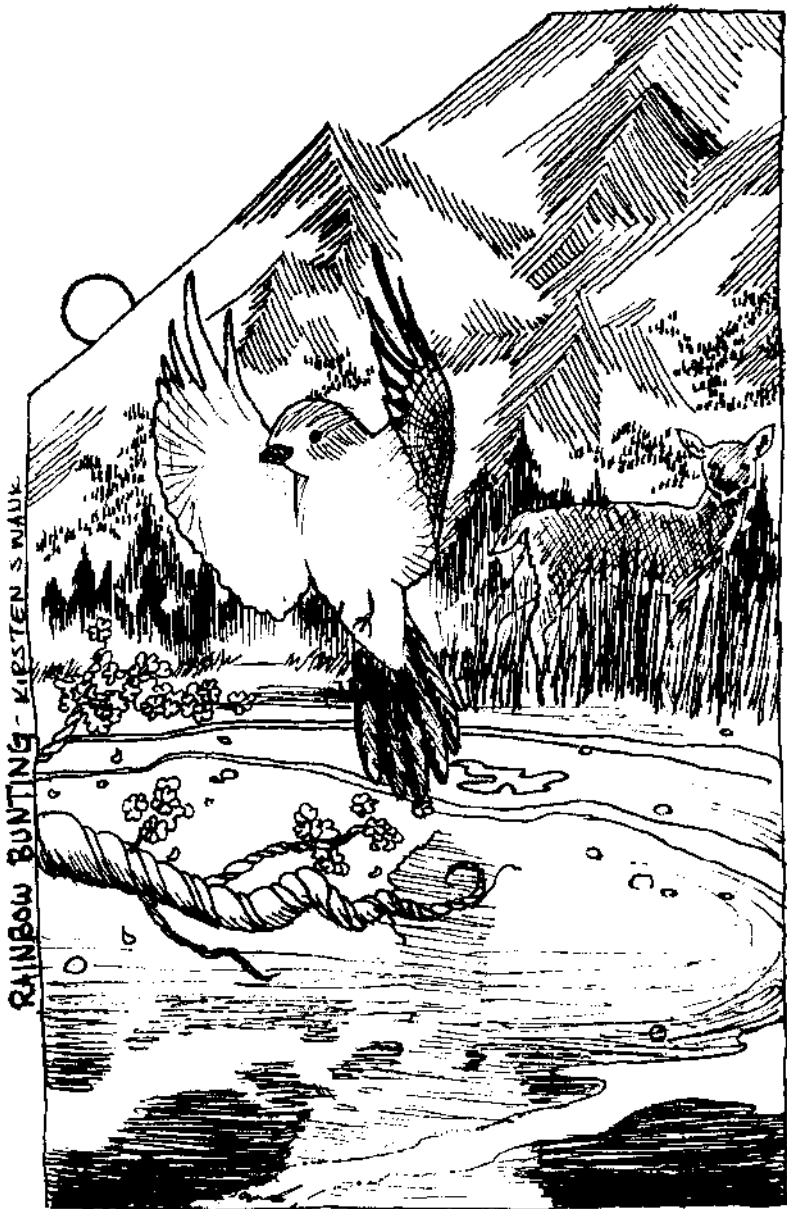


The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 11, No.5



The National Finch and Softbill Society

September—October 1994



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Editorial Policy/Disclaimer

The *NFSS Bulletin* is published bi-monthly by the National Finch and Softbill Society. The following deadlines apply to all aspects of the *Bulletin*: 2/01, 4/01, 6/01, 8/01, 10/01, 12/01. Next issue deadline is 10/01/94.

NFSS members are encouraged to submit articles, drawings and photographs. NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all editorial, photographic and advertising material submitted to *The NFSS Bulletin* for publication. Photographs, when submitted, shall become the sole property of NFSS and shall be subject to use in any and all NFSS programs.

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Opinions expressed in articles and published in the *Bulletin* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, NFSS or its Board of Directors.

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In this issue:

Another incredible issue, bursting at the seams! Our first **Special Focus** issue—*Red-eared Waxbills and relatives*, featuring articles and photos from some very special contributors.

Want to know more about **Parrot Finches**? We have two fine articles about them, as well as information about your birds' **diet** and a caution about a **potential health problem** in finches.

Personal reflections on **NFSS and this unique hobby** are included, and, as we enter the busiest show months, several **show notes**, including some thoughts on **showing pairs**.

NFSS is also pleased to be the first to publish a complete breeding expectations table for your **Yellow Body Gouldians**.

Enter NFSS' raffle for a copy of a hard-to-find recent avicultural classic: *Estrildid Finches of the World* (see page 5).

May your local club's members, shows and other activities be as delightful as those of the Aviary and Cage Bird Club of South Florida. If so, "you are indeed worthy"!

**Deadline for the next issue is
October 1st.**



The NFSS Bulletin

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Cover Credit:

Rainbow Bunting
by Kirsten Swank.

Kirsten, artist also of the *Bulletin's* last two cover drawings,
is currently attending Principia Middle School, St. Louis, Missouri
in the seventh grade.



President's Message

By Steve Hoppin

I'm certain you have noticed the positive energy emanating from NFSS! The energy is coming from within the Society; the Board of Directors, Committees, generous volunteers, and general membership. The levels and direction vary to a degree, as do members' interests in finches and softbills, and this contributes to the positive progression, health and well being of the Society.

Over the past several years a very important department of NFSS has made remarkable advancement and has attained international acclaim. At this time I would like to pay tribute to our "outstanding NFSS member" who has played a significant role in this department's growth and success. And yes, this is a President's message... *one definitely from the heart.*

Among the hard workers volunteering their time and energy to make a difference, NFSS has been very fortunate to have onboard a very talented and dedicated lady. She is not the type of individual that needs to be in the "lime light", nor does she seek secondary gain. She is a soft-spoken woman who has drive and a mission. Her name is Linda Oja. She is an American finch and softbill aviculturist that has a sincere interest in the preservation and conservation of finches and softbills in the United States.

Linda is from New York. She has been married to John Oja for 14 years and they have two daughters.

~~~~~  
*NFSS is very proud  
of Linda Oja.*  
 ~~~~~

Linda and her family reside in Newport News, Virginia. She acquired her BA degree in Art from Hunter College and furthered her education at Virginia Commonwealth University to become an Occupational Therapist. She continues to practice in this field today.

Quite by accident, Linda began working with finches when she acquired a pair of Zebra finches from her sister in New York many years ago. Since that time *she has progressed!* In 1987 she was elected Finch Circle Leader by the Peninsula Caged Bird Society and shortly after, the Board elected her as Vice Chairman. Linda started writing finch articles in 1989 and that developed into

The National Finch and Softbill Society

RAFFLE !!

***Estrildid Finches of the World* by Derek Goodwin**

The classic book for aviculturists published in 1982.

Raffle to be held at 10am, Saturday, November 19, 1994

During the NFSS Annual General Membership Meeting

At the National Cage Bird Show

The Center of New Hampshire Holiday Inn

Manchester, New Hampshire

Winner need not be present to win.

Tickets \$1.00 each, or \$5.00 for 6 tickets.

Buy tickets at GABS and NCBS
or

Mail in Tickets
and check payable to NFSS
(no cash please) to:

NFSS President

Steve Hoppin

3836 Hidden Acres Circle

N. Ft. Myers, FL 33903

Tickets must be received by

Steve no later than

November 12, 1994.

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by Derek Goodwin

Return this ticket and \$1.00 each,

or \$5.00 for 6 tickets.

PRINT NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER *CLEARLY*.

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COPY AS NEEDED

The EXACT™ FACTS On Avian Nutrition

The fact is, when it comes to seed diets, most birds are selective. Some will nudge through the millet to snatch the safflower seeds. Others prefer sunflower.

It's also a fact that different seed types possess nutrients in varying quantities. Key nutrients found in the neglected seeds are omitted. Even a diet of seeds, fruits and vegetables does not possess all of the nutrients a bird needs.

The best way to insure that a bird's primary diet meets its exact nutritional needs is to make each bite count. That's exactly what the Kaytee nutritional

team had in mind when it developed Exact and Exact Professional Diets.

Kaytee Exact combines wheat, corn, oats, eggs, vitamins and minerals into a crunchy, seed-shaped nugget. Each nugget contains the correct proportion of all nutrients for each bird type.

Avian-tested over a five-year period, breeders and researchers found Exact to be a nutritionally superior, complete diet. Birds will no longer leave important nutrients uneaten because each nugget is Exact.

Everyone will love Exact's no-mess appeal too! There are no seed hulls or spill-over from hunting for favorite seeds.

And with Kaytee's tested approach and tips on converting to Exact, even the pickiest eaters can be converted in under 30 days.

Offer your birds exactly what they need in any stage to be healthy and live longer:

Exact Daily Feeding Formula - A nutritionally complete bird food designed for birds in all stages of adult life. Available in convenient

canisters with formulations for Parrots, Cockatiels, Parakeets and Finch/Canary.

Exact Professional Diet - Maintenance Formula - Developed for use by professionals, this nutritionally complete bird food is designed for birds in all stages of adult life, with formulations for Parrots, Cockatiels, Parakeets and Finch/Canary.

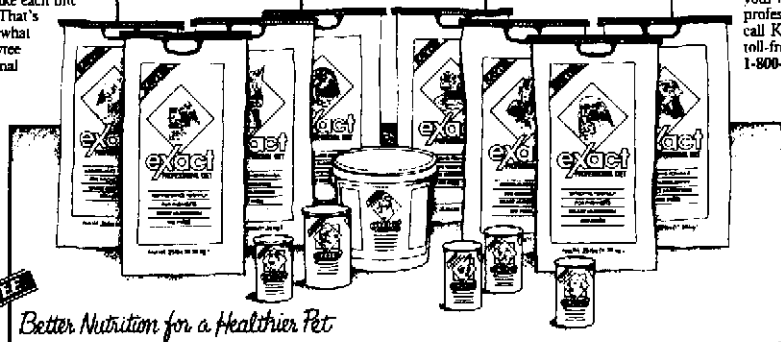
Exact Professional Diet - Breeding Formula - Developed for use by breeders and designed specifically for birds in the breeding and chick rearing cycle

with formulations for Parrots, Cockatiels, Parakeets and Finch/Canary.

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DAILY FEEDING	16 oz. Canister	16 oz. Canister	16 oz. Canister	32 oz. Canister
PROFESSIONAL DIET-MAINTENANCE	25 lb. Paper	25 lb. Paper	25 lb. Paper	25 lb. Paper
PROFESSIONAL DIET-BREEDING	25 lb. Paper	25 lb. Paper	25 lb. Paper	25 lb. Paper

HAND-FEEDING FORMULA For Baby Birds: 22 oz. Canister & 20 lb. Bucket

Kaytee EXACT™ Exact nutrition, no mess.

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writing the Virginia Finch Forum. A few years later she was approached by Brenda Geesey and asked to join the ranks of NFSS as FINCHSAVE Director.

FINCHSAVE is an official NFSS program formed to organize NFSS members to actively breed various finch and softbill species. The long term goal is to have an established consortium (program) of breeders of finches and softbills dedicated to producing and maintaining a viable captive bred population of finches and softbills in the United States. The short term goal: consistent breeding success with participating species.

Linda has held the office of NFSS 3rd Vice President and FINCHSAVE Director since the second quarter of 1991. With the capable assistance of the Directors Committee and the FINCHSAVE Committee, Linda has managed to take the NFSS FINCHSAVE Program to new heights. As Brenda Geesey, NFSS Past President acclaims, "It is the only conservation oriented program functioning on a national multi-species level".

And functioning, it is, thanks to Linda and her committees! According to Linda's FINCHSAVE report published in the March/April 1994 *NFSS Bulletin*, the program boasted 62 participating species of finches and softbills and 48 participants (some working with several species). Many of these participants are achieving success.

As FINCHSAVE Director, Linda is continuously striving to better the

existing Program (as everyone knows, anything can be improved) and spends a great deal of time promoting interest and participation in FINCHSAVE and NFSS. She publishes a quarterly Finchsave Forum newsletter for participating members. In addition, she contributes valuable articles to the NFSS Bulletin.

Invited to speak to AFA

Earlier in the year, Linda was contacted by Laurella Desborough, AFA President, and invited to speak at the 1994 AFA National Convention in Knoxville, Tennessee on "Breeding Finches in the U.S.". She accepted the invitation and began working feverishly on her presentation. A notice was published in *The NFSS Bulletin* requesting finch and softbill slides be sent to Linda for use in her presentation. Several FINCHSAVE participants and NFSS members responded to support her endeavor. Her first national presentation... how exciting!

I spoke with Linda two days following her return from Knoxville. Even though we were conversing by telephone, her enthusiasm and energy level was at an all time high! She stated the presentation was well received by all, including many hookbill fanciers. Also, many important aspects of FINCHSAVE and NFSS were covered in her talk. Following her presentation there were numerous interested individuals asking questions and desiring information.

Continued on page 9...

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Blue-faced Lutino
Red-headed
Red-headed Pied
Red-headed Sea Green
Pin-tailed
Peale's
Tricolor (Forbes/ Blue-breasted)

Gouldian Finches:

Normal
White-breasted
Yellow
Blue, Dilute Blue, and Silver

Waxbills:

Lavender
Gold-breasted
Violet-eared
Sweet (Yellow-bellied)
Blue-capped Cordon Bleu
Senegal Fire Finch

Also:

Cuban Melodius Finches
Cinnamon (Fawn) Star Finches
Green Singing Finches
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Society Finches

All of our birds are bred in our home and are NFS banded whenever possible. We will ship, and we welcome visitors anytime. Please call for an appointment (no wholesalers): (617) 891-4056.

Lainey Claflin & John Bikales 226 Ash Street Weston, MA 02193

President's Message, continued...

Linda conversed with many fanciers and managed to distribute all the FINCHSAVE and NFSS information she had on hand.

NFSS is very proud of Linda Oja. This soft spoken lady radiates positive energy, is committed to the finch and softbill fancy and over the past few years has assisted the very important FINCHSAVE Program become what it is today. For many the Program it is a dream come true. Congratulations and thank you, Linda and your committees.

Linda Oja: an
"Outstanding NFSS Member"...
and this comes from more than just
one NFSS member's heart!



*Plan Now To
Attend!*

'94 NFSS General Membership Meeting

National Cage Bird Show
Manchester, New Hampshire
Saturday, November 19, 1994
10am in Robert Frost Room

*The National Finch and Soft-
bill Society and the "Show of
Shows" Welcome You to
New Hampshire and the
NFSS National Show!*

NFSS Panel Judge:
Daren Decoteau

Judging Friday,
November 18, 1994



National Finch And
Softbill Society's

FINCHSAVE

"the successful breeding program serving as a model for others to follow!"

FOR INFORMATION
CONTACT

Linda Oja

FINCHSAVE Director

268 Exeter Road

Newport News, VA 23602

(804) 874-8581

*Give Something Back to
Aviculture!*

NFSS News & Notes

Compiled from NFSS Directors

NFSS Stalwart Stepping Down

NFSS Founder's Award recipient Russell Armitage, Jr. has notified the Board that he is regretfully resigning as NFSS Liaison Officer, effective January 1, 1995. Russ states "at that time I will bring the extra awards I have to pass on to my replacement. I will be happy to help the person that you select to replace me. I have enjoyed doing the work over the years, and sometime in the future I may be contacting you to volunteer for another job with NFSS."

Russ' eagerness to be of help is not surprising. As member number 7, Russ has served the organization since its conception in many positions, including at various times Treasurer, Publicity Officer, Band Secretary, Membership Services, First Vice President and Liaison Officer. *Thanks, Russ!*

If you are interested in serving NFSS as Liaison Officer, or have any questions about the responsibilities of this position please contact NFSS President Steve Hoppin.

