red, purple, blue). To the right, there is a collection of Avifood care products, including bottles of 'SPRAY', 'SHOWER', 'PALMGLOSS', and 'GEL', along with jars of 'PLUS' and 'PALMGLOSS'.

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.

Harrison's® Premium Organic Pet Bird Foods,
Palmgloss® and other interesting items



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For easy ordering: <https://www.avifood.com/en/home/>

Specialized Veterinary
VIDEO CONSULTATIONS
for Parrots with
Dr. Friedrich Janeczek



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index.php/en/video-
consultation.html](https://www.janeczek.de/index.php/en/video-consultation.html)

For Appointments: info@dr-janeczek.de

The Barnard's Parakeet: A Guide to Profile, Care, and Breeding

Species Profile & Natural Habitat



Specialized Nest Box Requirements:
Boxes must be at least 600mm deep and 300mm wide to prevent egg breaking.

Aviary Management & Breeding

Autosomal Recessive Mutations
The most striking mutations are "Blue" and "Fellow," which follow recessive genetic patterns.



Mandatory Surgical Sexing:
Visual differences between sexes are minimal, making professional sexing necessary for breeding pairs.

Inhabit regions on a similar latitude to South Africa, dwelling in Bluegum tree hollows.

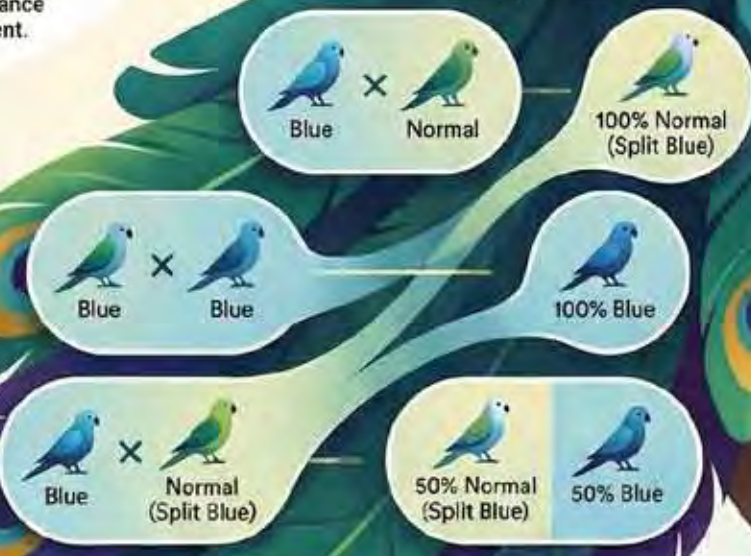


Population Under Threat: Numbers have dropped significantly due to vegetation clearance for land development.

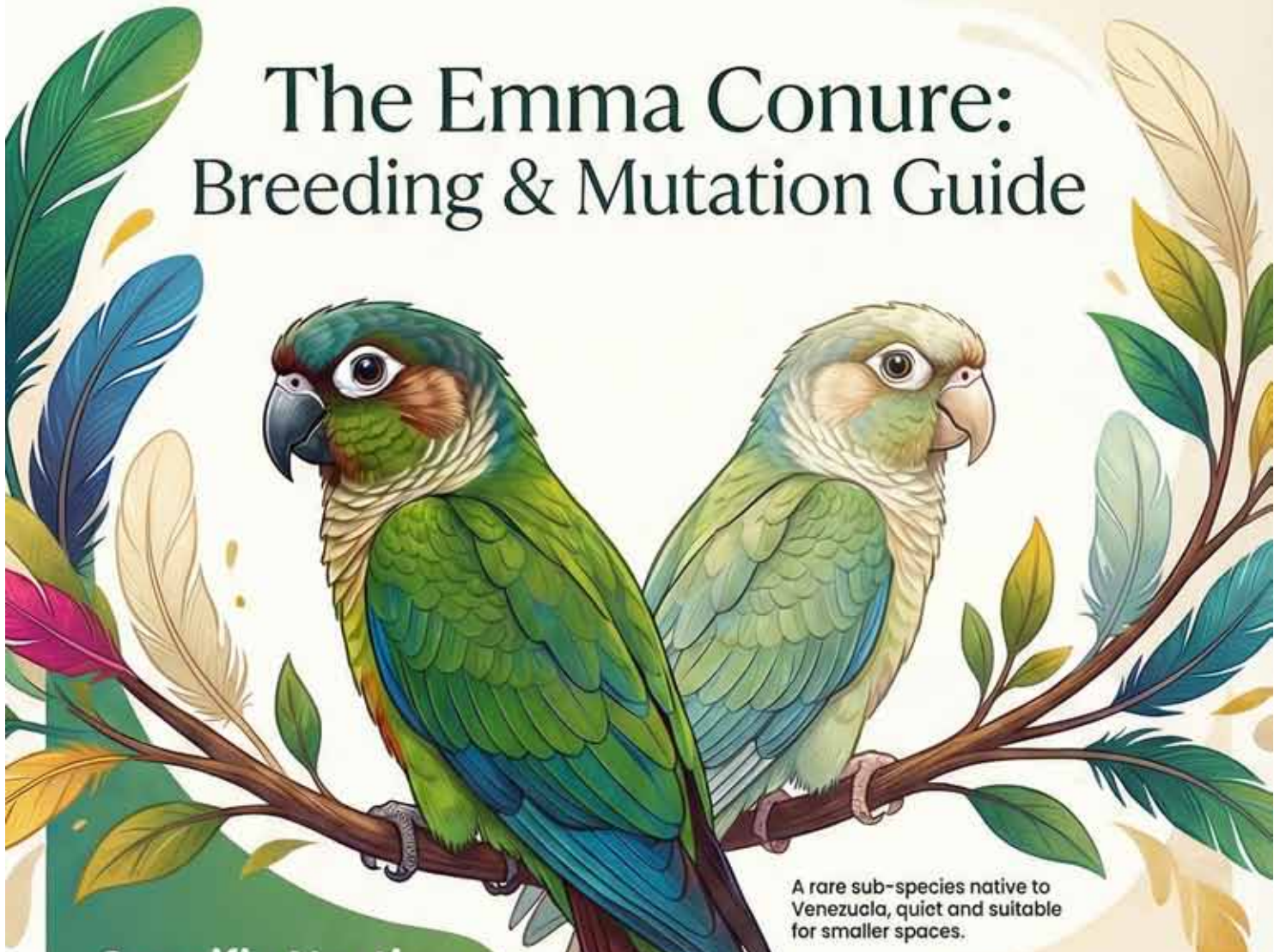


Physical Dimensions
Adults average 35cm in length and weigh between 110g and 145g.

Blue Mutation Pairing Guide




The Emma Conure: Breeding & Mutation Guide




A rare sub-species native to Venezuela, quiet and suitable for smaller spaces.

Specific Nesting Requirements




50mm entrance

50mm wood shaving substrate



Specialized Dietary Needs

Provide moistened grain mixes & vegetables; avoid fruit to prevent mold.



22-Day Incubation Period






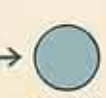




Hens typically lay 5-7 eggs, breeding reliably at 2 years.

The Dilute Mutation

Autosomal Recessive Inheritance


The "Dilute" is a rare, paler color variant that follows specific recessive genetic patterns.

Parent Pairing

	x		→		100% Normal (Split for Dilute)
Dilute		Normal			
	x		→		100% Dilute
Dilute		Dilute			
	x		→		50% Dilute
					50% Normal (Split for Dilute)
Dilute		Split Dilute			

Identifying the Dilute Variant

This mutation produces a beautiful, distinctly paler version of the bird's natural plumage.



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.

**Your membership will inspire me to
continue the series.**

The Gentle Companion: A Guide to Pionus Parrots

Temperament and Unique Traits



Gentle and Quiet Disposition

They are less energetic than Amazons and ideal for apartment living due to low noise.



The "Pionus Wheeze"

When excited, they make a characteristic snorting sound often mistaken for respiratory distress.



Iridescent Beauty

Feathers shimmer with brilliance under bright light, accented by bright red undertail feathers.



Health and Breeding Essentials



3-4 Eggs Per Clutch

Breeding typically occurs from February to July with a 24-26 day incubation period.



High Protein for Breeders

Increase intake of legumes and sprouts during the breeding season to support chick rearing.



Strict Low-Fat Diet

Susceptible to obesity; avoid high-fat snacks like fried banana chips to prevent high cholesterol.