New Band Secretary for 1995

Can you imagine disseminating tens of thousands of NFSS bands? And for *six* years? Denise Capazzi has ably handled this huge undertaking for NFSS since 1989, and has notified NFSS that she will have to step out of this work after the 1994 band orders have been filled. *Many thanks, Denise!* What a service you have provided to all NFSS members!

NFSS welcomes Eileen Laird to the position of Band Secretary effective with 1995 band orders. Look for the 1995 band order form in the next issue of the *Bulletin*. Eileen's address can be found on page 8 (*see Dale Laird, her husband*).

Overseas Awards Project for NCBS

For several years, Mid-Central V.P. Tom Rood (also a Founder's Award recipient) has obtained awards from several overseas avicultural organizations which are distributed to a wide variety of quality birds at the NFSS National Show, held in conjunction with the National Cage Bird Show.

This year's National will be held in New Hampshire (*see advertisement elsewhere in this issue for information*) and Tom promises once again a great package of overseas specials.

NFSS Reffles *Estrildid Finches of the World* by Derek Goodwin

And speaking of Nationals, NFSS is raffling off a copy of the already classic aviculture book *Estrildid Finches of the World* by Derek Goodwin, published in 1982,

When is Your NFSS Membership Due for Renewal?

How to Read Your Mailing Label:

Your mailing label shows the issue through which your membership is paid (i.e., *Expire: 09/01/94*).

When your membership is up for renewal, your mailing label will have highlighted: **MEMBERSHIP DUE**.

If you have not paid by the following issue you will see highlighted the sad tidings: **LAST ISSUE**.

at the National Cage Bird Show, November 19, 1994. Long out-of-print, this book is invaluable to finch breeders and owners. Send in your raffle tickets today (*see page 5*). Mailed-in tickets must be received by NFSS, c/o Steve Hoppin by November 12, 1994. Tickets can be purchased in person at GABS and at the NCBS until the time of the drawing. The drawing will be held at the NFSS General Meeting, 10am, Saturday, November 19th.. The winner need not be present.

Show Secretaries—Reminder

Show secretaries and NFSS Panel Judges completing the NFSS Show Report this year are requested to provide a *complete* description of the top ten birds, including the color mutation when applicable.

Reminder to Affiliated Clubs

NFSS Panel Judge Chairman Dr. Al Decoteau asks that affiliated clubs always use the latest list of Panel Judges. This list will change

**Coming
In the Next Issue:**

SPECIAL ISSUE FOCUS
Fostering and Handfeeding

General Care for Finches

Eggfood Recipes

**Bird Prices of the
Not-So-Distant Past**

and more!

from time to time; new judges are added, and, occasionally, a judge is removed from the list.

Clubs should be aware that if a judge who has been removed from the NFSS Judges Panel is bired to judge finches and softbills, no points can be awarded for that show.

Champion Bird Correction

The beautiful Normal Gray Java Rice Bird (band #BB-201-F) owned by Pat and Mary Krichten, which had achieved Champion Bird status in 1993, has been found ineligible under NFSS rules as it is not banded with a traceable, recognizable band cross-registered with NFSS. Even though its Champion status has been removed, this lovely bird will be long remembered by those who have had the opportunity to see it at the shows.

Offer for NFSS Members from Audobon Publishing

Audobon Publishing is offering 10% off any of their aviculture books in their 12 page catalog, as well as 10% off their specially packaged groups of back issues of *American Cage-Bird Magazine* when you mention you are a member of NFSS. For a free copy of their catalog write to 1 Glamore Ct., Smithtown, NY 11787 or phone or fax them at (516) 979-8681.

Can We Help You Write It?

If you have an idea for an article but would appreciate a kick in the... er.. some assistance of any kind getting it on paper, please just contact the Editor.

The Feather Falls Out—Corrections

Thank you to Dwight Smith, NFSS Carribean V.P. for his Spanish translation of the *Benefits of Membership* page in the Jul—Aug 1994 issue.

You are sure to have recognized that the "Humane", not "Human" Society had won the lawsuit discussed in the WBCA article last issue.

And my apologies to Jean Morse for misspelling her name. Regardless of what I call her, we still love her artwork!

Please advise the Editor of any errors you have found in the Cumulative Index, and in *The NFSS Bulletin*.



**BIRD
WORLD**

proudly presents a new publication:

Finch & Canary World Magazine

Bird World Magazine is proud to announce the newest member of its family of quality avian publications. Finch & Canary World will be introduced in the fall of 1994 and will focus on finches, canaries and softbills. It will be a quarterly publication addressing the needs of this select group of aviculturists. Our goal is to bring you accurate information in an entertaining format while covering the latest developments pertaining to the keeping, breeding and showing of finches and canaries.

You may expect the same exceptional quality in Finch & Canary World as you've come to associate with Bird World. We are employing the talents of a respected and nationally recognized panel of finch and canary advisors. They will be available to review articles and assist us in the overall direction of the magazine. Their guidance will be invaluable. We believe our readers will also benefit from the contributions of the talented writers and photographers who will be assisting us and lending their expertise to this venture. We need *your* support, please subscribe!

**BIRD
WORLD**

proudly presents...Finch & Canary World Magazine

Finch & Canary World is a quarterly publication all about *your* favorite birds: finches and canaries and softbills! It contains informative feature articles, fun stories, reviews of the latest products, questions and answers, classified ads, and show listings. You'll discover how the experts care for, breed and show their finches and canaries. Remember, we're working with you to make a better world for birds!

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Breeding Blue-faced Parrot Finches

Erythrura trichroa

by *Lainey Claffin*
Grasslands Exotic Finches
(617) 891-4056
226 Ash Street
Weston, MA 02193

The Blue-faced Parrot finch, a native of New Guinea and surrounding areas, has been successfully domesticated for nearly 50 years. It is one of the most energetic and hardy of all the Parrot finch species. Like all Parrot finches, the Blue-faced does best in a large aviary setting, with four to six feet in length as a minimum. In good health, the Blue-faced flies almost continuously and its green feathers glow like Irish grass.

The Blue-faced enjoys many foods, including oranges, apples, eggfood, mealworms and commercial pelleted foods. A steady supply of protein-rich food is essential for Blue-faced Parrot finches, as they tend to molt frequently and rapidly and require large stores of protein to replenish their feathers. These birds are excellent parents, nesting readily, incubating tightly and raising their young without difficulty. Wooden nestboxes seem to be popular with our breeding pairs, but they occasionally use wicker baskets as well. The Blue-faced will breed in single pairs in roomy three to four foot cages or in large aviaries with other

species of finches. They should not be bred in groups, as males in breeding condition can become quite aggressive towards each other.

Like most Parrot finch species, the Blue-faced can be difficult to sex. Usually the hen has a duller and smaller blue area on her head, but this is not always the case. In addition, the male will sing a few notes at the end of his trill whereas the hen simply trills and has no song. Males and females should be rested separately in the off-breeding season or the males will continue their breeding efforts and may become aggressive both to hens and to other males.

Inbreeding caution

Overgrown claws are common in the Blue-faced and it is important to clip their claws frequently to prevent the birds from becoming caught in wire, etc. Another problem with Blue-faced Parrot finches is that even remote inbreeding seems to have disastrous results in a considerable percentage of the offspring. We have bred birds that we did not know were the result of previous inbreeding and some of the chicks developed a neuromuscular disorder. This disorder is well-known among Parrot finch breeders. It is degenerative: the birds become wobbly and disoriented and eventually cannot stand up. They end up on the floor until they either die or need to be put down. We are making every effort to prevent this problem in our flock and the flocks of other breeders.

Breeding Red-headed Parrot Finches

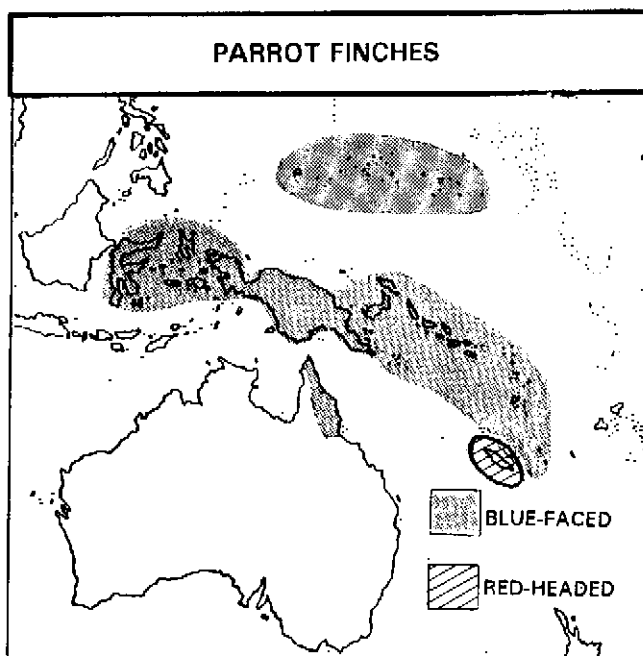
Erythrura psittacea

by *Lainey Claffin*
Grasslands Exotic Finches
(617) 891-4056
226 Ash Street
Weston, MA 02193

Along with the Blue-faced Parrot finch, the Red-head is among the most common of the Parrot finches found in aviculture. Nonetheless, it is truly breathtaking. Its body is a pure, true green, and its head is a vibrant red — a stunning, classic combination. Originally from New Caledonia, the Red-head has been successfully domesticated for many decades. It is an eager and prolific breeder — our Red-heads will breed in any type of nest at any time of year, and the majority of our breeding pairs raise their own young. If a pair of Red-heads will not incubate their eggs, Society finches seem to have no

trouble raising the Parrot finch young.

Almost always in motion, Red-heads need plenty of room to fly. Resting birds need a minimum of four feet in length, and for breeding pairs we do not recommend using less than a three by two by two foot cage. Four to six foot breeding aviaries with other types of finches (Waxbills, etc.) work nicely for our Red-head breeders. Of course, the more room the birds have the better. The Red-head males tend to handle their female partners somewhat roughly, pulling feathers out of the



nape and ear area while mating, so it is a good idea to keep a close eye on the hens during the breeding season. We sometimes have to separate pairs

if one of our hens becomes too plucked. When the birds are not breeding, the sexes should be separated, otherwise the males will continue to mate with the hens. Red-heads can be bred in colonies, but we keep our breeders in separate pairs to prevent fighting among the males.

Great eaters

The diet for the Red-head should be high in protein and should include many different types of fruits and vegetables. Our Red-heads may be our best eaters — they eat everything and lots of it. They fly almost non-stop, and seem to molt several times a year, so it is our belief that they need even more food than our other finches. In addition to fruits and vegetables, they should receive mealworms routinely, as well as eggfood, and they also appreciate pelleted foods such as Lafeber's finch granules.

Sexing Red-heads can be challenging. Sometimes the male has a larger, brighter red area on the head than the hen — but not always. Sometimes the male has a larger vent than the hen — but if the bird is young or is not in breeding condition, the difference might not be noticeable. The male will sing after his trill, whereas the hen will not, and this is the method of sexing we rely

In praise of the Zebra Finch

Each morning when sunrise creeps into every corner of his cage,

Gizmo awakens with hearty praise.

He rings his bell to let me know —

hey, look, I'm ready to go!

His playful, energetic nature fills my day.

And you know what? I just wouldn't have it any other way!

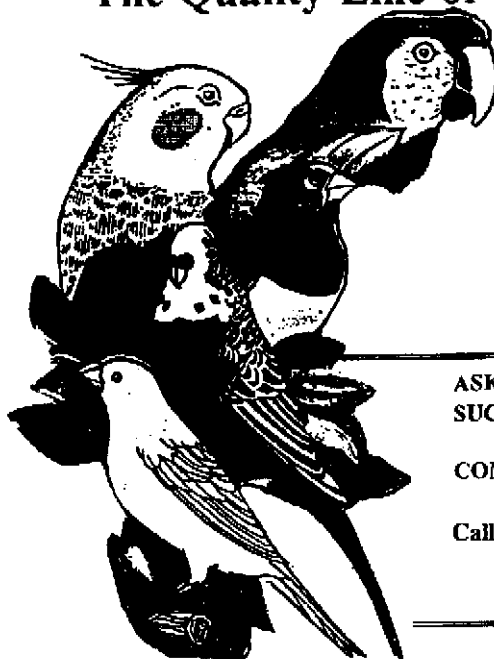
Barbara H. Collins, R.N.
Greenwood, South Carolina
May 1994

on most with our Red-heads. The trick is to get the male to sing. Placing him in a cage by himself often works, but not always. With this species, only time will truly tell: either the bird will sing, or it won't sing, or it will lay an egg. But regardless, the Red-head is a treasure, no matter what.



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An experience with **Iron Storage Disease**

Hemosidosis or Hemochromatosis

*by Nancy J. Kelly
Pueblo, Colorado*

I lost a female Orange-cheeked Waxbill a few months ago to Hemosidosis or Hemochromatosis — Iron Storage Disease. Evidently mynahs, toucans, lorries and some finches (particularly African Waxbills) are predisposed to this possibly inherited problem. They are unable to metabolize large amounts of iron, which then builds up in their livers leading to death as the liver ceases to function.

I had three African Waxbills die last year with the same signs as the Orange-cheek. I sent one of those birds to an Avian Veterinarian for necropsy, as I did the Orange-cheek I recently lost. Her findings were identical in both cases — conditions indicated hepatitis and possible pneumonia.

Last year I treated all of my birds for hepatitis, and since no others died, I believed the problem taken care of. The birds last year were recent imports and I felt hepatitis a viable possibility, so I didn't feel the need for further testing then.

The Orange-cheek that recently died was not a recent import. I worried about where hepatitis could have come from, so I asked to have

further tests conducted. These tests found large amounts of iron in the system of the Orange-cheek.

All affected birds were found sitting on the floor of their cages all fluffed up with breathing difficulties. They looked and behaved like an egg-bound hen, although not all of them were hens. I removed them to hospital cages with heat of 90-95 °F.

I really pay attention to my birds and observe all cages and their occupants closely several times a day since birds mask their illness as a natural means of defense, and none of the birds had shown gradual signs of illness. In all cases, it happened suddenly. All birds died within an hour or two of being put in the hospital cage.

At the time these deaths occurred, I was sprinkling a mineral supplement over the legume/rice/vegi mixture my birds are fed every morning. Even though I was following label directions, my Avian Veterinarian recommends feeding mineral supplements only three times a week to all birds rather than daily.

I have worked with African Waxbills and other finches for several years. Even though I read everything I come across about the types of birds I have, I had never heard of this problem before. Hopefully this article will keep others from making the same mistake I did when using mineral supplements.

One man's adventure with **Aviculture in Puerto Rico**

*by Dwight Smith
Ponce, Puerto Rico*

For some unexplained reason, birds have always been objects of my fascination. When I was a young boy I lived on the outskirts of a small town in Puerto Rico, and along with my older brother, I always had pigeons, chickens, parakeets, and an occasional wild bird to take care of. Since my cages were never very large, when I once had a Screech Owl it was given the run of the house, and I still thank my mother for her patience and understanding.

By the time I was in High School most of my avian guests had been relocated or otherwise taken care of because my interests had shifted a bit. Soon I took off to Albion, Michigan, to get a College education, which had to be in Biology (Zoology). But I missed Puerto Rico and after three years of bitter cold winters I decided to continue my education back home. At the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, I met my wife, Maria ... another very patient and understanding person.

My first job was that of taking care of the Puerto Rican Parrot in the El Yunque Rain Forest. That is what I did for three years, and I experienced first-hand the excruciating pain produced by an excited, screaming, *Amazon* parrot. I still think I'm a little bit deaf because of those

noisy parrots, and that is why I like the finches so much.

I currently live on the South side of Puerto Rico, where the air is relatively dry and the temperature is high. Conditions are great for my finches, and I have kept them since 1982. After experimenting, and acquiring a bit of know-how, with Zebras, Societies, and Indian Silverbills, I graduated to the Gouldian Finch, of which there were still some questions that I wanted answers to.

Eventually I got many answers and some prize-winning birds from Mr. Hershel Frey, from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The progeny of those original blood lines have consistently achieved Best in Show, or very close to that position in Puerto Rico bird shows.

While I love to breed my finches in their cages, and tell people all that I have learned over the years, as a biologist I cannot forget my interest in conservation of species and habitat. Although, re-introduction of species has proven to be a bit tricky sometimes, and impossible at others, I like to point out that aviculture is in fact a barrier to extinction. Who knows, maybe some day the descendants of my Gouldians will once again fly free in the Australian sunshine. That would make my heart soar like a hawk.

Flocking Together...



Our readers have the following questions for the NFSS membership:

❖ We are a military family, making moves every three years or so. Our first experience moving with our Zebra Finches across country did not go well. I am looking for *any* hints that would make our next move safer for the birds and easier for us our next move.

Kimberlee Breuer
111-1 Sirocco Drive
Minot AFB, ND 58704
(701) 727-8088

❖ My most recent challenge is trying to breed the Timor Sparrows. With a friend I have tried cage breeding with no success. We have pooled all our Timors together to try colony breed them. If you know of anyone that has successfully bred these birds, please let me know.

Cathy Knight
P.O. Box 188
Byron, CA 94514

❖ I am having problems with lizards eating baby birds and eggs. Has any other member had the same experience and if so, what can be done to get rid of these lizards in my outside aviary?

Walter Fraser
P.O. Box PMB 2000
Talladega, AL 35160-8799

In response to the question last issue concerning whether feeding baby mice (pinkies) is required to successfully raise Pagoda Mynahs, we have the following from a member:



❖ I saw your cry for help. While I've not raised Pagodas (they're illegal in California), I have raised several other types including Rothchild's (Bali) Mynah, Indian Hill, and Java Hill. I have never had to feed pinkies to any of these species. They do just fine on mealworms and crickets. I feed the mealworms alive, and the crickets frozen/thawed. Keeps them from escaping, and the birds don't seem to mind. Hope this was some help, and good luck with them in the future.

Dick Schroeder
P.O. Box 305
Fallbrook, CA 92028

Want to correspond with fellow NFSS members who share your interest in a particular species or who may have met a challenge in their bird room similar to the one you are facing? Use the NFSS **FLOCKING TOGETHER** column to send a call out to the membership. Mail your request to the Editor, *The NFSS Bulletin*.

Readers who can help an inquirer can write directly to the individual if their address is provided, or to the Editor for forwarding. If you wish, send a copy of your letter to the Editor for publication in the *Bulletin* where your ideas will reach many others with the same or similar needs.

*He, too polite to heckle judge,
Think too low of self.*

Ancient Congoleum Proverb

A Healthy Diet For Finches: **Don't Let Your Finches Tell You What To Feed Them**

*by Lacey Claffin
 Grasslands Exotic Finches
 (617) 891-4056
 226 Ash Street
 Weston, MA 02193*

Imagine what a four year old child would say if you asked him what he wanted to eat. French fries and chocolate bars? How often would he choose a salad, or even a complete meal? If you ask a domesticated finch what it wants to eat, the answer is: seeds.

This is not the case in the wild. For one thing, there are no processed seeds in the wild. Most seeds are parts of living plants, or else have fallen to the ground and sprouted. They are often covered with insects, and the plant stems and leaves provide nutritious greens. Commercial seeds have been dried and cleaned, and are often coated with chemicals such as coloring agents and preservatives. By the time they reach the birds, they are nothing like seeds from the wild.

They are, however, extremely popular with finches. Unfortunately, they have very few of the necessary nutrients for a balanced finch diet. Truly, a straight seed diet for finches

is similar to a diet of french fries and candy bars for a young child. Birds love the way dry seeds taste, but they do not understand that they are not nutritious. They fill up on the seeds, and have little appetite leftover for healthy foods. The problem is that people listen to their finches, and give up on training them to eat nutritious foods. Consequently, the birds lose their bright coloration, become fat, have problems with reproduction, and may eventually die prematurely.

So why feed seeds to finches at all? That is a good question. A more nutritious alternative would be to feed them a staple diet of pelleted foods. We

tried converting our finches to a purely pelleted diet, and found that we came close to losing several birds to starvation, even after a careful weaning period. As a compromise, we keep a dish of seeds and a dish of Lafeber finch granules (a pelleted finch food) available to our finches at all times. At first the finches did not particularly care for the pellets, but now they have learned to enjoy them. Our fledglings particularly enjoy the pelleted food, as it is easier for them to eat than seeds. We use

~~~~~  
*Truly, a straight seed  
 diet for finches is similar  
 to a diet of french fries  
 and candy bars for a  
 young child.*  
 ~~~~~


Lafeher finch food because it does not contain artificial colorings or preservatives. Cuttlebone and clean water must also be available to finches at all times. We provide an oyster-shell grit to our birds, but there is controversy over whether grit is necessary for finches. It may in fact cause harmful impactions,



Martha Wignore

though to our knowledge, we have not experienced this problem.

Along with a staple diet of seeds and pelleted food, protein foods are essential for finches, even when they are not reproducing. Resting birds should get protein foods at least twice a week. We provide one type of protein food to our non-breeding finches every day, and two or three types to our breeding birds. Eggfood is an excellent choice as a protein food, particularly for breeding birds. We prepare our eggfood ourselves, and include dried, hard-boiled eggs, Prime vitamin-mineral powder, soy protein powder, cornmeal, ground cuttlebone, and either Spirulina powder or Wheatgrass powder. In our opinion, the eggs and Vitamin-mineral powder would be a minimum for a nutritious eggfood. Each

finch gets a half teaspoon every other day, unless they are raising young, in which case they get larger amounts every day.

Along with eggfood, live foods such as mealworms, fly larvae, waxworms, etc., are excellent protein sources. For some finches, such as waxhills and parrot finches, we consider live food to be essential, particularly during the breeding season. Sprouted seeds are also a nutritious protein source, as sprouted seeds contain protein and nutrients which dry seeds do not.

Finally, we think finches should receive either fruit or vegetables every day. Our birds love most types of fruits and vegetables — the only one to avoid is avocado.

Once finches learn to eat a varied diet, they no longer gorge themselves on dry seeds. But no matter how many times I explain this to people, they come back to me and say: "My birds wouldn't eat those things, so I stopped putting them in the cage." How is a bird ever going to learn to eat nutritious foods if the foods are not inside the bird's cage? It may take a week, a month, or even six months to train finches to enjoy nutritious foods, but the training process is not optional: it is necessary. What a joy these birds can be when we take proper care of them.



Criteria for Evaluating Pairs in Competitions

by *Martha Wigmore*
Elk River, Minnesota

Oftimes, bird breeding and exhibiting presents opportunities for some earnest, yet fun yabbering, and the first Proposed Revised Society Finch Standard (as published in the Jan—Feb 1994 issue of *The NFSS Bulletin*) with its suggested standard for the exhibition of crested Society PAIRS makes me yearn to lock the entire judges panel in a (padded!) room for an afternoon to share opinions about pairs exhibiting. I'm one of those who hold a very strong opinion on pairs exhibiting, which is for me the *ultimate* showcase for birds and their exhibitors, and I am aware that others have strong views on the issue quite opposite my own.

What follows are some of my thoughts on exhibiting pairs in aviculture. The strength of opinion on this topic indicates to me that NFSS needs to encourage more discussion about it among a wider audience. Let's have some more fun with this!

The Tradition (*The Primitive Man Connection*)

Probably since the cavemen, men and women have at one point or another found great satisfaction in

comparing their "things" to those of their neighbors. Objective bases for determining *the best* have been in a continual state of evolution since prehistoric times, and thus we have inherited the NFSS Standards of today. Impartial, and brave, onlookers,

A judge can and should evaluate and compare only the visible results of a breeder's or exhibitor's efforts, not his/her intentions.

at least somewhat familiar with and able to apply the criteria used to evaluate the "things" being compared, were enlisted to decide *the best*, and thus we see the early origin of the NFSS Panel Judge of today.

All kidding aside, in aviculture the tradition of pairs exhibition lies in the presentation of birds of *matched* appearance - matched body type, coloration, and condition, and possessing complementary temperament and demeanor in that "teeny-weeny-living space" called the show cage. In the brief time a pair is before the judge on the show bench, each bird in the pairing is evaluated using the agreed-upon standard for deciding *the best* of that variety, and

then the *pairing effort* is evaluated and compared to the other entries being judged at that time. Over the years, at thousands of shows, winning pairs have been *matched and complementary* birds, and are truly a work of art! These pairs are an extraordinary and challenging accomplishment.

Pairing as proposed in the first Society Standard Revision

The first Proposed Revised Society Finch standard states:

The exhibition of a pair signifies the acceptance of these two birds as a true pair that would enhance the species if bred together.

If I may simply state my case here, *this is not the same kind of evaluation as discussed in the last paragraph, and cannot be performed objectively.* If this criteria is applied honestly, it would require something akin to clairvoyant capabilities, which is not what the cavemen, nor their offspring had in mind when they asked for NFSS Panel Judges.

As NFSS judges, we are hired to compare the birds on the bench at the time of judging, conducting an objective examination of the entries on a one-to-one basis. We do not project ourselves subjectively in front of the show bench of the future. We judge the birds at hand. (*Along the lines of "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"...*) It changes the

entire nature of the competition to predict and fore-judge a pairs' offspring. The criteria of a "true pair that would enhance the species if bred together" asks us to make assumptions about the birds' genetic makeup. Assumptions are not objective criteria with which to measure the worth of the exhibit on the show bench.

As a practical matter...

As a practical matter, a judge can and should evaluate and compare only the visible *results* of a breeder's or exhibitor's efforts, not his/her *intentions*. The glory of judging a perfectly-matched pair of black-headed Gouldians, or a brother and sister team of Fawn Zebras, or a pair of crested Society Finches with identically placed and formed crests cannot be overstated! They are extraordinary exhibits, and offer the gallery double the opportunity to see the highest standards achieved, while the breeder/exhibitor has accomplished one of the greatest challenges on the show bench.

Our galleries will no more be misled by these pairings than they are misled into thinking that caged birds live their lives in show cages; which is to say, that our love and joy in our birds and in our accomplishments with them lead us into many opportunities, especially as NFSS Panel Judges, to welcome and educate our new friends, as often and as naturally as night turns into day.

Continued next page...

More on our anniversary **A National Family**

*by Charlie Anchor
Addison, Illinois*

At the National Cage Bird Show in Columbus, Ohio in 1985, two Silver-Tongued-Devils, Nancy Reed and Bill Parlee talked me into joining the National Finch Society.

Never have I regretted it. When you belong to this society, you join a strange bird society. People actually enjoy helping one another. When finch people get together there is a lot of smiling and laughter. We like to win at shows but we also like to have fun doing it.

Judges and exhibitors show a lot of camaraderie.

I had some very serious concerns when our society enacted the point system for champion exhibitors and birds. I have seen this change

Pairs judging, continued...

Which is a fancy way to say let us preserve a pairs exhibition standard of judging which will reward the exhibitor's accomplishments, rather than intent.

In any event, let the debate continue! Hey, it's stimulating and fun to consider pairs exhibiting, and I personally feel that these discussions carry tremendous impact upon the future of NFSS judging.

other societies to the point where exhibitors only care about their points at the end of the show. God help judge or secretary that makes a mistake. Too bad the judges and secretaries are human.

I have come to know members like Tom, Cecil, Martha, Ray, Gene, Clarence, Nancy and Bill. These people are true friends. In fact, our society is like a national family. Maybe I am getting too maudlin. This society will be here a long time with people like this as members.

Oh, yes, my number is # 33.

❖

Notice of Upcoming 1994 NFSS Board of Directors' Meetings

3RD QTR 1994

Kaytee Great American Bird
Show - Des Moines, Iowa
Friday, September 30, 1994
at 10pm

4TH QTR 1994

National Cage Bird Show
Manchester, New Hampshire
Thurs., November 17, 1994
at 9pm

Understanding that circumstances vary for each individual, all Board members are encouraged to attend these meetings.

❖

Member #101 recalls **Ten Years of NFSS**

by Jon Hoffman
Louisville, Kentucky

My first direct contact with NFSS was back in the 1980's, when

I was judging parrots at a show in Massachusetts.

Both Bill Parlee and Al Decoteau were there, and while Al and I waited to be summoned into the show hall, he and

Bill were going over the questions for the judging apprentice qualifying test. They asked if they could try the questions on me. So I took the test orally and passed. Al and Bill said I should enter the judging program. I told them I didn't belong to NFS (as it was then known); they said, "So join." I said I didn't have any finches; they said, "Get some." So I did both. There followed the longest apprenticeship in the history of Western civilization. I apprenticed at 4 shows! Thanks to the late Val Clear, to Connie Meinert and Charlie Anchor (three true gentlemen), I was finally able to qualify in time to judge my first NFS show.

In the early days, there was never any dissension in the ranks of NFS; it became axiomatic that finch and softbill people were friendly and helpful and didn't get wound up in

destructive politics. NFS(S) has come a long way; in judging some of those early NFS shows, entries were disappointingly small. Now, finch/softbill entries are very strong—sometimes the largest entry by far of all the divisions at the larger shows.

With a new president, a new editor, both of whom are conscientious and competent, as well as with a new enthusiasm among members and a thriving FINCH-SAVE program, there seems every possibility of maintaining the growth of NFSS while nur-

turing that early spirit of cooperation, along with mutual respect and affection.

There followed the longest apprenticeship in the history of Western civilization.

The Wonderful World of Finches and Softbills: An Introduction

**An NFSS Video
Prepared and narrated by NFSS
Panel Judge *Jon Hoffman***

Adapted from a slide presentation, the birds will delight you and the narration will fascinate you!

Much more than an introduction, this video looks at dozens of varieties of finches and softbills.

To order, see the FINCHSHOP order form in this issue.

Proposed Revisions to the Society (Bengalese) Finch Standard

Lonchura striata, domesticated form

as proposed by the *National Finch and Softbill Society* - Revision 2

September 1994

(Revision 1 was published in Jan/Feb 1994 *Bulletin*)

Any comments should be sent to:

**Dr. Al Decoteau
P.O. Box 369
Groton, MA 01450**

CONFORMATION	50 POINTS
Head and Body	25 pts
Wings	10 pts
Tail	15 pts
CONDITION	20 POINTS
COLOR AND MARKINGS	20 POINTS
DEPORTMENT AND PRESENTATION	10 POINTS

CONFORMATION (50 POINTS) (distributed as follows)

HEAD AND BODY: 25 POINTS The ideal Society Finch will have a combined beak, head, body, and tail length of between 4 1/4 and 4 1/2 inches. The body appears trim and slightly muscular, with its broadest point about the chest and shoulders. From the chin, the lower body line flows outward to its deepest point at the chest, continuing smoothly through the abdomen, with only slight roundness, tapering slightly to the legs. Behind the legs to the tail, the body tapers to the vent. The line of the back runs smoothly and slightly rounded from the base of the neck to the tail. The back is slightly rounded from shoulder to shoulder, and the sides of the body are slightly rounded from the shoulders through the vent.

In typical mannikin fashion, the forehead flows directly from the line of the upper mandibles with no rise. The head has a slightly rounded crown, flowing smoothly to the neck. Eyes are set forward of the center of the head, with the bottom of the eye even with the line where the mandibles meet. The neck is, from all views, broader than the head, increasing in width as it approaches the shoulders. There is little or no dip in the backline of the neck. The legs must be

equal and parallel. Missing toes or nails are faulted. Nails are of suitable length to assure proper grip.

WINGS: 10 POINTS The wings are carried evenly and set close to the body. The wings blend smoothly into the hack with the wing tips meeting at the root of the tail. Crossed or drooping wings are faulted.