Breeding and Maturity Metrics



Breeding Age
3-4 Years Old

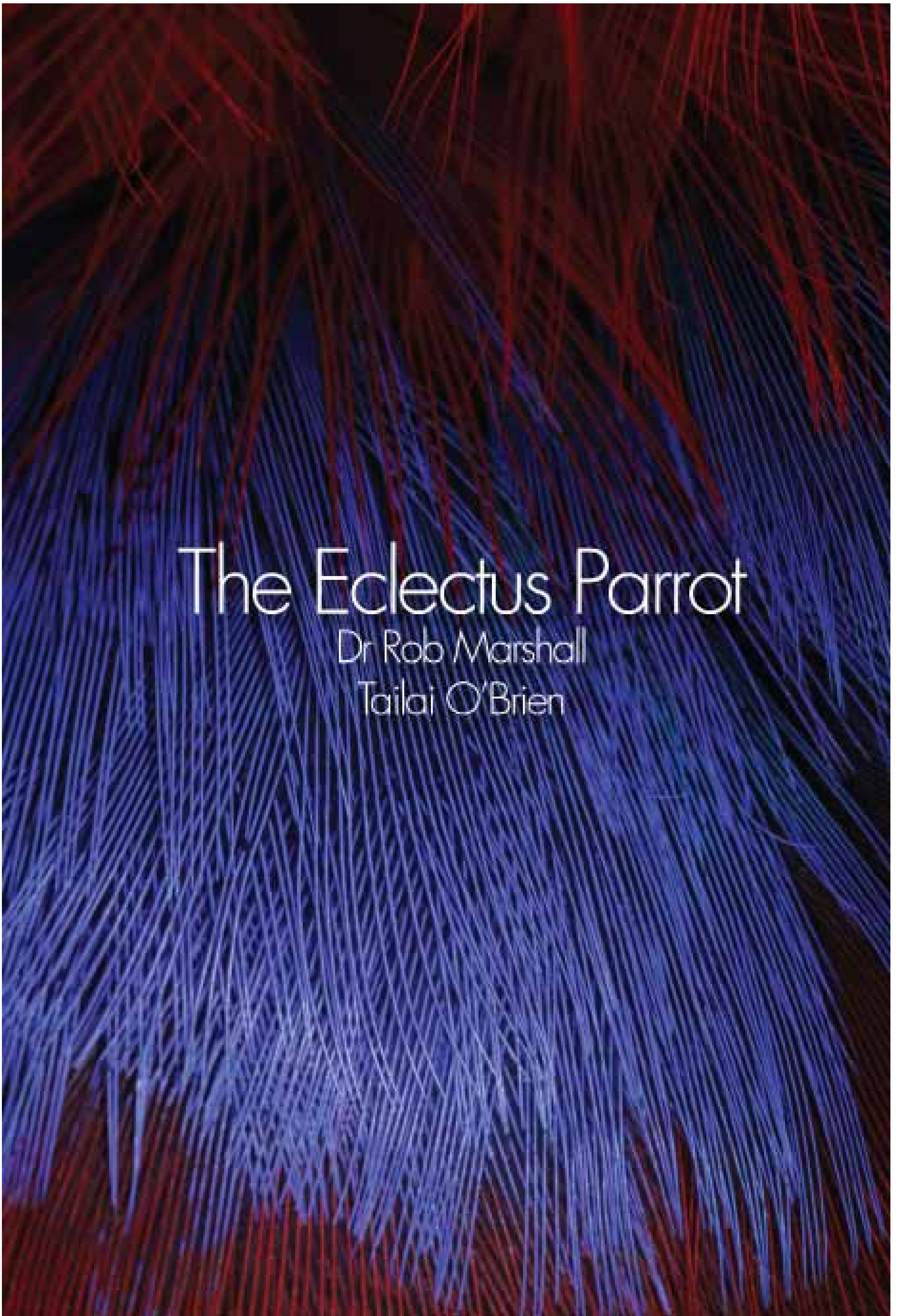


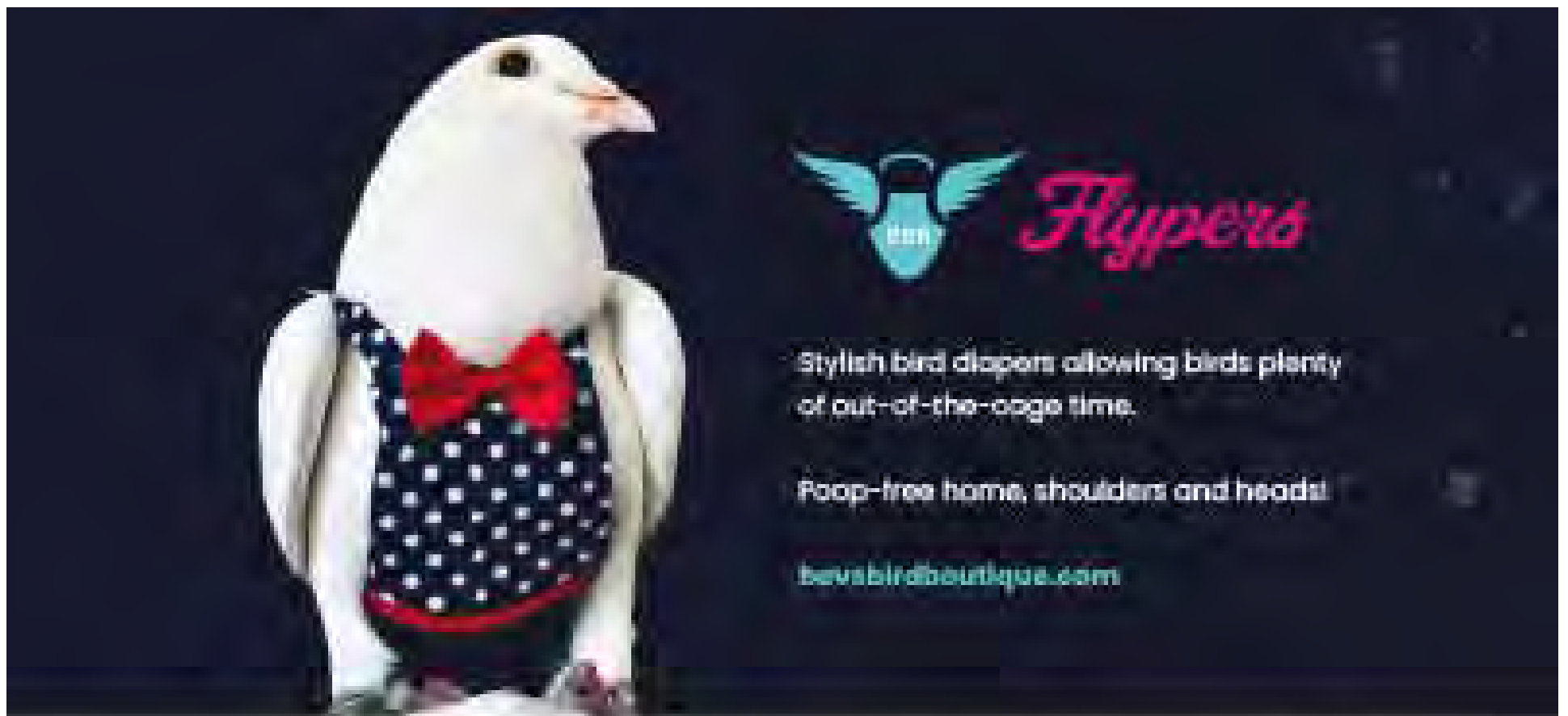
Nest Box Size
10" x 10" x 20"



Weaning Time
12-14 Weeks

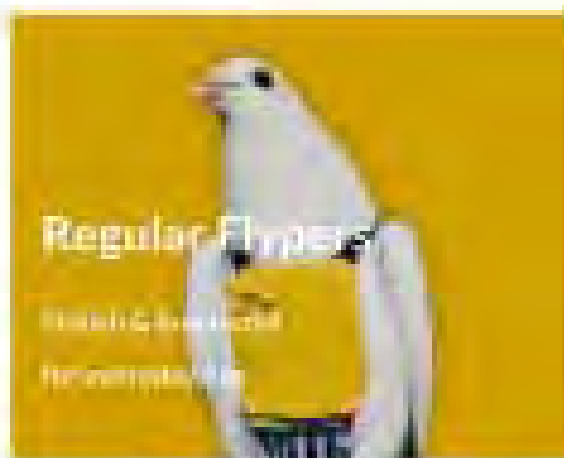
For more information and to order, click on the book cover.





YES there is an alternative to restricting your bird to his/her cage and still ensure that your home, heads and shoulders are POOP FREE!