TAIL: 15 POINTS The tail approaches 2 inches in length. It smoothly follows the top and bottom lines off the body with the upper and under coverts. The flight feathers of the tail are neat and gradually taper, and the central feathers form a neat and obvious "V" tip. It should not droop or rise from the back line.

CONDITION (20 POINTS)

A healthy well-conditioned Society Finch appears clean, alert, and tight-feathered. The eyes are clear and bright. Feathers are not ragged, frayed, or broken. The legs and feet are clean and free of scaling. The upper and lower mandibles must be smooth, clean, and free of imperfections, with the sides of the mandibles curving inward slightly where they meet.

COLOR AND MARKINGS (20 POINTS)

CHOCOLATE SELF: The chocolate should be the color of deep plain chocolate. The Chocolate Self Society must show the chocolate on the head, wings, tail, and at least halfway down the breast. The lower half of the breast to be light chocolate with flecking. The chocolate should be rich, and ideally there should be no white feathers present. The legs must be dark and matched in color. The upper mandible should be dark like the body color and the lower mandible should be steel gray.

FAWN SELF: The fawn should be a creamy cinnamon-brown. The Fawn Self Society must show the fawn on the head, wings, tail, and at least halfway down the breast. The lower half of the breast to be light fawn with fleckings. The fawn should be rich and ideally there should be no white feathers present. The legs must be pink and matched in color. The beak, both upper and lower mandibles, should be light and even in color with a slight pinkish tinge.

CHESTNUT SELF: The chestnut should be a reddish brown. The Chestnut Self Society must show the chestnut on the head, wings, tail, and at least halfway down the breast. The lower half of the breast to be light chestnut with fleckings. The chestnut should be rich and ideally there should be no white feathers present. The legs must be dark and matched in color. The upper

mandible should be dark and the lower mandible steel gray (as in the Chocolate Society).

WHITE SELF: The white should be solid white: no colored feathers permissible. The legs must be pink and matched in color. The beak, both upper and lower mandibles, should be horn and even in color with a slight pinkish tinge.

CHOCOLATE AND WHITE: The chocolate color the same as defined for the Chocolate Self. The Chocolate and White Society should carry at least 30% white feathers, preferably balanced on both sides. Legs and beak as defined in the Chocolate Self.

FAWN AND WHITE: The fawn color the same as defined for the Fawn Self. The Fawn and White Society should carry at least 30% white feathers, preferably balanced on both sides. Legs and beak as defined in the Fawn Self.

CHESTNUT AND WHITE: The chestnut color the same as defined for the Chestnut Self. The Chestnut and White Society should carry at least 30% white feathers, preferably balanced on both sides. Legs and beak as defined in the Chestnut Self.

DILUTE: The feather color should be a less intense shade of the main colors: Chocolate, Fawn, and Chestnut. Both legs must be matched in color. The legs and beak should be as defined for the Chocolate, Fawn, and Chestnut varieties.

CRESTED: The crest is an important point in judging this variety, but other show points should not be overlooked. The crest should be large and radiate from a center point far forward on the head. Ideally, the crest should be as close to a single crest as possible.

DEPARTMENT AND PRESENTATION (10 POINTS)

DEPARTMENT: The Society Finch stands confidently on the perch with the angle of the back at 45 degrees. It is quite calm and steady on the perch. The Society Finch does not "swim" or "roost" on the perch; the judge easily moves the bird with the use of a judging stick. Overly nervous or flighty birds are faulted.

PRESENTATION: A #2 National Finch and Softbill Society standard show cage or any other box type show cage of appropriate size is recommended. The cage is clean and in good repair. There are no distinguishing or identifying marks on the show cage. The perches are securely fastened and of the proper thickness for the bird's feet.

Point standings for **Individual Finches and Softbills**

by Dr. Al Decoteau
4th Vice President & Points Chairman

NFSS is now beginning the 1994 Fall show season. There were a few spring and summer shows. We wish to predict that this is the year we will see more than one champion finish. Here is a current standing of individual finches and softbills holding 20 points or more. *Good Luck* to all of you in 1994!

If we have missed any, please write to Dr. Al Decoteau.

Gene and June Miller — D 87 92 — Fawn Diamond Sparrow	44
Dennis Burhans — D 4948 92 — Cherry Finch	38
Virginia Patrick — C 511 91 Green Singer	38
Tom Rood — C 3126 91 — CFW Zebra	38
Kris Kroner — D 7216 89 — Bronze Wing Mannikin	33
Stephen Hoppin — D 3649 91 — Pin tailed NonPareil	32
Pat & Mary Krichten — B 268 89 — Cordon Bleu	29
Rick Szlachta — D 1963 91 — Self Society	27
Ellen Buchanan — C 1552 93 — Shafttail	27
Jerri Wiesenfeld — K 463 90 — Normal Java Rice Bird	23
Pat & Mary Krichten — D 2312 90 — Red Headed Gould	23
Gene & June Miller — B 123 87 — Fire Finch	23
Gene & June Miller — C 192 89 — Yellow Faced Star	23
Jan Thomas — C 2951 92 — Shafttail	22
Tom Rood — C 3159 91 — CFW Zebra	22
Gene June Miller — B 2 92 — Fire Finch	21
Pat & Mary Krichten — C 463 91 — Crimson Wing Pytilia	21
Patrick Vance — C 35 92 — Shafttail	20
Jacky Eckman — SPBE BRA15 93 — Starling	20

NFSS Panel of Judges 1994

Charles Anchor
630 Lake Park Drive
Addison, IL 60101
(708) 543-3757

Laura Bewley
Rt. 2 Box 1130
Mounds, OK 74047
(918) 366-7427

Brian Binns
97 Bent Lanes
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Manchester, England
M31 8WZ

Harold Bowles
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Cartersville, GA 30120
(404) 387-9189

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1807 N.E. Colburn
Lee's Summit, MO
64063
(816) 524-0921

Clarence Culwell
250 Horseshoe Dr.
Springtown, TX 76082
(817) 220-5568

Dr. Al E. Decoteau
Panel Chairman
P.O. Box 369
Groton, MA 01450
Phone (603) 672-4568
Fax (603) 672-3120

Daren Decoteau
P.O. Box 369
Groton, MA 01450
(603) 880-7832

Roddy Gabel
600 Gist Avenue
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(301) 585-9647

Brenda Geesey
335 de la Ronde St.
New Orleans, LA 70114

Cecil Gunby
8121 Highway 54
Sharpsburg, GA 30277
(404) 254-1261

Kenneth Gunby*
1117 Williamsburg Lane
Norcross, GA 30093
(404) 251-2877
**NFSS Panel Judge through
11/19/94 only.*

Jon Hoffman
800 S. 4th St. Apt. 1706
Louisville, KY 40203
(502) 585-5370

Stephen Hopplin
3836 Hidden Acres Circle
N. Fort Myers, FL 33903
(813) 997-NFSS

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175 Stoneridge Way
Fayetteville, GA 30214
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Clayton Jones
P.O. Box 266
Soquel, CA 95073
(408) 728-8676

Hal M. Koontz
2604 Auburn Ct.
Bakersfield, CA 93306
(805) 872-1063

Joseph Krader
24692 Paseo de Toronto
Yorba Linda, CA 92687
(714) 692-8051

Brian Mandarich
4743 E. Hedges Ave.
Fresno, CA 93703
(209) 255-6508

Conrad Meinert
1212 E. Cr. 300 S.
Warsaw, IN 46580
(219) 269-2873

William G. Parlee
P.O. Box 380607
E. Hartford, CT 06138
(203) 569-0200

Marty Von Raesfeld
1135 Chapman St.
San Jose, CA 95126
(408) 985-2712

Tom Rood
313 N. Broadway
Shelbyville, IL 62565
(217) 774-5265

Patrick Vance
18175 Avilla
Lathrup Village, MI
48076
(313) 443-0643

Martha Wigmore
18913 Boston St. NW
Elk River, MN 55330
(612) 241-0071

Paul S. Williams
703 Donegal Drive
Papillion, NE 68046
(402) 592-5488

Awarding Points at NFSS Shows

From The NFSS Handbook

Exhibiting NFSS members and the birds they have exhibited automatically receive points at a show where an NFSS judge is judging. These points are determined by the number of birds shown in the division. All points are awarded in accordance with the schedule below and are not official until the official show report is received and the points are recorded by the NFSS Points Director.

National Finch and Softbill Society POINTS SCHEDULE										
Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
20-29	3	2	1							
30-39	4	3	2	1						
40-49	5	4	3	2	1					
50-59	6	5	4	3	2	1				
60-79	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
80-99	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
100-119	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
120-139	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
140-159	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
160-189	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
190-219	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
220-259	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
260-299	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
300 >	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7

Note: In order for a softbill, finch, or dove to attain points, it must have been judged against all the birds in the Finch and Softbill Division. Points will not be allowed in a specialty show where finches are not judged against softbills or other birds within the division.

The National Finch and Softbill Society Region NEWS

News from Region 3: Mid-Central

Tom Rood - Regional V.P.

Tom lost the Illini Bird Show Finch Challenge this June. Seeing as how he was to judge his local show this year, he challenged the other club members and exhibitors to bring at least 100 birds to the show. And they did! As "loser", Tom paid off

- paying 1/2 of their club's 1995 NFSS affiliation fees

- awarding a beautiful pen set trophy and a free year's dues for the most entries
- presenting a beautiful crystal trophy to the Best in Division.

Tom has always contended that the Illini group is "the greatest group of people in the bird hobby"! And they love to see him lose a bet—all in good fun!

Each delegate in Region 3 has received a rosette from Tom for their upcoming show to be awarded as they see fit. Look for Tom on the show circuit this fall as judge and exhibitor, and prepare for a great time!



Changing Your Address?

Let NFSS be the first to greet you at your new address!

Please send this form to

Lynda Bakula
NFSS Membership Chairman
P.O. Box 3232
Bellaire, MO 63022

Club delegates should also send their change of address

separately to
Russell Armitage Jr.
NFSS Liaison Officer
28 Piping Rock Dr.
Waterbury, CT 06706

Name _____ Membership # _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Welcome New NFSS Members!

New Memberships—April through July 1994

Region	NFSS#	Name	City	State
3	2,213	Kimberly Darling	Rock Island	IL
1	2,214	David Castetter	Quarryville	PA
3	2,215	Michelle M Spear	Mulberry	IN
2	2,216	Steven L Osmer	Palm Bay	FL
6	2,217	Henry Koning	Santa Rosa	CA
7	2,218	Rafael Suarez	Santurce	PR
2	2,219	George Stainkus	Winter Park	FL
2	2,220	Victoria J Steely	Winter Park	FL
3	2,221	Sabra (Chicki) Dulkan	West Bloomfield	MI
3	2,365	Theresa Lynn Stearns	Defiance	OH
4	2,366	Pat A Graham	Maxwell	IA
3	2,367	Warren Lillygren	Kansas City	MO
3	2,368	Alice Lillygren	Kansas City	MO
1	2,369	Theresa Staruch	Poland	NY
1	2,370	Edward Staruch	Poland	NY
4	2,371	Stephanie Wesloh	Big Bend	TX
2	2,372	Patti Schwindt	Orlando	FL
4	2,373	Travis Elfers	Tampa	TX
3	2,374	Craig Tisdale	Grayslake	IL
1	2,375	Michael J Kidd	Bel Air	MD
4	2,376	Rhoda L Shirley	Des Moines	IA
4	2,377	Ron Heron	Houston	TX
4	2,378	Yvonne Heron	Houston	TX
6	2,379	Brenda Combs - Top Flight Aviary	Bend	OR
2	2,380	Joseph Williams	Murfreesboro	TN
2	2,381	Julie Pelicano	Bunnell	FL
2	2,382	Carole Snellgrove	Boynton Beach	FL
4	2,383	Donna Kappenman	Sioux Falls	SD
3	2,384	Gail Richardson	Oconomowoc	WI
2	2,385	Wilma Crawford	Murfreesboro	TN
1	2,386	Doug Willis	Carthage	MO
2	2,387	Catherine A Furr	Albemarle	NC
1	2,388	James H Lavigne	North Ferrisburgh	VT
4	2,389	Chris Mc Cabe	San Antonio	TX
6	2,390	Victor Jones	Seatac	WA
3	2,391	Larry Baum	Hamilton	OH
3	2,392	Deborah Kiper	Cedar Hill	MO

Region	NFSS#	Name	City	State
3	2,393	Susan Stuth	Cedar Hill	MO
2	2,394	Joanne McCormick	N Fort Myers	FL
2	2,395	Bill Carley	N Fort Myers	FL
4	2,396	Diane Tremblay	Hill City	KS
5	2,397	Greg Harding	Scottsdale	AZ
1	2,398	Sue Madison	Germantown	MD
6	2,399	Darlene Hrouda	Roseburg	OR
2	2,400	Barbara H Collins	Greenwood	SC
6	2,401	Socrates Demetrius	Monte Rio	CA
6	2,402	Dylan Burge	Chico	CA
5	2,403	Jan Brummer	Pocatello	ID
3	2,404	Karen Sherrill	Kalkaska	MI
3	2,405	Tim Sherrill	Kalkaska	MI
2	2,406	Ron Clifton	Huntsville	AL
7	2,407	Ernestina Figueroa Rivera	Santurce	PR
2	2,413	Sandy Demeree	Raleigh	NC
1	2,414	Willa Dibner	Hampden	ME
7	2,415	Victor Torrellas Arzuaga	Santurce	PR
6	2,416	Norbert Patton	Seattle	WA
4	2,417	David A Wiley	Bloomington	MN
4	2,418	Lynn Garretson	So Houston	TX
2	2,419	Mr Dom Del Grosso	Vero Beach	FL
2	2,420	Johanna Masters	Avon Park	FL
2	2,421	Chris Eichner	Tequesta	FL
1	2,422	Donna Ellis	Trumbull	CT
2	2,423	Clyde L Deitz	North Fort Myers	FL
2	2,424	Alina Deitz	North Fort Myers	FL
2	2,425	Dr John Parrott	Miami	FL
4	2,426	Kimberlee Breuer	Minot AFB	ND
5	2,427	George Hopman	Phoenix	AZ
2	2,428	Mary Palmer	Lantana	FL
2	2,429	Helio Barrio	Hilaeih	FL
6	2,430	Leslie Weber	Lompoc	CA
5	2,431	Sterling Shepperd	Sterling	CO
4	2,432	Stan Wilson	Jones	OK
6	2,433	Kimlyn A Rossiter	N Highlands	CA
6	2,434	M Helen Abbott	N Highlands	CA
3	2,435	Robert B Payne	Ann Arbor	MI
6	2,436	William E Cleland	Fair Oaks	CA
6	2,437	Ed's Exotic Birds	Westminster	CA
1	2,438	Marta Hernandez	Miami	FL
1	2,439	Jose Cribeiro	Miami	FL

Region	NFSS#	Name	City	State
1	2,440	Darrel Ward	Mableton	GA
4	2,441	Scott Balfour	Lubbock	TX
4	2,442	Deborah Balfour	Lubbock	TX
3	2,443	Cathy Benson	Elyria	OH
5	2,444	Teri McAuliffe	Colorado Springs	CO
3	2,445	Joyce Alles	High Ridge	MO
2	2,446	Mary L Petty	Cocoa	FL
4	2,447	Diane Hardman	Dallas	TX
3	2,449	Randy Myers	Burlington	MI
3	2,450	Wanda Myers	Burlington	MI
1	2,451	Eileen Schmitt	Virginia Beach	VA
4	2,452	Kenneth Ruzicka	Cedar Rapids	IA
1	2,453	Dr Brian A Schwartz	Greenwich	CT
1	2,454	Jerwin Tantongco	Greenwich	CT
3	2,455	Laurel Langlay	Oconto Falls	WI
3	2,456	Sharlene D Holt	Jackson	MI
3	2,457	Mike Holt	Jackson	MI
3	2,458	Glenn F Kruse	De Pere	WI
4	2,459	Merwyn M Schmidt	Sauk Rapids	MN
2	2,460	Geneva Mc Auley	Brandon	FL
2	2,461	Thelma Claville	Valrico	FL
1	2,462	Nancy A Wolfe	Moorefield	WV
1	2,463	Dr B L Collier DVM	Moorefield	WV
5	2,464	Christine Boyko	Scottsdale	AZ
2	2,465	Kenneth M Miller	Fort Myers	FL
1	2,466	Brina "Louise" Steiner	Sunbury	NC
3	2,467	Jim Marks	Agincourt, Ontario	Canada
1	2,468	Jeffrey S Wellman	Framingham	MA
1	2,469	Roxanne Wellman	Framingham	MA
1	2,470	Robert Rittmann	Weehawken	NJ
3	2,471	Jan Winner	Kansas City	MO
6	2,472	James Mallon	Uniontown	WA
6	2,473	Karen Mallon	Uniontown	WA



NFSS 2nd Qtr 1994 Board Meeting

"By Mail" - 5/26/94, 8/02/94

*Reported by Steve Hoppin
NFSS President*

My sincere thanks to fifteen of nineteen members who voted, especially those who took the time to add well thought comments and suggestions.

The Board voted to approve

- the nomination of three NFSS panel judges to judge at the National Cage Bird Show in 1995: Steve Hoppin, Clareuce Culwell, Marty Von Raesfeld.
- to waive from the \$5.00 per band/bird cross registration fee all FINCHSAVE registered offspring wearing a closed traceable band equivalent to the NFSS band size M or larger.
- to amend the NFSS Apprentice Judge Program to include the following:
 1. To apply to take the written test in the NFSS Apprentice Program, one must have been a member of NFSS for at least three years.
 2. One must have won points in the top ten at least five times.

In response to a request from the President, the Board provided numerous ideas in support of educational activities, recognition of NFSS breeders and especially, conservation.

The following information has been compiled from reports submitted by NFSS Board members and Committees for the Second Quarter, 1994.

Publication Committee - Martha Wigmore

We have another cover by twelve year old Kirsten Swank on the July/August '94 issue. It is terrific, and has again her distinctive style (it is nesting Yellow-collared Yuhinas). Thank you Kirsten!

The concept of printing **Special Issues** are looking more like a reality. On occasion, *The NFSS Bulletin* will run an issue that abounds with information pertaining to topics sharing similarity (i.e.: various small waxbills, fostering and handfeeding, etc.). We hope to initiate this with the Sep/Oct '94 issue.

A very informative, itemized account of cost per issue of *The NFSS Bulletin* was included in her quarterly report. All figures including costs of printing and postage were broken down "to the penny". Martha is also inquiring into future postal rate increases.

The NFSS Handbook is in the process of being revised and estimated completion time is early Fall.

The NFSS Membership Brochures will be updated with Lynda

Bakula's new address and phone in the late summer.

Education Committee - Merthe Wigmore

The table of contents for the NFSS video, *The Wonderful World of Finches and Softbills: An Introduction*, has been revised and made available to FINCHSHOP.

Martha plans to spend her "spare time" this summer making new shipping boxes and applying minor refurbishing to the NFSS Display Boards.

Judges Panel Report - Dr. Al Decoteau

Effective June 1, 1994 there were no applications received to apprentice this year. An addendum to this report, June 26, 1994, indicated two members had applied and tests were scheduled for both. Since this time, a total of nine individuals have applied.

Two judges had not responded with their annual report of shows to be judged which was due March 1, 1994. Of the two, one has responded. The other has chosen not to respond (after receiving certified letter) and has been suspended from the NFSS Judges Panel effective January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995.

Standards Report - Dr. Al Decoteau

We are currently working to re-establish the Mynah Standard Committee which had eroded. There have been no additional reports received by Al since the last board meeting. The Pekin Robin Standard, as

printed in *The NFSS Bulletin*, will be submitted to the Board for approval as no comments have been received.

Classifications Committee - Dr. Al Decoteau

Al has been in good contact with the committee and reports that much work has already been accomplished on the Classifications - *the proposed changes are good ones*. There are still several categories that must be debated.

Membership Committee - Lynda Bakule

According to the detailed reports Lynda submitted, NFSS is continuing to grow with a report of 50 new members and 5 new affiliated clubs in the second quarter!

Comments received on the renewal forms or membership applications are being reviewed on a continuous basis and either forwarded to the appropriate person or handled accordingly. And to Barbara H. Collins, thank you very much for the delightful poems. They certainly lifted our spirits and may possibly be published in a future issue of the *Bulletin*.

Advertising Committee - Lynda Bekule

Lynda is working full speed ahead on getting "lots" of advertising requests out to interested parties. Along with the request, she has been including an issue of *The NFSS Bulletin* to give the potential advertiser

Ecotone Aviaries™

AFFORDABLE,
walk-in aviary for small
to mid-size birds

\$197.95 & up

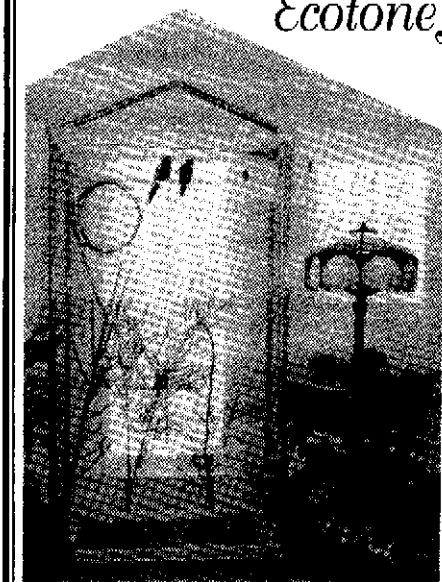
BEAUTIFUL
sun-room or den furniture

VERY LOW MAINTENANCE
Simulates Natural Setting
Great for Bird-Watching
Promotes Breeding & Nesting

New - Patented - Tested

Brochure:

Ecotone
P.O. Box 37396
Raleigh, NC 27627
(919) 851-8593



Board meeting, continued...

an example of our "first rate publication" in which to advertise.

FINCHSHOP - Pat and Mary Krichten

Pat reports sales for the second quarter have been good. *The NFSS Handbook*, NFSS video, Gouldian pin and NFSS name badges have continued to be among the most popular items requested. We are glad to see back issues of *The NFSS Bulletin* have been in large demand this quarter!

Pat wishes to remind us he is now keeping a sturdy supply of the NFSS video on hand and will be able to accommodate orders.

A few FINCHSHOP stock items are running short and the Board will determine whether to reorder and replace these items or to design and purchase new items for FINCHSHOP at the 3rd Quarter Board Meeting.



SPECIAL FOCUS: Red-eared Waxbills



Diane Pittman

The Delightful Red-eared

*By Diane Pittman
Cape Coral, Florida*

The Red-eared Waxbill or Black-rumped (*Estrilda troglodytes*) has been one of the most numerous of African importations. Brought into Western Europe and North America by the tens of thousands between 1970 and 1992, these captivating small Waxbills were once so plentiful and inexpensive that aviculturists devoted little attention to them.

Even today, in spite of the ease with which they acclimate to their new environment, Red-ears are seldom bred in captivity. According to the 1994 NFSS census, there are nineteen reported members having Red-ears, with only four of these nineteen having breeding success. I would like to share my experiences in an effort to assist other aviculturists in their breeding efforts with this small Waxbill.

The Red-eared is about four inches long; the eye stripe or "eyebrow" is deep scarlet. The underparts are gray-fawn with a touch of pink blending to lighter pink-to-white just under the throat. There is a rosy red

patch on the ventral area; the rump and upper tail are black with white trim on the tail. The beak is bright red to crimson, and the feet are dark brown-black. Both sexes look alike and lack of condition can be misleading in determining sex. With my own Red-ears, I have found the males to be lighter, almost white just under the throat with darker red on their ventral areas. The fledglings are about one third smaller than the adults, drab brown above and buff below with a hint of the red eye stripe.

Young and old alike have playful, yet gentle, personalities and remain in constant communication



Diane Pittman

The aviary at Diane Pittman's home in Coral Springs, Florida.

through tail twitching, clicking and singing.

Living in sunny Southwest Florida, I'm sure I have many advantages over some of our northern aviculturists. The temperature during the winter rarely drops below 45 degrees, and during the summer, it is 95 degrees or higher, with lots of rain and humidity.

My aviary is 15' x 47' (15' x 15' under roof) built using aluminum frame with fiberglass screen, covered on the outside with 1/2" x 1/2" galvanized wire. There is a pond, seven large potted ficus trees, and plenty of foliage to hide and nest in. At present, there are about 40 adult finches in the aviary, including three adult unrelated pairs of Red-ears and four other species of small Waxbills. Thus, the size of the area allows ample space for all to establish territories. My success, I believe, is due to

my attentive observing, note taking, and *willingness to leave the birds alone.*

The birds' daily diet consists of small finch seed, cucumber, eggfood and live medium mealworms, with a second helping of mealworms in the afternoons and fresh seed if it is soiled or wet. The Red-ears do not appear to like the eggfood or the cucumber, but they love the mealworms especially if feeding young. Being in this natural environment, they also have access to various bugs and seed sprouts.

The nests are built using coco fibre and are generally located on or close to the ground, and have two or three compartments. The first is the center which is half- to pear-shaped with a tubular entrance that closes after the bird enters.

Sitting on top is the 'cock nest' or false nest. Having a nest on the

ground means extreme risk from snakes, lizards, and spiders. It is believed the 'cock nest' serves as defense against potential predators. The third compartment seems to be a secret tunnel access, on or just above the ground, leading to the main nest. All of the interiors are lined with feathers and soft plant material.

The courtship is in typical Waxbill fashion. The cock sings and dances beside his hen, bobbing up and down with a prized piece of nesting material, usually a strand of coco fibre or a light colored feather.

sometimes after much display there is a visit to the nest, where it is presumed copulation occurs.

Both male and female share in all incubating and wearing responsibilities, taking turns to incubate the eggs or brood the young. The fledging period of the chicks is estimated between 17-21 days. You will know after about a week if you have Red-eared chicks because their begging responses become audible, with the same distinctive clicking sounds as their parents.

My experience with Red-ears has differed greatly with each new clutch. Young have been raised in March, April, July and November. Nests have been built everywhere from a wicker nest located in a ficus tree, to a three-compartment nest on the ground allowing full view of the

young. Normally there are 2-5 chicks – not always fledging at the same time. The colony system has its advantages when chicks fledge the nest at different times because the other adult Red-ears assist with feeding the fledglings, while the parents tend to the chicks remaining in the nest. I

have never disturbed the nest to check the chicks.

Having learned from past experiences with several clutches of these small Waxbills, I determine clutch size and approximate age by listening to their calls.

The louder the begging responses, the closer

the young are to fledging. I band the chicks the day they fledge which does not appear to disturb the parents or the chicks. To identify the adults, I use colored, open plastic bands, which are imperative for record keeping.

I hope this article will inspire others to consider working with this beautiful Waxbill. The delightful Red-eared is easily acclimated, hardy, inexpensive and, for a while longer, available. I would recommend it for every breeding collection of small finches.

With my own Red-ears, I have found the males to be lighter, almost white just under the throat with darker red on their ventral areas.

Breeding the Red-eared Waxbill

by Robert S. Petrie
Kansas City, Missouri

The Red-eared Waxbill (*Estrilda troglodytes*) is also known as the Black-rumped Waxbill. But I wish I had dollar for every time a St. Helena Waxbill (*Estrilda astrilda*) or a Rosy-rumped Waxbill (*Estrilda rhodopyga*) is called a Red-eared. I'd probably have enough money to build that addition to the birds' room I'm always dreaming about.

Quite frequently I see pet stores make this mistake. I've even ordered Red-ears from a well known bird importer and received Rosy-rumps one time and St. Helenas another.

My introduction to this group of birds came a few years ago when a fellow breeder, who was just starting out, eagerly showed me his two new pairs of Red-ears. At closer examination, we found that they were really two Red-ears and two St. Helenas.

There are some easy ways to tell these three red eye-striped species apart. If the bird has tiny black lines over the lower part of its body and

black under the tail it is a St. Helena. If there is red on the wings and the bill is black it is a Rosy-rumped. If it lacks all of the above markings it is a Red-eared.

Red-ears have probably been the most numerous imported species and one of the cheapest. Even with current import restrictions, my recent price list of imported birds lists them at little over ten dollars each. Hardy and peaceful. Red-ears will coexist with any bird their size, even with closely related species such as the St. Helenas and

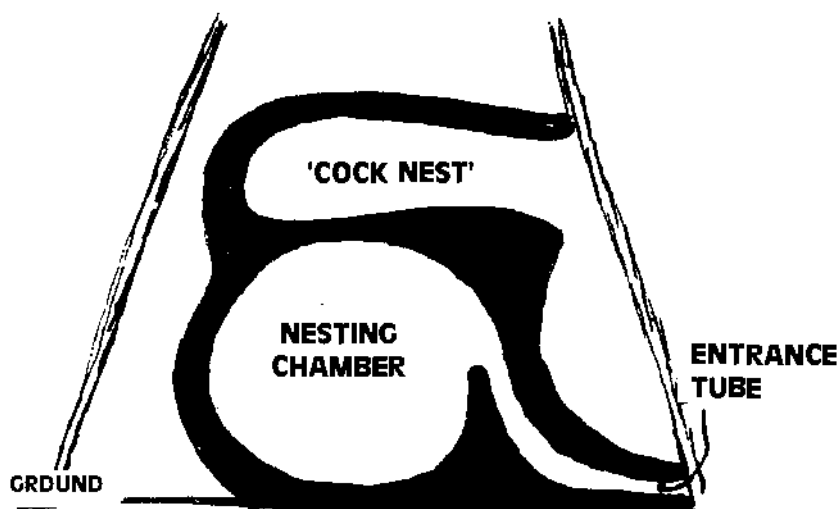
Rosy-rumps.

Although there is a large quantity of Red-ears in captivity, and they are calm and compatible, they seldom breed. This problem is often attributed to lack of attention to this species because of its low import price. I believe this disinterest in reproducing is because the birds are often housed in unsuitable environments. Previously I have had Red-ears build simple nests and lay eggs, but they never incubated. Now, after five years I have been rewarded with babies. I would like to hear of more people having success

I believe this disinterest in reproducing is because the birds are often housed in unsuitable environments.

CROSS-SECTION OF TYPICAL RED-EARS NEST

(SHADED AREA IS NESTING MATERIAL.)



Drawing by Robert S. Patie

with this species, so I am sharing the circumstances of my good fortune.

Three unsexed Red-ears were set up in a flight cage 6' high, 6' long, and 4' wide. Three other pairs of different waxbill species share the same flight. The finches are fed L & M finch seed. Water is provided in a bowl that allows the birds to bathe. In addition each finch flight gets two small dishes with egg food and mealworms. When no birds have young, one tablespoon of egg food and a couple of mealworms are put in each dish. But when birds begin to have babies hatch out the number of mealworms is increased to 6 mealworms per dish, per feeding, per species breeding. These dishes are cleaned out and fed twice a day.

Lighting is with wide spectrum fluorescent bulbs that are on 14 hours a day. The substrate is sand or

ground corn cob bedding. Various nest baskets and hoxes are provided throughout the flight. For hiding spots and nesting material real grass is added. I use pesticide-free native Missouriian tall-grass species. I cut the grass at three to six feet lengths and tie them together in the middle. These bundles are spread out at the ends so they will stand up on their own. The grass is then placed in the corners of the flights.

On the ground, hidden inside the stalks of the grass, the Red-ears build their nests. The nests are spherical and about the size of tennis balls. They always contain a 'cock nest' which is located on top of the true nest. These 'cock nests' are very noticeable. They are in the shape of tubes that are open on one end and

closed on the other. However, the true nests are obscure structures.