**THE ANSWER IS THE AMAZING Flyper®
(a bird flying diaper also known as an Avian Diaper)**



Heavenly Hammock Testimonial

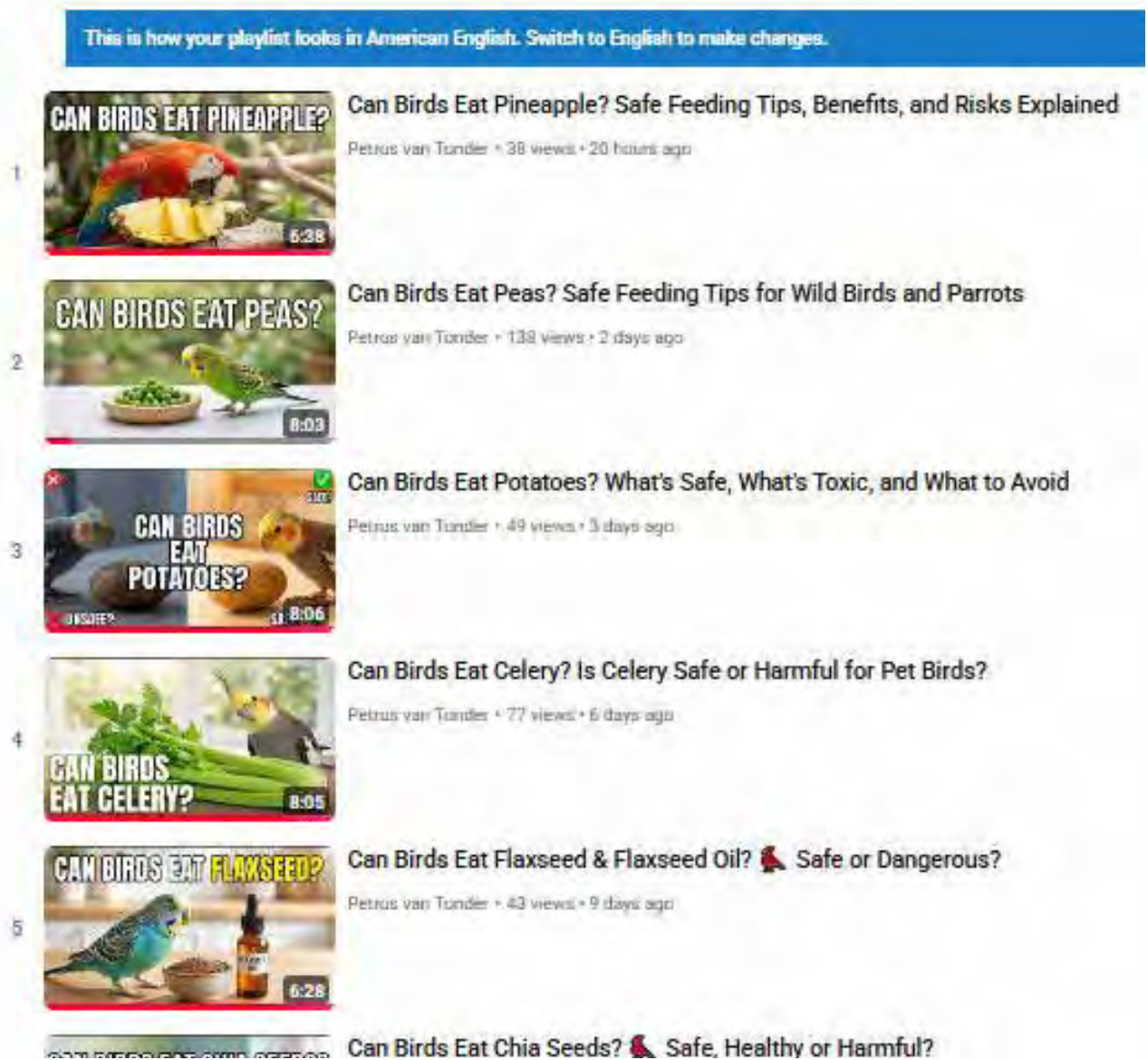
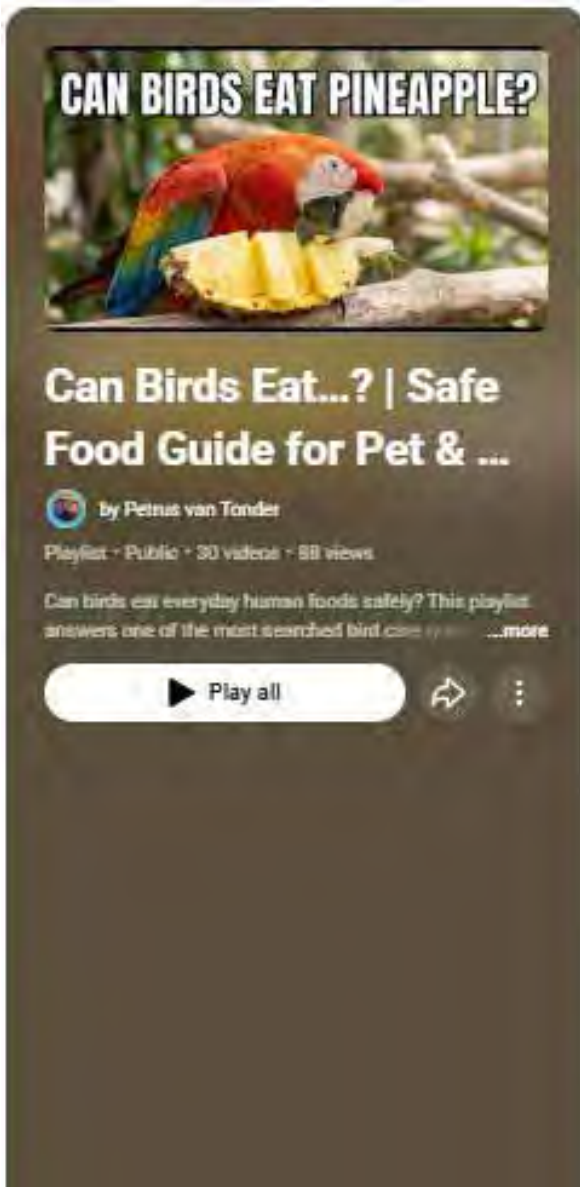
Stu is doing so well in her Flyper Heavenly Hammock! She spends a few hours per day in it (super-vised of course) and enjoys looking around at everyone. I have found that using a milk crate to suspend the hammock in is a great tip. I use soft silicone cups to feed her and figured how to attach them to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

[Read further](#)

YouTube Playlist

Can birds eat?

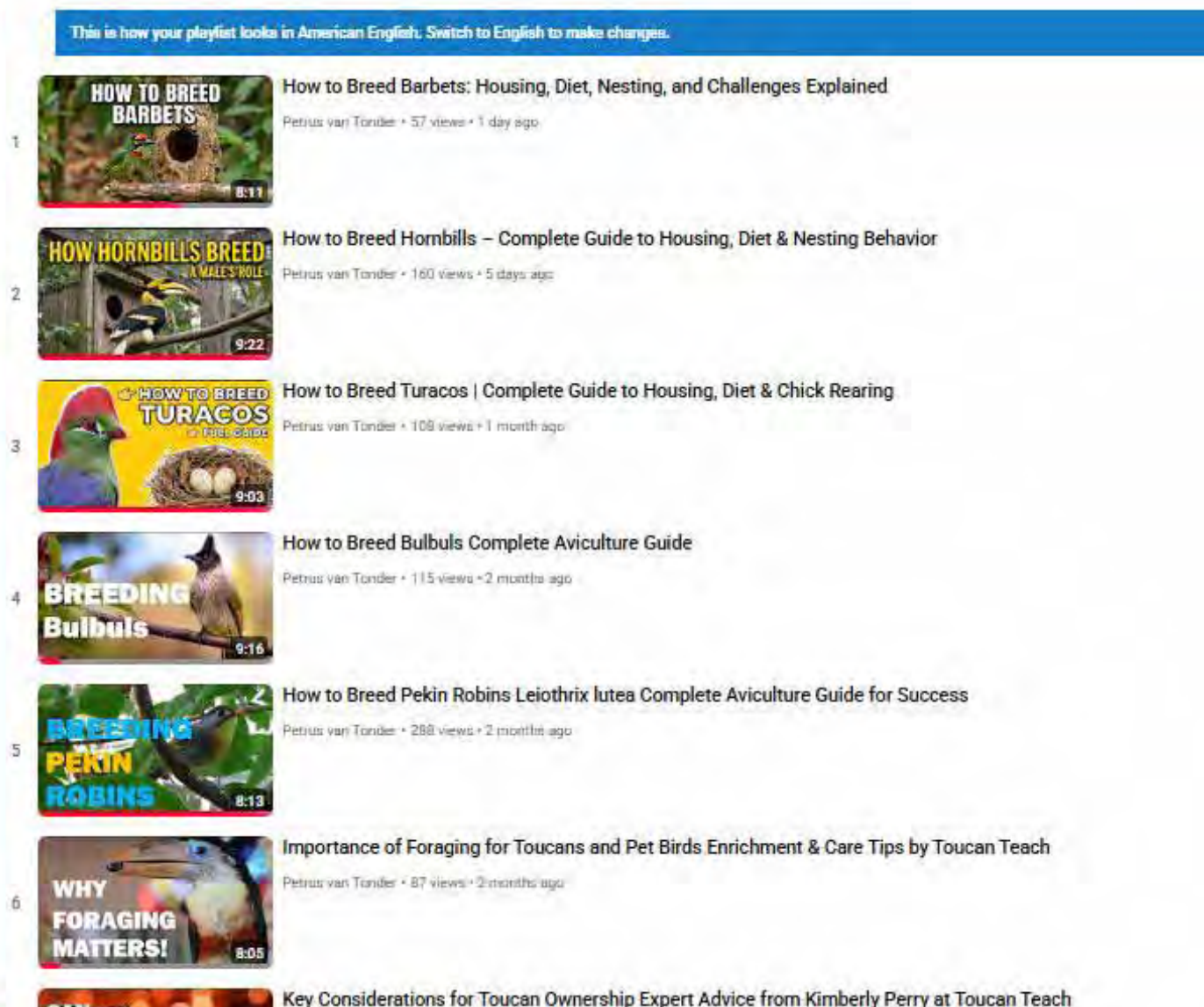
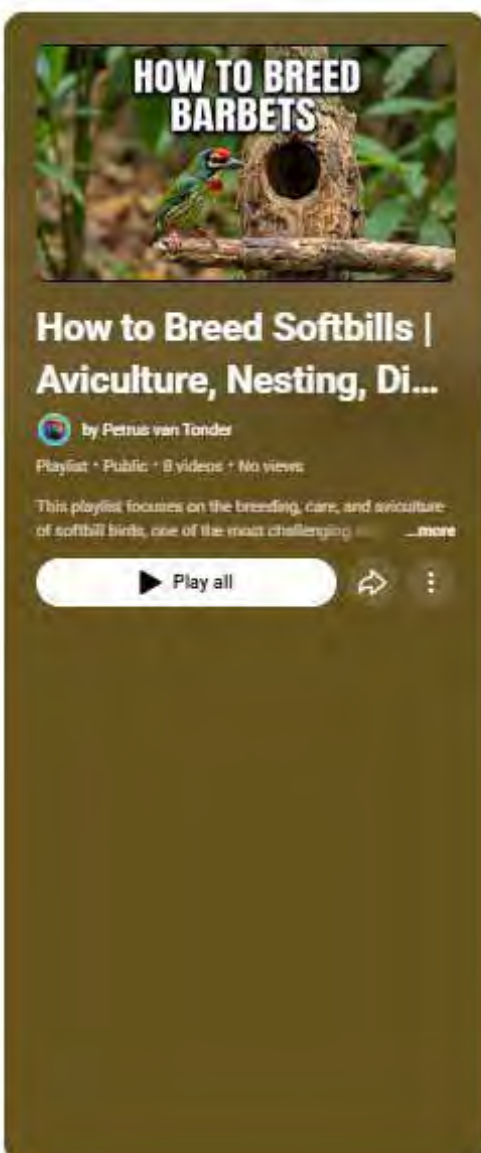
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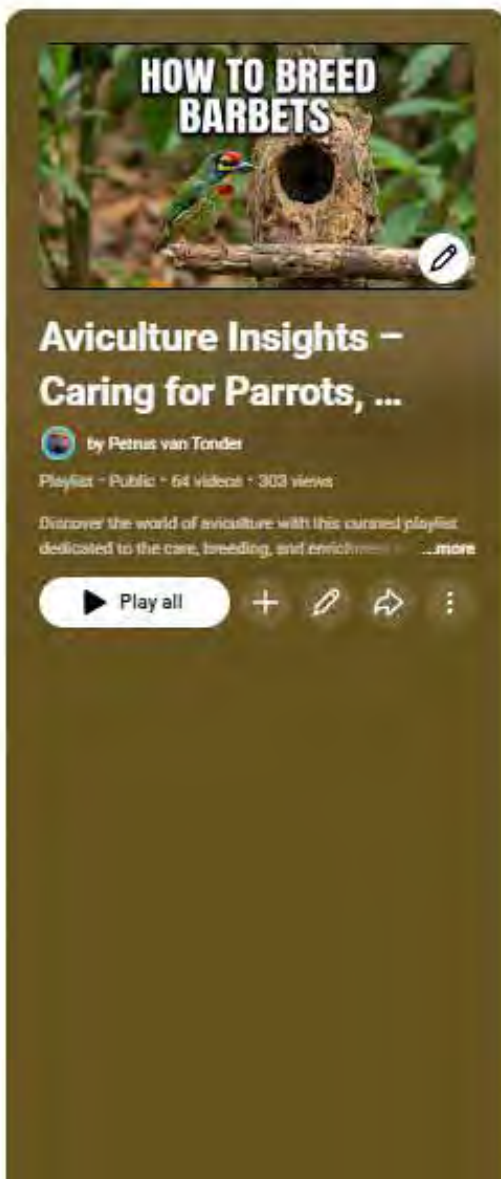
How to Breed Softbills

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YouTube Playlist Aviculture Insights

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HOW TO BREED BARBETS







Aviculture Insights – Caring for Parrots, ...








by Petrus van Tonder

Playlist • Public • 64 videos • 303 views

Discover the world of aviculture with this curated playlist dedicated to the care, breeding, and enrichment of parrots. [...more](#)