A typical nest is made entirely of grass leaves and is built directly on the ground. The nesting chamber is an enclosed area except for an entrance tube. This chamber is lined with light-colored feathers. The entrance tube connects with the nesting chamber at its upper half. Immediately after this connection the entrance tube slopes steeply to the ground, then straightens out and opens to the outside. This entrance is often difficult for me to find: checking the nesting chamber is impossible without partially destroying the entrance tube.

I would like to think my success was pure hard work and brain power. But honestly, there was some luck involved. When we moved into our present home, the new bird room happened to be in an L-shape. Because of this shape some of the finch flights are in a back part away from the entrance and servicing area. This back area allows the birds a lot more privacy. Red-ears are very secretive animals. These birds are currently on their fourth clutch and I have never been allowed to observe any

reproductive behaviors from them. When one of the Red-ears spots me, it yells out a warning and any bird near the nest will fly up and roost high in the flight.

I feel that key things for Red-ears to reproduce include a secluded flight that allows privacy, hiding places inside the flight for security, and access to the ground with natural nesting sites and material. I've heard it said that when it rains it pours. I understand what that means, because last year this trio produced twelve offspring. This year I am adding more Red-ears and some Rosy-rumps to flights next to the original pair and I hope to have success repeated.

Robert S. Petrie's Egg Food Recipe

3 hard boiled eggs with shell
1 tablespoon Brewer's Yeast
1/4 cup Pretty Bird Pellets
1 tablespoon carrot
2 calcium tablets

In food processor combine egg shell, pellets, carrot and calcium tablets. Blend on High for 30 seconds. Add hard boiled egg and Brewer's Yeast. Blend on Low for 15 seconds. Store in covered container in refrigerator.

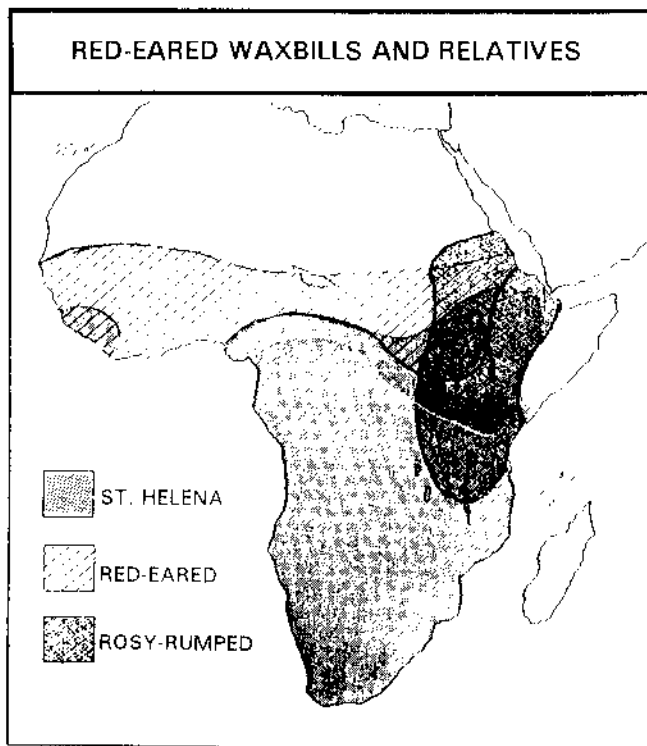


Success With Black-rumped (Red-eared) and Rosy-rumped Waxbills

by Ian Hinze
Manchester, England

Belonging to the genus *Estrilda*, the Black-rumped or Red-eared (*E. troglodytes*) and Rosy-rumped or Sundevall's (*E. thodopyga*) Waxbills are two species that have a particular fascination for me and, having been successful in breeding both. I would like to present some of my findings in this article.

Both species, about five pairs of each, were allowed access to a large well-planted aviary in late spring, when the weather was beautifully sunny and warm, but had to be chased indoors when the Rosy-rumps, especially, showed signs of distress due to the onset of sudden fluctuations in temperature. I immediately turned the heating up in the



birdroom to 70 deg F. and within a day most had shown rapid improvement. Lesson learnt, I dismantled the outside aviary and now house my birds indoors all year round.

Nesting begins

The cocks began displaying to the hens and pairs soon started to build nests out of dried grass and coconut fibre. Though some authorities have stated that the cocks do the bulk of nest-building, the females in my collection appeared to do as much as their mates — at least in the early stages. Once these had taken on the typical globe to pear shape the hens got down to laying eggs and the cocks added the finishing touches, as well as continuing to add to and develop the 'cock' or false nests.

As the species are closely related — indeed, they have been known to interbreed when no conspecifics were available — it came as no surprise to see that they built their nests on the floor and they were virtually identical. What was surprising, though, was the fact that, although both being gregarious, the Black-rumps constructed their nests very close together, sometimes next door to each other, which is typical of colony nesting species, but the Rosyrumps tended to nest in isolation. Whichever, the cocks proceeded to decorate the outer wall of their nests, as well as the inside of the cock nest, with pieces of charcoal, compost, small white sea-shells and any pieces of material they could find, including feathers. The inner chamber of

the real nest, at least in the case of the Black-rumps, was also lined with feathers, charcoal and/or compost. Also, often a 4-5 inch diameter territorial semi-circle around the nest entrances also contained pieces of compost or charcoal.

On the odd occasion when the corpse of a dead nestling of a separate species was found by a cock Black-rump it became very excited. The Black-rump would flick its tail from side to side and then pick the lifeless form up in its beak and fly back to the nest. It would then proceed to wipe the body all over the outer wall of the nest, right up to the cock nest, before finally embedding it in the outer-wall. Though not witnessing this behavior in the Rosyrumps I believe this only to be because the former were quicker to respond to the situation.

The 'cock nest'

The 'cock nest' has often been the subject of much conjecture by scientists as to its function, but there is no doubt in my mind that it serves to entice land predators, such as large spiders, lizards and snakes, etc., away from the real nest opening.

This opening is funnel-shaped, in the main, and extremely pliant. It allows a bird access and exit before immediately flattening itself whereby it becomes difficult for a predator to negotiate. This, coupled with a smelly trail (such as made from a nestling's corpse!) leading to a lined cock nest, offers the predator an

assumed easier route to a meal and provides the sitting bird with vital seconds to make its escape.

I have proved my theory by studying the antics of my birds whenever I entered the birdroom — there was always one of a pair on "sentry" duty, which called to its mate to come off the nest. Had I been a predator, the eggs/chicks may well have been at my mercy — but at least the sitting bird would have survived to breed another day. As it was, as soon as I left, the sitting bird quickly returned to the nest.

Reasons for success

Non-inspection of the nests and an abundance of wild seeds and live food are undoubtedly the reasons I was successful with these birds. The ripe and half-ripe seeds of such grasses as Narrow-leaved, Annual and Rough meadow were eaten to the exclusion of nearly all the commercial ones; and the tiniest of wax-moth larvae, as well as fruit-fly larvae, enabled the parents to swallow and regurgitate quickly nutritious protein in an essential and easily assimilated soft-bodied form.

Both species produce beautiful fledglings that are about two-thirds the size of their parents and, because of their drab brownish coloration, are very similar. Close inspection, however, reveals crimson on the wings and rump of the fledgling Rosy-rump but none around the eye; whereas the Black-rumps fledge with their red eye-stripe, though not as pronounced as their parents, clearly

visible. (Since writing, 1992, some of my second generation young, 1993, showed no visible eye-stripe!). At a distance, however, a feature that enabled me to ascertain their species identity with certainty was the diagnostic white outer tail feathers of the Black-rump. Although the tails were small, this feature was apparent immediately.

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More success with the **Red-eared Waxbill**

*by Lynda Bakula
Ballwin, Missouri*

I got my pair of Red-eared Waxbills (Mr. & Mrs. "B") 4 years ago. The first two years they were in one of those nice looking round tall cages. They were let out a couple of times a week to fly around the living room. They would go back in the cage themselves. Late in the second year one egg was found in the bottom of the cage. A couple of days later, Mrs. "B" was egg bound and required a trip to the vet. The vet told me different foods to feed and I took out their finch nest until the next spring.

Third year

During the third year they laid five eggs and hatched four of them. The young only lived 3 or 4 days, which was probably my fault. I didn't give them the food they needed to raise chicks. I was also looking in the nest too often. After this I started reading more about the Red-ears and other waxbills. I felt it was my duty to learn as much as I could so that I could provide the birds with what they needed to raise their chicks.



Diana Pictor

Food

They got a lot of different foods. They got three different types of insectile foods, nestling food, millet sprays, meal worms, fly larva (which they didn't seem to go for), finch mix seeds, bruccoli and lettuce. These were in their cage almost all the time. A mixture of oyster shell, mineral grit and charcoal was provided at all times. They got separate drinking and bathing water fresh daily. I put egg food in for them when it got near time for the chicks to hatch. The egg food was put in fresh each morning and changed at noon and also later in the afternoon. (I changed it often due to the warm temperature.)

Cage

The birds' cage was 48"L x 38"H x 30"D, all wire. It was kept in a bedroom on top of a six-drawer dresser in a corner so it had walls on two sides and reached the ceiling. A tree limb branch was put in one end that went from the bottom of the cage upwards to the top. There was also a palm plant put in the cage. A small tree limb-type artificial perch was put in the center of the cage on the back side and a wooden perch was put in one corner of the front of the cage.

Papers were used on the bottom of the cage and were changed almost every day. Two different size finch nesting baskets (of which there were four) and an open nest were provided. They shared the cage with one pair Cordon Bleus and one pair of Red-billed Fire finches. This was a temporary cage until I got my aviary built.

Nesting

The Red-ear picked out the largest finch basket that was on the open side of the cage near the top. Burlap material cut into 2" pieces and pulled apart was provided. They used it in their nest and then a decoy nest was made on top. They kept adding to it until it fell off the front of the nest. Then they started building it to the corner and had it going down the side of the cage by the finch basket. Once they settled down and started sitting, they would stay on the nest

Foods Lynda Bakula Uses for Rearing Red-eared Waxbills

- Golden Nestling and Conditioning Food
- Skipio's Finch Breeder Mix
- L/M Vita-Vittles for Finch Plus with Honey and Insects
- L/M Nestling Food for Finches
- '8 in 1 Finch Nestling Food
- Grated boiled eggs
- Mealworms

when I fed and changed the papers in the cage.

Clutches

All clutches were in the same nest. The first clutch of eggs were not sat on consistently and did not hatch. The second clutch of eggs they hatched three eggs. One was found on the bottom of the cage within a couple days of hatching. The other two were raised. Both parents fed the chicks. They came out of the nest at about three weeks of age. They were mousy dark in color with no markings. They didn't seem to have too much control of their flight.

The parents stayed close to the chicks almost all the time. Each would only feed one chick at a time before going back to get more food.

The babies did go back to the nest the first couple of nights. After a full week off the nest the parents started rejecting them and feeding them very little if any.

The third clutch they only hatched one chick, but raised it. At two weeks the chick came out of the nest, a 3' fall. After the second fall, I lowered the nest to the bottom of the cage. The chick had very few feathers. The parents still went in the nest and fed it. The chick would come out every day and I would put it back in the nest at night. This went on for about a week, until he was fully feathered and able to fly to the top of the cage. The chick did get a dislocated wing from the falls, but learned to fly and compensate for it.

Temperature and Humidity

They raised the clutches during June and July. I left the window open in the room a lot. The room temperature ran from between 80-85 degrees at night to 95 degrees during the day. A humidifier was in the room and used some.

Current Year

Currently the new spring is upon us and the birds are back making nests. So far a few eggs have been laid but have not been sat upon consistently. They have a decoy nest about a foot long. The male does not get around real well any more, so I have my doubts that any eggs will be fertile. I would guess they are five years old, as I have had them both for four years.



The probability of a bird bathing in the waterer before judging is in direct proportion to the distance traveled to the show.

Ancient Congolese Proverb

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For Sale: GOULDIANS—NORMALS AND ALL MUTATIONS, NFSS banded, show line. A.J. Lee (FL) (305) 270-1000 or S.A.S.E.: 6811 S.W. 89th Ct., Miami, FL 33173. ja95

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For Sale to participants of FINCHSAVE at a reasonable price: Cuthroats, Plumheads, Diamond Sparrows, and others. Cecil Gunby (GA) (404) 254-1261. so

For Sale; Diamond Sparrows, Plumhead Finches, Normal and White-breasted Gouldians, and White Societies. Ken or Carole Miller (Tampa, FL) (813) 971-1190 (after 6pm EST). nd

Wanted: 2 pairs Violet-eared Waxbills. Sharon Casmere (206) 863-0875. so

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Martha Wigmore
NFSS Bulletin Editor
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(612) 241-0071

NFSS Affiliates, Delegates & Shows

(Listing as of August 31, 1994)

ALABAMA

Rocket City Cage Bird Club
Ron Clifton (205) 852-7155
Bird Fair November 19 & 20, 1994
Huntsville, AL

CALIFORNIA

American Family Bird Show

Aviary Assn. of Kern County
Willis & Velva Baker (805) 765-6110
Show December 3, 1994
Panel Judge: Brian Manderich

Capital City Bird Society
Dare B. Cagle (916) 452-4526
Show October 22, 1994
Roseville, CA
Panel Judge: Clayton Jones

Central California Cage Bird Club*
Show November 5, 1994
Turlock, CA
Panel Judge: Marty Von Raesfeld

Finch Society of San Diego County
Sharon Russell (619) 546-1870

Fresno Canary and Finch Society
Dixie Lea (209) 584-3764
Show October 29, 1994
Madera, CA
Panel Judge: Hal Koontz

Golden Gate Avian Society
Claudia Salo (510) 455-9909
Region #6 Show
Double Show
November 12, 1994 *Saturday*
Panel Judge: Hal Koontz
November 13, 1994 *Sunday*
Panel Judge: Clayton Jones
Tracy, CA

San Diego Bird Show, Inc.
Sharon Russell (619) 546-1870
Show November 5, 1994
Del Mar, CA
Panel Judge: Cecil Gunby

**Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic
Bird Club**
Neil Crowley (408) 258-4601
Show November 26, 1994
Panel Judge: Brian Manderich

COLORADO

Colorado Cage Bird Association
Teri McAuliffe (719) 576-9009
Show October 22, 1994
Colorado Springs, CO
Panel Judge: Earl Courts

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture
Julie Kern (303) 753-6145
Region #5 Show
Show October 1, 1994
Denver, CO
Panel Judge: Laura Bewley

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture
Chris Voronovitch (203) 649-8220
Region #1 Show
Show October 22, 1994
Manchester, CT
Panel Judge: Steve Hoppin

New England Finch Fanclers
Russell Armitage, Jr. (203) 756-1753
Show November 26, 1994
East Hartford, CT
Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

Rose City Bird Show*
Show cancelled

FLORIDA

**Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South
Florida**
Phil Barth (305) 931-3468

Central Florida Bird Breeders
Eugene F. Goss, Jr. (407) 957-1274

* * * are unaffiliated clubs, but points
earnable under NFSS Panel Judges

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami, Inc

Armando J. Lee (305) 270-1000

Show December 3, 1994

Non-panel judge

Exotic Bird Club of Florida

Mary Petty (407) 632-7494

Show October 29, 1994

Cocoa Beach, FL

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show

Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

*Double Show*February 18, 1995 *Saturday*

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

February 19, 1995 *Sunday*

Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

Tampa, FL

Gold Coast All Bird Club

Len Brower (305) 931-3468

Show November 5, 1994**Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.**

Carole Miller (813) 971-1190

Show September 17, 1994

Tampa, FL

Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

Gulf Coast Exotic Bird Club

Diane Pittman (813) 772-1150

Sun Coast Avian Society

Joe Ventimiglia (813) 392-9391

Show October 15, 1994

Clearwater, FL

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Sunshine State Cage Bird Society

Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

Show October 8, 1994

Orlando, FL

Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

GEORGIA**Georgia Cage Bird Society**

Candy Wright (404) 633-4364

*Region #2 Show**Show* November 5, 1994

Atlanta, GA

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

HAWAII**Honolulu Canary and Finch Club**

Kathy Perreira (808) 839-2269

Show October 30, 1994

Honolulu, HI

Non-panel judge

ILLINOIS**Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club**

Jane Muscato (708) 305-9043

*Region #3 Show**Show* November 5, 1994

Rolling Meadows, IL

Panel Judge: Charles "Funnyman"

Anchor

Illini Bird Fanciers

Jan Marcott (217) 347-9690

National Institute of Red-Orange**Canaries (NIROC)**

Stephan V. Hopman (phone unknown)

Show November 26, 1994

Elk Grove, IL

Panel Judge: Ray Johnson

Springfield Pet Bird Club

Tom Rood (217) 774-5265

*Show Cancelled for 1994***INDIANA****Indiana Bird Fanciers**

Conrad Meinert (219) 269-2873

Show October 8, 1994

Fort Wayne, IN

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

IOWA**Mid-America Cage Bird Society**

Rhoda L. Shirley (515) 243-1511

Great American Cage Bird Show

October 1, 1994

Crystal Inn, Des Moines, IA

Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

KANSAS**Heartland Canary and Finch Club**

Shirley Landkamer (913) 594-6795

*Region #4 Show**Show* October 22, 1994

Lawrence, KS

Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

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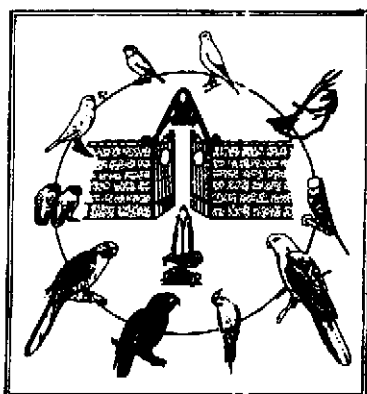
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Show October 8, 1994
 Wichita, KS
 Panel Judge: Cecil Gunby

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Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society
 Steve Slates (606) 223-2600
Show October 22, 1994
 Lexington, KY
 Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

LOUISIANA

Capital Area Avicultural Society*
Show November 12, 1994
 Baton Rouge, LA
 Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.

Show October 15, 1994
 Kenner, LA
 Panel Judge: Paul Williams

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fanciers
 Jackie Eckman (410) 485-7842
Show October 15, 1994
 Glen Burnie, MD
 Panel Judge: Laura Bewley

Maryland Cage Bird Society
 Theresa Brown (301) 735-7662
Show October 29, 1994
 Baltimore, MD
 Panel Judge: Tom Rood

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Cage Bird Association
 Dianna Smith (508) 540-3214
Show cancelled

MICHIGAN

Great Lakes Avicultural Society
 Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163
Show October 15, 1994
 Grand Rapids, MI
 Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

Mid-Michigan Bird Club
 Mary Lou Tcwilliger (517) 463-5695
Show November 5, 1994
 St. Johns, MI
 Panel Judge: Martha Wignmore

Mid-West Cage-Bird Club, Inc.
 Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643
Show September 10, 1994
 Westland, MI
 Panel Judge: Marty Von Raesfeld

Motor City Bird Breeders
 Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643
Show October 22, 1994
 Dearborn, MI
 Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders
 Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643
Show October 29, 1994
 Livonia, MI
 Panel Judge: Roddy Gabel

MISSOURI

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society
 Jamie Jackson (913) 268-3209
Show October 15, 1994
 Kansas City, MO
 Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

Heart of America Hookbill & Finch Society
 Mose Linn (816) 523-4661
Show October 16, 1994

Missouri Cage Bird Association
 George & Joyce Alles (314) 677-4723
Show November 5, 1994
 Eureka, MO
 Panel Judge: Tom Rood

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society
National Cage Bird Show
 November 17-19, 1994
 Manchester, NH
 Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

NEW JERSEY

South Jersey Bird Club
 Janet Greenlee (609) 228-4738
Show October 1, 1994
 Cherry Hill, NJ
 Panel Judge: Ken Gunby

NEW YORK

Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association
 Rena Rouse (315) 252-7673

New York Finch & Type Canary Club

Harry S. Novak (516) 889-7153

Show October 15, 1994

Franklin Square, NY

Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

Power City Bird Society

Maria Gleason (716) 282-2944

NORTH CAROLINA**Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society**

Karen Whitlow (919) 557-0450

Smokey Mtn. Cage Bird Society

James Cody (704) 686-5157

Show October 22, 1994

Morganton, NC

Panel Judge: Ray Johnson

OHIO**Classic Feathers**

John Neff, Jr. (419) 782-3121

Show October 1, 1994

Defiance, OH

Panel Judge: Harold Bowles

Cleveland Cage Bird Society**Show* October 8, 1994

Cleveland, OH

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

**Toledo Bird Assn. & Zebra Finch Club
of America**

Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643

Show September 24, 1994

Perrysville, OH

Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

OKLAHOMA**Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma**

Gene and June Miller (405) 382-7066

Show September 24, 1994

Oklahoma City, OK

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Oklahoma Cage Bird Society

Laura Bewley (918) 366-7427

Show October 22, 1994

Tulsa, OK

Panel Judge: Laura Bewley

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AFFILIATES****AUSTRALIA****Queensland Finch Society**

Gavin Dietz, P.O. Box 1600,

Coorparoo DC 4151

Queensland, Australia

CANADA**Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society
of Canada**

Jim Marks (416) 292-3852

Show October 14 & 15, 1994

Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada

Non-panel judges

Canadian Avicultural Society*

Pat Donnelly (416) 491-0231

35th Canadian National Show

October 29, 1994

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Panel Judge: William Parlee

**Durham Avicultural Society of
Ontario**

Vincent Moase (905) 723-1978

Show September 24, 1994

Pickering, Ontario, Canada

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society

Alfred Mion (519) 948-6398

Show October 15, 1994

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

Vancouver Island Cage Bird Society**Show* November 26, 1994

Vancouver Island, British Columbia,

Canada

Panel Judge: Clayton Jones

GREAT BRITAIN**Zebra Finch Society, England**

Brian Binns, Manchester, England

(see Judges' listing for address)

NEW ZEALAND**New Zealand Finch Breeders Assn.**

Mrs. E. M. Foster, P.O. Box 70

Albany, Auckland, New Zealand

OREGON

Rose City Exotic Bird Club
Susan Akins (503) 630-2877
Show November 19, 1994
Washington Co. Fairgrounds

PENNSYLVANIA

Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird
Society

Pat Krichten (717) 632-8092
Show September 24, 1994
Grantville, PA

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Chester County Bird Breeders

Show September 10, 1994
King of Prussia, PA
Panel Judge: Cecil Gunby

Delaware Valley Bird Club

Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143
Show November 12, 1994
Ft. Washington, PA
Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society

Dr. Lindsay Clack (412) 363-6438
Show November 5, 1994
Monroeville, PA

Seven Mountains Exotic Bird Club

Show September 25, 1994
Grantville, PA
Panel Judge: Roddy Gabel

PUERTO RICO

Organización Puertorriqueña de Aves

Exoticas, Inc.
Rafael Echevarria (809) 795-5718
Region #7 Show

3rd Puerto Rican National Show

December 3-4, 1994
Bayamon, Puerto Rico
Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

SOUTH CAROLINA

Palmetto Cage Bird Club

Melvin Yoder (803) 459-5319
Show September 24, 1994
Anderson, S.C.
Panel Judge: Harold Bowles

TENNESSEE

Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club

Eva Duffey (615) 361-5939
Show October 29, 1994
Nashville, TN

TEXAS

Bay Area Cockatiel & Cage Bird Club

Karol Deem (409) 737-1557
Show September 3, 1994
Galveston, TX

Panel Judge: Marty Von Raesfeld

Fort Worth Bird Club

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568
Show October 1, 1994
Arlington, TX
Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers
Association

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568
Show November 5, 1994
Kileen, TX
Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

Texas Canary Club*

Show November 5, 1994
Houston, TX
Panel Judge: Paul Williams

VIRGINIA

National Capital Bird Club

Deborah Goodall (703) 471-1231

Peninsula Cage Bird Society

Linda Oja (804) 874-8581

WISCONSIN

Badger Canary Fanciers Ltd.

Patrice (Ripple) Brusk (414) 527-1980
Show October 22, 1994
Oak Creek, WI
Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore



1994 Chronological Show List

There's a NFSS Show for Everyone!

February

- 2/19 FL
Florida State Fair
(Earl Courts)
- 2/20 FL
Florida State Fair
(Dr. Al Dacoteau)

April

- 4/23 CA
American Family Bird
Show
(Joe Kradar)

June

- 6/04 IL
Illini Bird Fanciers
(Tom Rood)
- 6/05 IL
Illini Bird Fanciers
(Conrad Meinart)
- 6/11 MO
Heart of America
Hookbill & Finch Soc.
(Paul Williams)

August

- 8/20 FL
Aviary & Cage Bird
Society of S. Florida
(Martha Wigmora)

September

- 9/03 TX
Bay Area Cockatiel &
Cage Bird Club
(Marty Von Raesfeld)
- 9/10 MI
Mid-West Cage-Bird
Club
(Marty Von Raesfeld)
- PA
Chester County Bird
Breeders
(Cecil Gunby)
- 9/17 FL
Greater Brandon
Avian Society, Inc.
(Patrick Vance)
- 9/24 CN
Durham Avicultural
Society of Ontario
(Conrad Mainart)
- OH
Toledo Bird Assn. &
Zebra Finch Club
(Patrick Vanca)
- OK
Bird Fanciers of
Oklahoma
(Tom Rood)
- PA
Central Pennsylvania
Cage Bird Society
(Dr. Al Dacoteau)
- SC
Palmetto Cage Bird
Show
(Harold Bowlas)
- 9/25 PA
Seven Mountains Ex-
otic Bird Club
(Roddy Gabaf)

October

- 10/01 CO
Region #5 Show
Rocky Mtn. Soc. of
Aviculture
(Laura Bewley)
- IA
Great American Cage
Bird Show
Mid-America Cage
Bird Society
(Martha Wigmora)
- NJ
South Jersey Bird
Club
(Kan Gunby)
- OH
Classic Feathers
(Harold Bowlas)
- TX
Fort Worth Bird Club
(Paul Williams)
- 10/08 FL
Sunshine State Cage
Bird Society
(Stephen Hoppin)
- IN
Indiana Bird Fanciers
(Tom Rood)
- KS
Kansas Avicultural
Society
(Cecil Gunby)
- OH
Cleveland Cage Bird
Society
(Dr. Al Dacoteau)
- 10/15 CN
Budgerigar & Foreign
Bird Society of
Canada
- CN
Essex-Kent Cage Bird
Society
(Patrick Vanca)
- FL
Sun Coast Avian
Society
(Dr. Al Dacoteau)
- LA
Gulf South Bird club,
Inc.
(Paul Williams)
- MD
Baltimore Bird
Fanciers
(Laura Bewley)

- MI
 Great Lakes Avicultural Society
 (*Charles Anchor*)
- MO
 Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society
 (*Clarence Culwell*)
- NY
 New York Finch & Type Canary Club
 (*Deren Decoteau*)
- 10/16 MO
 Heart of America Hookbill & Finch Soc.
- 10/22 CA
 Capital City Bird Society
 (*Clayton Jones*)
- CO
 Colorado Cage Bird Association
 (*Earl Courts*)
- CT
 Region #1 Show
 Connecticut Assoc for Aviculture
 (*Steve Hoppin*)
- KS
 Region #4 Show
 Haartland Canary and Finch Club
 (*Clarence Culwell*)
- KY
 Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society
 (*Dr. Al Decoteau*)
- MI
 Motor City Bird Breeders
 (*Tom Road*)
- NC
 Smokey Mtn. Cage Bird Society
 (*Ray Johnson*)
- OK
 Oklahoma Cage Bird Society
 (*Leura Bewley*)
- WI
 Bedger Canary Fanciers Ltd.
 (*Marthe Wigmora*)
- 10/29 CA
 Fresno Canary & Finch Society
 (*Hal Koontz*)
- CN
 35th Canadian National Show
 Canadian Avicultural Society
 (*William Perlee*)
- FL
 Exotic Bird Club of Florida
 (*Conrad Meinert*)
- MD
 Maryland Cage Bird Society
 (*Tom Road*)
- MI
 Society of Canary and Finch Breeders
 (*Roddy Gabal*)
- TN
 Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club
- 10/30 HI
 Honolulu Canary & Finch Club

November

- 11/06 CA
 Central CA Cage Bird Club
 (*Marty Von Raasfeld*)
- CA
 San Diego Bird Show, Inc.
 (*Cecil Gunby*)
- FL
 Gold Coast All Bird Club
- GA
 Region #2 Show
 Georgia Cage Bird Society
 (*Conrad Meinert*)
- IL
 Region #3 Show
 Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club
 (*Charles Anchor*)
- MI
 Mid-Michigan Bird Club
 (*Merthe Wigmora*)
- MO
 Missouri Cage Bird Association
 (*Tom Road*)
- PA
 Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society
- TX
 Texas Bird Breeders & Fanciers Assn.
 (*Clarence Culwell*)
- TX
 Texas Canary Club
 (*Paul Williams*)
- 11/12 CA
 Region #6 Show
 Golden Gate Avian Society - Day 1
 (*Hal Koontz*)
- LA
 Capital Area Avicultural Society
 (*Charles Anchor*)
- PA
 Delaware Valley Bird Club
 (*Stephen Hoppin*)
- 11/13 CA
 Region #6 Show
 Golden Gate Avian Society - Day 2
 (*Clayton Jones*)
- 11/18 NH
 National Cage Bird Show
 Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society
 (*Deren Decoteau*)
- 11/19 OR
 Rose City Exotic Bird Club
- 11/26 CA
 Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club
 (*Brian Manderich*)
- CN
 Vancouver Island Cage Bird Society
 (*Clayton Jones*)
- CT
 New England Finch Fanciers
 (*Deren Decoteau*)
- IL
 National Institute of Red-Orange Canaries
 (*Ray Johnson*)

December

- 12/03 CA
 Aviary Assn. of Kern County
 (*Brian Manderich*)

1994 NFSS Show Season is Underway!

To give you just a *hint* of what you will see at NFSS affiliated finch and softbill shows this fall, listed below are the first place birds, their exhibitors, and show locations for seven shows held earlier this year. *Congratulations to these exhibitors!*

There are over 60 NFSS shows still to come this year. You won't want to miss these terrific opportunities to meet finch and softbill breeders and aviculturists, and to see some of the most extraordinary birds in the country!

Complete show results for all the NFSS shows in 1994 will be published in *The NFSS Bulletin* in early 1995.



'Best in Show' Winners First Seven Shows of 1994

White-cheek touraco

exhibited by Dale & Eileen Laird (FL)

Black-crested cardinal

exhibited by Steve Hoppin (FL)

Timor sparrow

exhibited by Kay McVay (CA)

European greenfinch

exhibited by Charles Anchor (IL)

Cherry finch

exhibited by Dennis Burhans (IL)

Shafttail

exhibited by Dennis Burhans (MO)

Tri-color nun

exhibited by Dale & Eileen Laird (FL)

Show dates, continued

■ FL

Colorbrad Canary
Club of Miami

■ PR

Region #7 Show
3rd Puerto Rican Na-
tional Show
Organización Puertor-
riqueña de Avas
Exóticas, Inc.
(Daren Decoteau)

1995

2/18 FL

Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show -
Day 1
(Conrad Meinert)

2/19 FL

Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show -
Day 2
(Clarence Culwell)



A reward equal to the challenge

The Yellow Body Gouldian Gene

by *Luis Garcia*
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Written exclusively for The NFSS Bulletin, this article by NFSS member and Gouldian breeder Luis Garcia is not an introduction to genetics, but will serve breeders at all levels as an excellent guide to what they can expect from their pairings of these beautiful birds. Luis welcomes your questions and comments.