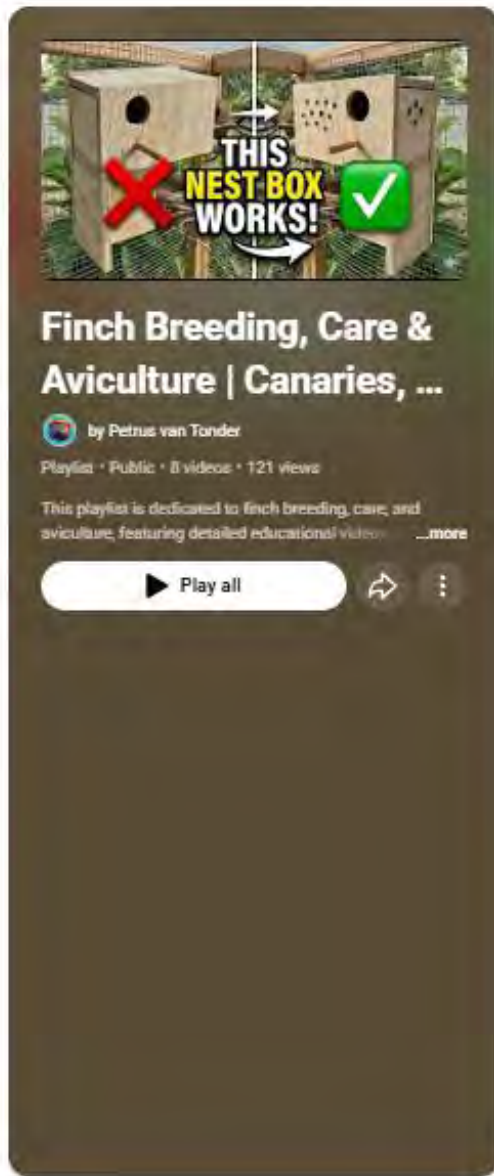
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How to Breed Barbets: Housing, Diet, Nesting, and Challenges Explained
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How to Breed Hornbills – Complete Guide to Housing, Diet & Nesting Behavior
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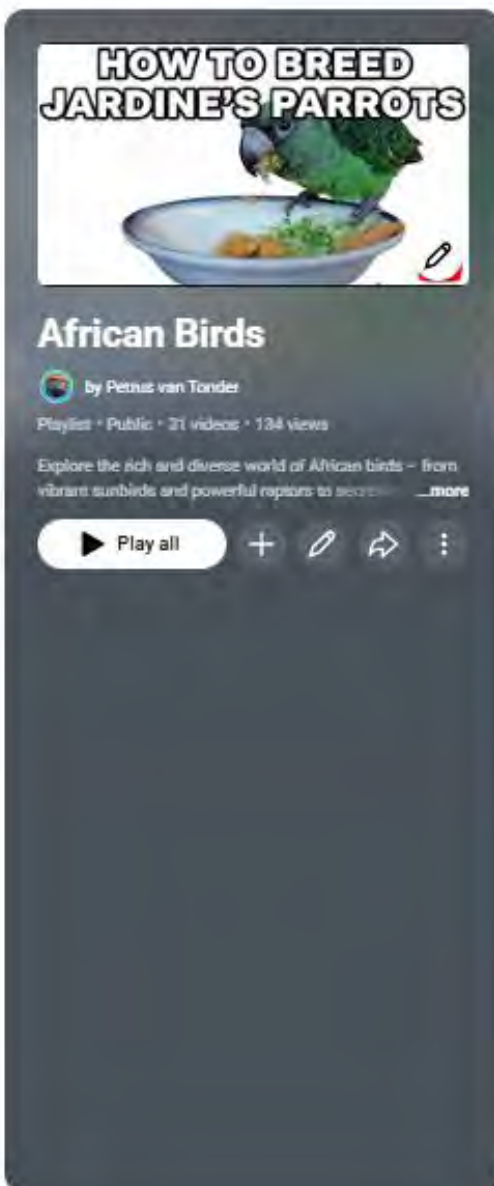
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Arrow Marked Bblers on My Live Cam #livebirdstream #BirdWatching #birdcamlive #NatureShorts
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Highlight! Grey Go away bird – Live Garden Birds of Gauteng, South Africa
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Live! Garden Birds of Gauteng, South Africa – Real-Time Bird Feeder Cam Day 19
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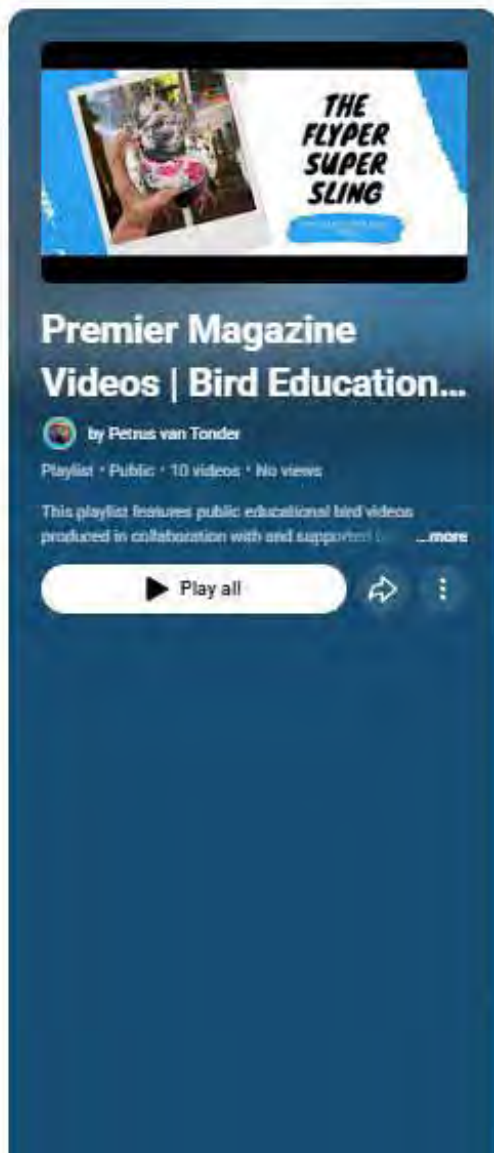
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Live! Garden Birds of Gauteng, South Africa – Real-Time Bird Feeder Cam Day 18

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I can also create a video for your bird-related organization.

Just \$52 ONCE A YEAR!

Peanuts for Birds: A Safety & Serving Guide



⚠️ CRITICAL SAFETY STANDARDS



Beware of Deadly Aflatoxins

Peanuts can carry molds that cause liver damage or sudden death in birds.



Zero Tolerance for Salt and Additives

Birds cannot process salt, which leads to severe dehydration and kidney stress.



Human-Grade or Bird-Grade Only

Only use fresh, high-quality nuts; avoid those with dust or musty smells.

PREPARATION & PORTION CONTROL 🍲



Match Serving Size to Species

Provide whole shells for large parrots and crushed nuts for smaller garden birds.



Moderation Prevents Obesity

High fat content can cause fatty liver disease if peanuts replace a balanced diet.



Use Proper Feeders for Wildlife

Use mesh feeders for wild birds to prevent small species from choking on large chunks.

Safe vs. Unsafe Peanut Types



Safe to Serve



Plain, raw, or dry-roasted



Crushed for small birds



Freshly stored in dry places



Never Serve



Salted, spiced, or honey-coated



Oil-roasted peanuts



Old, damp, or discolored nuts

GOOD NEWS

YouTube Membership

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

LEVEL 1

Loyalty badges next to your name in comments and live chat
Priority reply to comments
Early access to new videos
Photos and status updates
Members-only chat rooms
Members-only videos

LEVEL 2

Members-only polls
Members-only Shorts
Member shout-outs
FREE Premier magazine plus A4 size advertisement in
our monthly FREE standard magazine

LEVEL 3

Connecting on social media
Members-only videos
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.



Beat the Heat: A Bird Keeper's Guide to Preventing Heat Stress

Caged birds are highly susceptible to extreme heat because they cannot sweat. Fatalities are often caused by poor aviary management, contaminated water, or lack of nighttime recovery.



Recognizing the Signs of Heat Stress



Early Behavioral Red Flags

Watch for open-beak panting, wings held away from the body, and unusual lethargy.



The "Low Perch" Warning

Birds sitting low on the perch or the cage floor are experiencing significant stress.



Medical Emergency Triggers

Immediate vet care is required if a bird collapses or becomes unresponsive.

Proactive Management & Cooling



Optimize Airflow and Shade

Move cages out of direct sunlight and use fans to circulate air—never blow directly.



RISK:
"Bacteria Soup"



SAFE:
Tube/Bottle Waterers

Water Tubes vs. Open Bowls

Use tube/bottle waterers to prevent "bacteria soup" caused by droppings in warm water.



The Frozen Bottle Trick



Place frozen water bottles in the flight; birds can drink the cold condensation.

Comparison of Safe vs. Risky Feeding Habits

	✔ Safe Practice	✘ Risk to Avoid
Moist Foods	Offer leafy greens for <2 hours	Leaving soft food to grow mold
Hydration	Fresh water with probiotics/ACV	Overusing unprescribed antibiotics
Activity	Allow birds to rest and recover	Breeding or handling during peak heat


The Senegal Parrot:

A Guide to the "V-Vested" Companion




Physical Traits & Identification

Compact Size and Longevity




Grows to 9.1 inches long and can live up to 50 years in captivity.



The Distinctive "V-Vest" Plumage

Features a charcoal head, green back, and a yellow-to-orange V-shaped chest pattern.




Eye Color Indicates Age

Juveniles possess dark, almost black irises that transition to bright yellow in adulthood.

Juvenile Iris Adult Iris


Behavior & Care Essentials

The Ideal Apartment Companion




Known for being relatively quiet, loyal, and capable of learning tricks or speech.

Housing and Enrichment Needs




Requires a cage at least 24"H x 18"W x 18"D with varied toys.

Diet and Nutrition




Prefers a pellet-based diet supplemented with vegetables high in Vitamin A.


Physical Specifications (Adult)



Average Length: **9.1 inches (23 cm)**



Average Weight: **120 to 170 grams**



Wild Lifespan: **25 to 30 years**

The Brown-headed Parrot: A Guide to Care, Character, and Breeding

A guide to the temperament, habitat needs, and breeding cycle for prospective owners and aviculturists.

Profile & Living Requirements

The Ideal Apartment Parrot
Known for a sweet, quiet temperament and moderate talking ability.

Minimum Habitat Dimensions
Requires a cage at least 1.2m x 1.2m x 1.2m with dual perches.

Essential Mental Enrichment
Needs wooden chew toys and daily out-of-cage activity for stimulation.


Health & Breeding Cycle







Preventing Calcium Deficiency
Exposure to natural sunlight or full-spectrum light is vital for indoor birds.

22-26 Day Incubation Period
Pairs typically lay a clutch of 2 to 4 shiny white eggs.

The Path to Maturity

1 Weeks: Chick un
9 Weeks: Chicks fledge
12 Weeks: Reach full independence

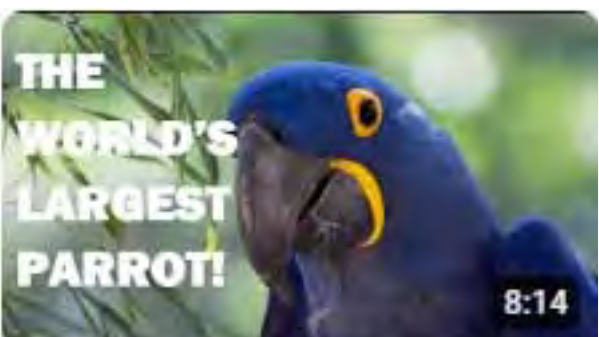


Natural Habitat	Captive Breeding
<p>Nesting Site: High tree cavities / Woodpecker nests</p> 	<p>Nesting Site: 25cm x 25cm x 30cm Vertical Box</p> 
<p>Diet: Wild fruits, berries, figs, and buds</p> 	<p>Diet: Seed/nut mix with fresh fruits and greens</p> 
<p>Breeding Season: April to October (locality dependent)</p> 	<p>Breeding Season: Can breed year-round if prolific</p> 

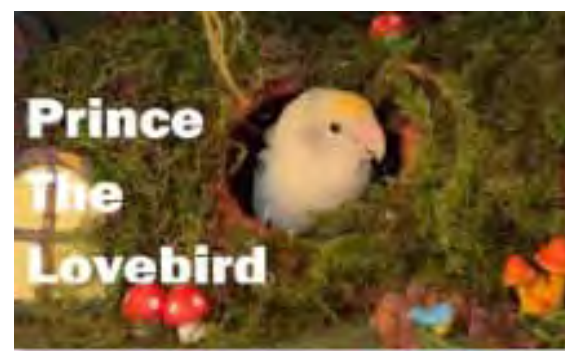
**New YouTube channel launched in October 2024.
Please like and subscribe.**



**Click to watch our latest and popular videos.
Your support will be appreciated for our growth.**



FUNNY VIDEOS



WEBCAM HIGHLIGHTS VIDEOS



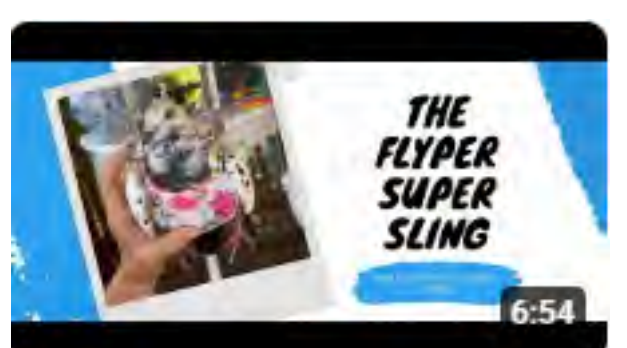
BREEDING SOFTBILLS VIDEOS



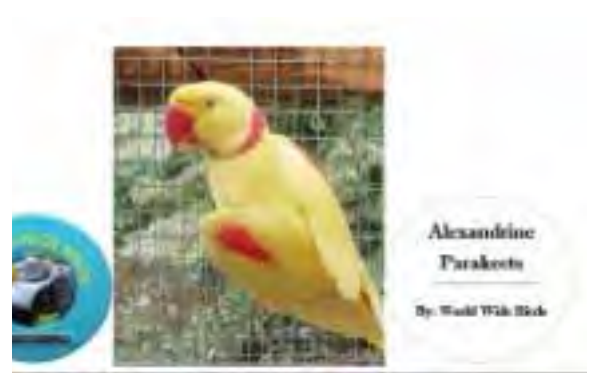
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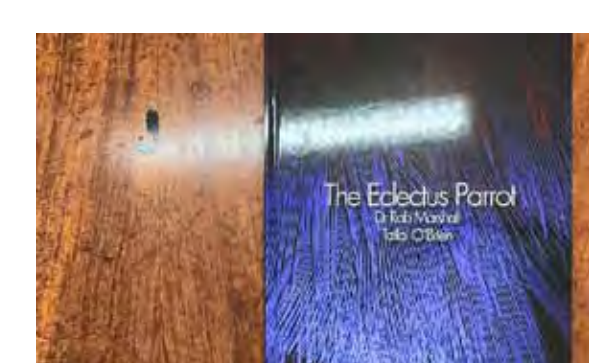
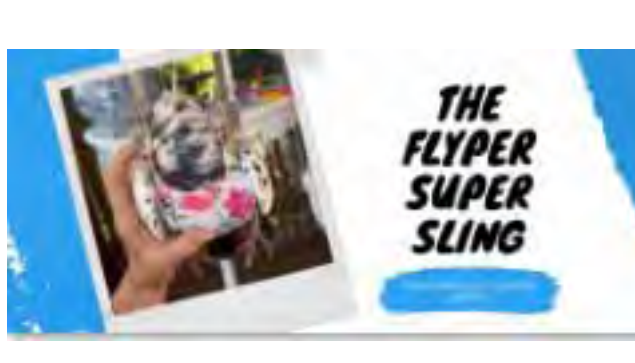
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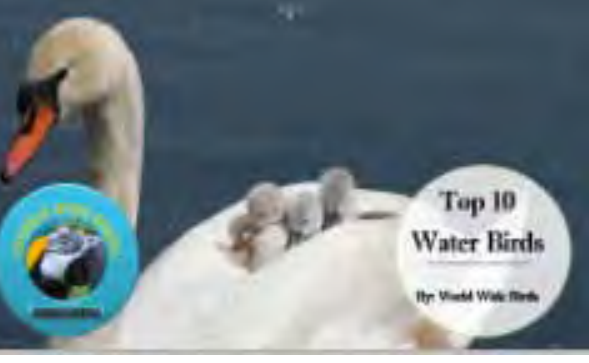
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Virukill Avian is available from

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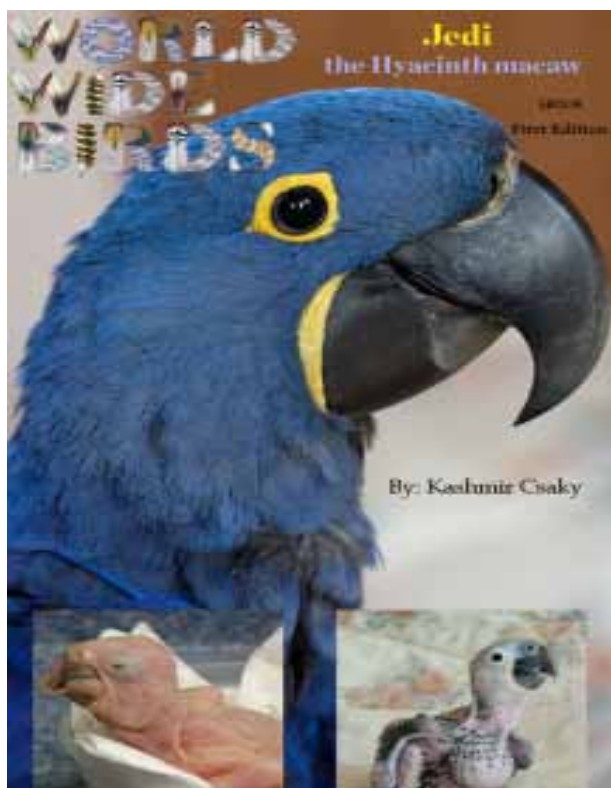


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101 Food Items For Birds

Parrot Behaviour

101 Parrot Breeding Profiles

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Petrus van Tonder

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Get access to membership perks



Click on logo to visit website.

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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Parrotfunalia

Previous Edition

Pdf bird magazine Vol 10 No 01



Click on cover to download the January standard edition.





**Monika's Mac Nuts
In Shell Premium Macadamia Nuts
100% Pesticide Free
Grown On The Big Island of Hawaii**

Our In Shell Mac Nuts are preferred by birds especially Hyacinth Macaws as well as people with a desire for a high quality, fresh tasting, nutritious nut.

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.



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.



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Prickly Pear: A Nutritious Superfood for Birds

NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS AND SAFETY



100% Non-Toxic and Safe

All Opuntia species are safe for wild birds, parrots, and chickens.



Packed with Vitamins K and C

The fruit provides essential vitamins and high levels of health-boosting antioxidants.



Natural Hydration Source

Wild birds often consume the fruit during hot, dry, or seasonal periods.

PREPARATION AND FEEDING TIPS



Mandatory Spine Removal

You must remove all sharp, needle-like spines before feeding to pet birds.



Tunas



Nopales

Edible "Tunas" and "Nopales"

Both the fruit (tunas) and the cactus pads (nopales) are safe to eat.

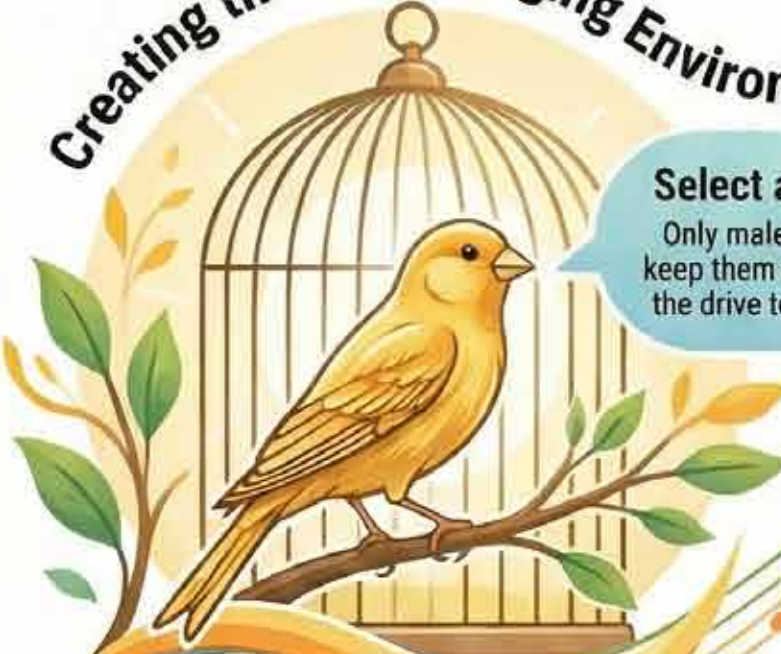


Serve as an Occasional Treat

Offer the flesh and seeds as a treat rather than a staple food.

Mastering the Melody: A Guide to Training Your Canary

Creating the Ideal Singing Environment



Select a Solo Male

Only males sing reliably; keep them solo to maintain the drive to attract mates.



Mimic Natural Light Cycles

Gradually increase light to 14 hours daily to trigger the peak mating/singing season.



Provide Social Stimulation

Place the cage in active room with sound and movement to encourage vocalization.

Training Methods for Success



Play Professional Audio Recordings

Use "champion canary" recordings during early sensory phases to provide a musical model.



Interactive Vocalization

Softly talk or sing to your bird to motivate them to "outdo" you.

Vital Statistics for Health and Vocal Readiness

-  **Habitat Temperature**
65°F – 75°F (18°C – 24°C)
-  **Max Daily Light**
14 Hours
-  **Training Duration**
5 – 10 Minute Sessions



Monitor the Molt

Be patient; canaries naturally stop singing during seasonal molting or non-mating periods.

**The Emma Conure
and its Mutations**

Pyrrhura leucotis emma

By: Louis Bothma



Normal male

General

The Emma Conure is a sub-species of the White-eared Conure (*Pyrrhura leucotis leucotis*). Emma Conures have always been one of the rarer *Pyrrhura* Conures in aviculture because they have not adapted well in captivity and are challenging to breed. This is understandable once we take into account that their natural range comprises only a small area near the coast on northern Venezuela.

Continue in Premier edition.....

**Observe the vigor
of our parrots**

By: Rafael Zamora Padrón
Scientific Director
Loro Parque Fundación



Cacatua moluccensis In flocking
at LPF Rafael Zamora Padrón LPF

When forming pairs for the breeding season, an important process is selecting the breeders. Every year, breeding centers face decisions that can be crucial in the short and long term.

Before looking at the compatibility between male and female specimens, the most important thing is to know if their age and strength before breeding is optimal.

Breeders often prepare a pairing aviary with the idea that the parrots will choose their mates freely and then separate them in their future breeding territory. This system allows for the creation of harmonious and compatible pairs for many years. However, it is a system that requires certain rules to be followed in order to avoid potentially fatal consequences.

Continue in Premier edition.....

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.

Starting with Budgerigars

By: Fred Wright

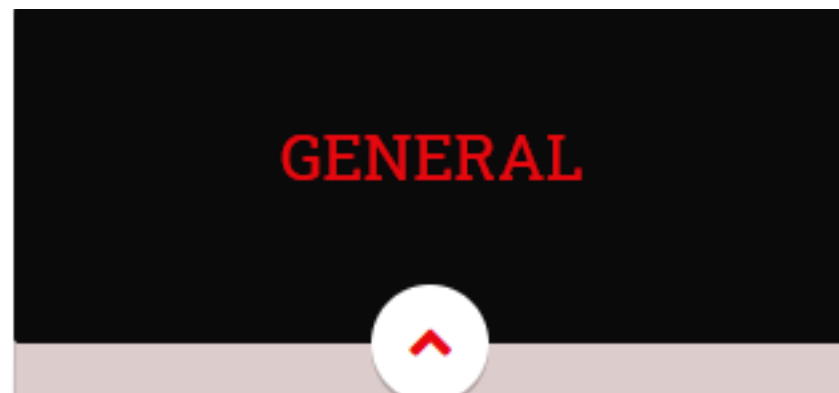
An interest in birds usually begins as a child. Time and time again after a couple of years with birds, the teenager gives up and makes a return to bird-keeping twenty or more years later. Many give up keeping birds at around 16/17 years old and return when they are settled, married and have the time and money to begin again with birds.

People know that it is not difficult to keep a few Budgerigars in a cage or small garden aviary but few realise that there is actually an exhibition fancy on their door-step. Those making a start, or a second start, tend to make their initial purchases from pet shops. Suddenly they are keeping a couple of pairs of Budgerigars in two separate cages in either a spare bedroom or the back of a garage.

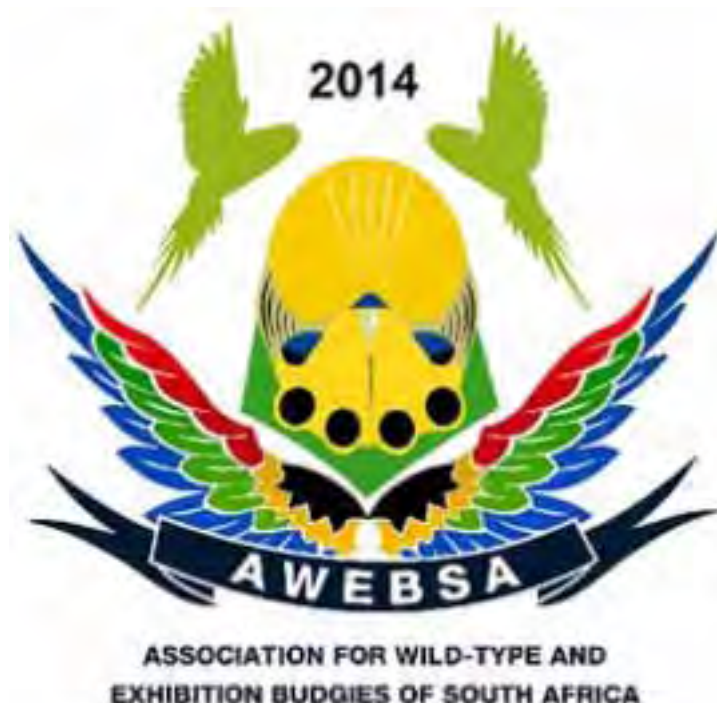
Making the step into keeping exhibition Budgerigars is more about luck and chance, rather than it being a natural progression.

Learning that there is an exhibition fancy is a tremendous discovery - many bird-keepers never realise there is an organised hobby with societies, shows and specialist magazines. Usually an entry to exhibition Budgerigars is made by knowing someone else that keeps Budgerigars for exhibition - perhaps at work or at school. Bird specialist pet shops and avicultural suppliers are sometimes able to direct the person with a few pairs of Budgerigars towards the exhibition branch of the fancy. Some clubs manage to publicise their meetings locally through local newspapers or the local library. With no formal method of entry to exhibition Budgerigars, it is no wonder the hobby is in decline. There is no doubt that people with time on their hands will go towards something that is promoted – computers, gardening or even cooking.

Click on screenshot to open the General section and to download and read the full article.



Click on logo to join Facebook group:



The Masked Lovebird:

A Guide to the Yellow-Collared Parrot



Agapornis personatus

Biology and Physical Traits

Distinctive "Masked" Appearance



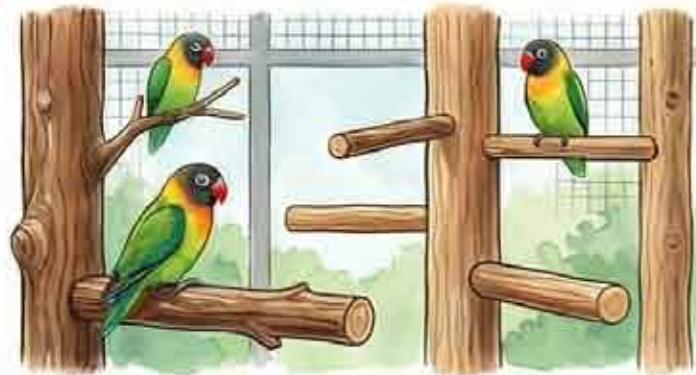
Features a block head, white eye-rings, and a bright red beak against green plumage.

Breeding and Habitat Care

The 65-Day Nesting Cycle



Natural Stimuli Requirements



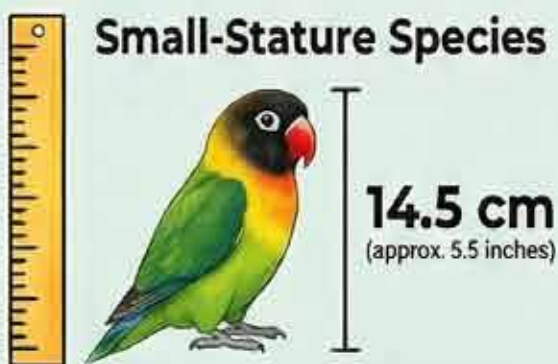
Aviaries require natural, varied-diameter perches to maintain foot health and provide stimuli.

Identical Sexes & Mutations



Males and females look identical, appearing in mutations like blue, lutino, and albino.

Small-Stature Species



Critical Toxicity Warnings



Avocado fruit and cherry wood are highly poisonous to these parrots.

Breeding & Care Guide: The Red-billed Firefinch

Species Identification & Habitat



Distinctive Red Features: Males display scarlet plumage and red bills, while females have a red eye-stripe.



Compact 9–10 cm Length: These small finches are widely distributed across tropical and sub-tropical Africa.



Tame Wild Behavior: Naturally social birds that often live in pairs near villages and cultivated areas.



Recommended Enclosure Dimensions for Successful Breeding



Breeding Cage
4' x 2' x 2'



Indoor Flight
9' x 6' x 7'



Outside Flight
10' x 6' x 6'

Breeding & Nutritional Requirements



Young fledge at 18 days and remain with parents for another 10 days.



Nesting Preferences: Males build nests 3–6 feet high, preferably lined with white feathers.



Essential Live Rearing Food: Parents require insects like mini mealworms and fruit flies to successfully rear young.

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PRESS RELEASE

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QPS Announces 2026 Scholarship Recipients

HBD, LLC dba Harrison's Bird Foods is pleased to share that QPS has selected the recipients of its 2026 scholarships in partnership with Harrison's Bird Foods. These scholarships recognize outstanding dedication, academic achievement, and commitment to advancing avian medicine and care.



Nicolas (Cole) Unmann has been awarded the QPS *Georgia Fletcher Memorial Scholarship* along with the Harrison's Bird Foods Scholarship in the amount of **\$2,500.00**.

Cecilia M. Bartels has been awarded the QPS *Georgia Fletcher Memorial Scholarship* along with the Harrison's Bird Foods Scholarship in the amount of **\$1,500.00**.



Both recipients were selected based on the strength of their essays, academic records, and demonstrated commitment to avian health and welfare. Harrison's Bird Foods is honored to support these promising professionals as they continue their educational journeys and contribute to the future of avian veterinary medicine.

For additional information, please contact
Dana O'Donoghue,
Dana@Harrisonsbirdfoods.com

About Harrison's Bird Foods

Harrison's Bird Foods is a certified organic manufacturer of premium avian diets, dedicated to advancing avian nutrition, education, and veterinary collaboration worldwide.



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Photo courtesy Dr. Sina Berger
- Switzerland

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Harrison's Bird Foods is a team of bird owners, avian veterinarians, and avian PhD nutritionists on a mission to bring health and happiness to birds through proper nutrition.

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Nuggies!

Master Guide to Keeping Lapwings & Plovers

Essential husbandry, behavioral, and breeding requirements for aviculturists and zoo professionals.

Environment & Care Essentials

 **Large, Open Enclosure Requirements**
Minimum 10'x10' space with clear sightlines and no tail barriers to vision.


 **Remarkable Longevity and Hardiness**
Mature birds can live over 35 years and tolerate temperatures down to 35°F.

 **Simple, Low-Cost Pelleted Diet**
Maintained easily on dry softbill pellets, trout chow, and occasional live insects.




Behavior & Breeding Dynamics

 **Strictly Ground-Dwelling Behavior**
These birds stay on the ground continuously and never use perches.

 **Territorial "Watchdog" Nature**
Extremely vocal alarm callers that may be aggressive toward other ground-dwelling species.

 **Rapid Reproductive Cycle**
Precocial chicks hatch in 26-32 days; pairs can lay four clutches per season.

Essential Quick-Reference Statistics

Metric	Detail	
Native Habitat	All continents except Antarctica, typically near waterways or grasslands	
Clutch Size	3 to 5 eggs laid in simple ground scrapes	
Breeding Ease	Ranked 5 out of 5 (Very Difficult) for captive success	

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.

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Austin Roberts Bird Sanctuary

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Thornpark East London

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Boulders Beach

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Rietvlei nature reserve

BLOG POST



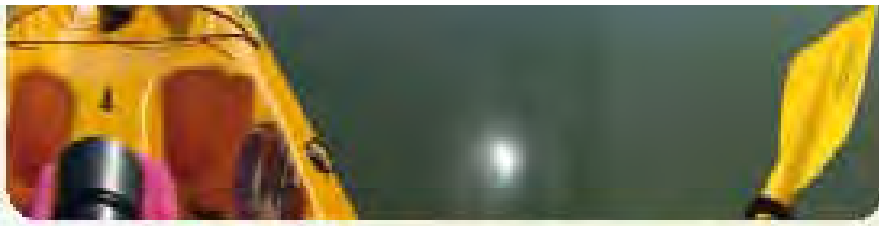
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Mexico

Birding Los Cabos México

By: Maria Elena Muriel

Birding Journeys In Mexico



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Surf the website and contact us at any time. Please send an e-mail to: birdingloscabos@gmail.com

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

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Germany			
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For any ammendments / updates / deletions please e-mail us.

DAP Geeroms - De Wolf

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Dinsdag	9:00 - 12:00	18:00 - 19:30 Bjorn Geeroms & David De Wolf
Woensdag	&	18:00 - 19:30 Bjorn Geeroms
Donderdag	13:30 - 16:00	18:00 - 19:30 David De Wolf
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6

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Recommended Websites

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11

Clubs

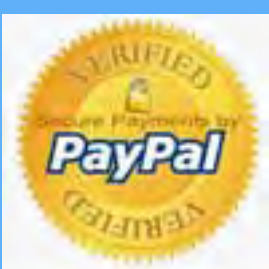
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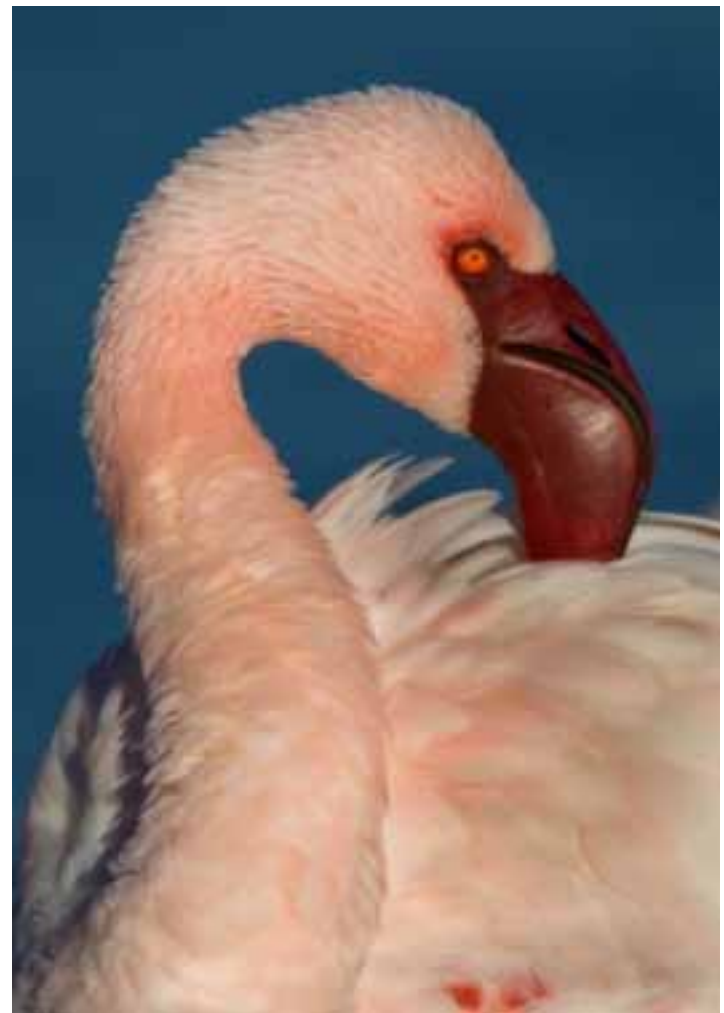
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