The Gouldian finch is one of the few birds, if not the only bird, that has three different individual color genetic make-ups on its body. It has one for the head color, another for the chest color and a third for the body color. Each one of these different genetic characteristics has its own unique table for color inheritance.

I am no expert, nor claim to be one when it comes to the genetics of the Gouldian finch or genetics in general. But based upon my own personal experiences with the breeding of the Gouldian finch for almost ten years (and the yellow body since 1990), I am confident enough to say that out of all three genetic color characteristics on the Gouldian finch, the body color is the strongest (as will

be seen in the dilute body Gouldian), followed by the chest color and finally the head color.

Based on my breeding of the yellow body Gouldian since 1990, I have made a color inheritance table to help other breeders understand the genetics of the yellow body Gouldian. To begin with, it must be understood that the yellow gene which gives the yellow color to the bird has to be present in the bird in order for the bird to be yellow. The yellow gene is not a recessive gene;

any bird that comes out normal from the pairing of a yellow body Gouldian to a normal Gouldian (yellow x normal) will be just that—a normal bird. It will not be split to yellow body. In contrast, the blue body gene is a recessive gene, and a bird that comes out normal from the pairing of a blue body Gouldian to a normal Gouldian (blue x normal) may carry the blue body gene.

Based on my breeding of the yellow body Gouldian since 1990, I have made a color inheritance table

In the book *A Guide to ... Gouldian Finches: Their Management, Care & Breeding* published by the Australian Birdkeeper in 1991, the authors John Sammut and Dr. Rob Marshall make the acknowledgment of a new form of yellow

mutation in Australia, which is recessive. It is called the Australian white-breasted yellow. In other words, you can get normal body birds with black bibs, pencil lines and black heads that are split to yellow from the pairing of this new yellow mutation \times normal Gouldian. They also show a picture of a black headed dilute body hen. I have written to the authors to find out more on this mutation but have gotten all of the letters returned unopened. I do not know if this new mutation is indeed recessive or if they are confusing it with the mutation we all know as the yellow body Gouldian here in the U.S.A.

They also made a comment in their book when first published in 1991, on page 39 "There has been no confirmation that a white breasted double factor yellow back cock has even been bred". However, this was corrected in the 1992 reprint of the book. Now they recognize that the double factor cock comes in both white chest as well as purple chest.

In 1990, I got my first yellow body Gouldians—a double factor white chest cock and a purple chest, split to white chest hen, from Mr. Dave Kauzlarich, owner of Krazy K Bird Farm. In 1991 I got a second double factor white chest cock and a yellow body white chest hen from my good friend, Mr. Darwin Petchell. Both gentlemen live in Michigan, and both have this mutation well established in their aviaries, as I now do.

Through the breeding of these two cocks and yellow body hens to

the rest of my stock, I am able to prepare the color expectations table for the yellow body Gouldian, which follows.

Before I begin the table, I must state that the yellow body Gouldian comes in two forms only.

1. **SINGLE FACTOR**—the bird has only one yellow gene in its genetic make-up.
2. **DOUBLE FACTOR**—The bird has two yellow genes in its genetic make-up.
3. **Cocks can be double factor or single factor yellows, while hens can only be single factor yellows.** (There is no possible way that a hen can be a double factor yellow).

In bird genetics, the cock bird is represented by two **X** chromosomes ($X X = \text{COCK}$); both of which can carry the gene for color on the bird. The hen is represented by one **X** chromosome which is the color gene carrier and one **Y** chromosome which is neutral and does not carry any color gene whatsoever. It does carry the sex gene, which is what makes her a hen ($X Y = \text{HEN}$).

Dilute body cock

The dilute body Gouldian is not a separate mutation from the yellow body, as most breeders sell it as. Rather, it is a single factor yellow body Gouldian. It is dilute in color because it carries the yellow color gene on only one of its **X** chromosomes, while the other **X** chromosome carries the green color gene.

This, combined with its purple chest make it dilute. You see, the green color gene and the purple chest gene both have *eumelanin* (black pigmentation) which is what gives the chest its purple color. In other words, you have two black genes against one yellow gene. The yellow gene is more dominant than the green gene in the body, but with the aid of the chest gene, the results are a dilute body bird. However, the dominance of the yellow gene is still seen in that that the black around the head and the back bib have turned to a gray blue.

The dilute black headed hen

If you have worked with yellow body Gouldians, you may have wondered why a red headed or yellow headed purple chest hen cannot be dilute? The hen is represented as $X Y$, X being the only chromosome which can carry a color gene, and neutral Y carrying nothing but the female sex gene. This being the case, the hen only carries the yellow gene on its X chromosome, and since the yellow gene only has to fight the eumelanin

of the chest gene, it dominates it (the yellow gene is dominant). Both red and yellow carry *lutino* (yellow); therefore, they do not affect the yellow gene. However, when the hen is a black head and carries the yellow body gene, then it becomes a dilute. The X chromosome carries the yellow gene for the body color, and must fight off the eumelanin (black pigmentation) of the purple chest and the black head (two against one!). The yellow gene is dominant and the body color becomes diluted and the black head turns gray.

To get a black head dilute hen you must cross a yellow body black headed (gray) cock or a dilute or yellow body red headed split to black head cock to a black headed normal hen. One of the two must be purple chest or both can be. Do not use a yellow body hen to try to get a dilute

SYMBOLS USED IN TABLE

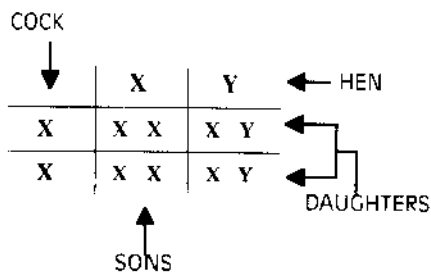
(SF) = SINGLE FACTOR

(DBF) = DOUBLE FACTOR

$X X$ = COCK

$X Y$ = HEN

y = YELLOW GENE PRESENT



Descriptions For The Yellow Body Gouldian

The yellow body Gouldian comes in two forms, double factor (DBF) and single factor yellow (SF). Cocks can be double factor or single factor yellows, while hens can only be single factor yellow, which is discussed in the genetics article alongside. Below are full descriptions for the yellow body Gouldian to help you identify your birds.

DOUBLE FACTOR WHITE CHEST COCK:

Like the normal white chest, except that all of the green on the back and wings is replaced by a rich buttercup yellow, almost matching the yellow of the abdomen and flanks, giving the bird the appearance of having a pure yellow body. The black of the flight feathers and tail

turn to a creamy light buff color highlighted with yellow on the edges. *The black bib under the chin and the black pencil line behind the neck turn white with no trace of any dark feathers. The blue band which follows the pencil line behind the neck running down both sides of the head down to the throat is missing in most birds; some may show a little blue.* The double factor cock will not have any dark feathers on its body at all even if it shows some when first out of the nest.

DOUBLE FACTOR PURPLE CHEST COCK: DOUBLE FACTOR PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST:

Like the double factor white chest above, except that the chest is a deep violet.

Continued from previous page...

black headed hen, because the yellow from the hen is sex-linked and will only be passed to her sons and not any of her daughters.

The yellow genetics tables were created based upon the breeding results of my own yellow body gouldians to give you an idea of what can be expected to hatch when breeding the yellow body Gouldians. You will not always have an equal number of cocks and hens in every clutch that hatches to match the tables.

If you have any questions on any of the gene tables for the yellow body Gouldians, or any comment which you would like to make, feel free to call me at (719) 630-8483 or write to me at:

Luis Garcia
1345 Edith Ln.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

I will share your comments with the membership in future issues of *The NFSS Bulletin*.

SINGLE FACTOR WHITE CHEST COCK:

This bird is similar to the double factor white chest above except that the yellow of the back and wings varies from a dull cream yellow to a very light buttercup. The abdomen and flanks keep the buttercup yellow. The flight and tail feathers are almost the same as those for the double factor. This bird may show some dark feathers on its body, wings, or tail varying from black to gray.

However, this is not the best way to tell if this bird is a single factor. *The easiest way to tell is to look at the black bib under the chin and at the black pencil line behind the neck; both of these have turned to a blue gray color. The blue band which follows the pencil line on the back of the head is more visual.*

SINGLE FACTOR DILUTE BODY (PURPLE CHEST) COCK; SINGLE FACTOR DILUTE BODY (PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST) COCK:

This bird is the equivalent to the single factor white chest above and comes in all three head colors; the only thing that makes this bird a dilute body is its purple chest (more details on the dilute in the genetics article alongside). *The back and wings vary from dull dirty yellow to an almost normal grass-green color.* The flights and tail feathers are almost pure gray in color. The bib and pencil line have turned blue gray and

the blue band behind the neck shows up even more.

YELLOW BODY (SINGLE FACTOR) WHITE CHEST HEN:

This hen is very similar to the single factor white chest cock in every way except that *the bib under the chin and the pencil line behind the neck are white.* Also the abdomen and flanks are a lighter shade of yellow. The blue band behind the neck is missing all together.

YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN; YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN:

Identical to the yellow body white chest hen except that the chest is the same color as that of a normal purple chest hen.

DILUTE BODY BLACK HEAD PURPLE CHEST HEN; DILUTE BODY BLACK HEAD PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN:

Its color description is identical to that of the dilute body cock. The only real difference is that, unlike the cock which comes in all three head colors, the dilute hen can only be dilute in the black headed form (its head turns gray just like the black headed dilute cock).

Luis Garcia



Double Factor Yellow Body *White Chest* Cock

(A) (DBF) WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y

1. 50% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(B) (DBF) WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

(C) (DBF) WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y

1. 50% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

(D) (DBF) WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X ^y	Y
X ^y	X ^y X ^y	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X ^y	X ^y Y

1. 50% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Double Factor Yellow Body *White Chest* Cock *continued*

(E) (DBF) WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(F) (DBF) WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$

1. 50% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Double Factor Yellow Body *Purple Split to White Chest* Cock

(A) (DBF) PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X^y	$X^y X$	$X^y Y$
X^y	$X^y X$	$X^y Y$

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

**Double Factor Yellow Body Purple Split to White Chest
Cock**
continued

**(B) (DBF) PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY
PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST
HEN**

	X	Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

**(C) (DBF) PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY
WHITE CHEST HEN**

	X	Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Double Factor Yellow Body Purple Split to White Chest Cock *continued*

(D) (DBF) PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(E) (DBF) PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y

1. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Double Factor Yellow Body *Purple Split to White Chest* Cock

continued

(F) (DBF) PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X ^y	Y
X ^y	X ^y X ^y	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X ^y	X ^y Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Double Factor Yellow Body *Purple Chest* Cock

(A) (DBF) PURPLE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y

1. 50% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

(B) (DBF) PURPLE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Double Factor Yellow Body *Purple Chest* Cock

continued

(C) (DBF) PURPLE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y

1. 50% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(D) (DBF) PURPLE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y

1. 50% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

(E) (DBF) PURPLE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(F) (DBF) PURPLE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y

1. 50% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE COCKS
2. 50% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE HENS

Single Factor Yellow Body *White Chest* Cock

(A) (SF) WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(B) (SF) WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Yellow Body *White Chest* Cock

continued

(C) (SF) WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 25% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

(D) (SF) WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X	X^y X	X Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(E) (SF) WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X	X^y X	X Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Yellow Body *White Chest* Cock

continued

(F) (SF) WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y		Y
X^y	X^y	X^y	X^y Y
X	X^y X	X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body *Purple Chest* Cock

(A) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body Purple Chest Cock

continued

(B) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK
3. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(C) DILUTE PURPLE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS

Single Factor Dilute Body *Purple Chest* Cock

continued

(D) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$
X	$X^y X$	X Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

(E) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$
X	$X^y X$	X Y

1. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body *Purple Chest Cock*

continued

(F) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$
X	$X^y X$	X Y

1. 25% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body *Purple Split to White Chest Cock*

(A) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X^y	$X^y X$	$X^y Y$
X	X X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body Purple Split to White Chest Cock

continued

(B) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL
BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE
CHEST HENS

	X	Y	
X ^y	X ^y X	X ^y Y	
X	X X	X Y	

1. 6¼% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 6¼% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 6¼% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
5. 6¼% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
6. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
7. 6¼% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
8. 6¼% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
9. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
10. 6¼% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
11. 6¼% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
12. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body Purple Split to White Chest Cock

continued

(C) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X	Y
X^y	X^y X	X^y Y
X	X X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

(D) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X	X^y X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body Purple Split to White Chest Cock

continued

(E) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	X^y X^y	X^y Y
X	X^y X	X Y

1. 6¼% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 6¼% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 6¼% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
5. 6¼% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
6. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
7. 6¼% YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
8. 6¼% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
9. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
10. 6¼% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
11. 6¼% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
12. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Single Factor Dilute Body *Purple Split to White Chest* Cock

continued

(F) (SF) DILUTE PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK x YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN

	X^y	Y
X^y	$X^y X^y$	$X^y Y$
X	$X^y X$	X Y

1. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (DBF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
5. 12½% YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 12½% YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
7. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
8. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Yellow Body *Purple Chest* Hen

(A) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y
X	$X^y X$	X Y
X	$X^y X$	X Y

1. 50% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 50% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

Yellow Body *Purple* Chest Hen

continued

(B) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y	
X	X^y X	X Y	1. 25% (SE) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
X	X^y X	X Y	2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS

3. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS

(C) YELLOW BODY PURPLE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y	
X	X^y X	X Y	1. 50% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
X	X^y X	X Y	2. 50% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Yellow Body *Purple* Split to White Chest Hen

(A) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y	
X	X^y X	X Y	1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
X	X^y X	X Y	2. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS

3. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

Yellow Body Purple Split to White Chest Hen

continued

(B) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y
X	X^y X	X Y
X	X^y X	X Y

1. 12½% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE CHEST COCKS
2. 12½% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
4. 12½% NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST HENS
5. 12½% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS
6. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(C) YELLOW BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y
X	X^y X	X Y
X	X^y X	X Y

1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
2. 25% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
3. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
4. 25% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

Yellow Body *White Chest* Hen

(A) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY PURPLE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y	
X	$X^y X$	X Y	1. 50% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
X	$X^y X$	X Y	2. 50% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS

(B) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y	
X	$X^y X$	X Y	1. 25% (SF) DILUTE BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST COCKS
X	$X^y X$	X Y	2. 25% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
			3. 25% NORMAL BODY PURPLE SPLIT TO WHITE CHEST HENS
			4. 25% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

(C) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST HEN x NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST COCK

	X^y	Y	
X	$X^y X$	X Y	1. 50% (SF) YELLOW BODY WHITE CHEST COCKS
X	$X^y X$	X Y	2. 50% NORMAL BODY WHITE CHEST HENS

NOTE: For pairing of YELLOW BODY HENS x YELLOW BODY COCKS see pairing of YELLOW BODY COCKS x YELLOW BODY HENS. The results will be the same for COCK x HEN as for HEN x COCK.

The breeding of (SF) Black-headed DILUTE BODY HENS is the same as YELLOW BODY *Purple Chest* and *Purple Split to White Chest* HENS.



THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL

Membership is for twelve months
and includes six bi-monthly issues of *The NFSS Bulletin*.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____
New Member? _____ Ranaw NFSS # _____

CHECK ONE: Single \$15 _____ Dual \$20* _____ Junior
(under 16 yrs) \$7.50 _____

* 2nd name for dual membership _____

U.S. 1st class mailing, add \$5.00.

Canadian & foreign subscriptions are mailed 1st class. Please send US funds.
Canadian, add \$5.00 Foreign, add \$10.00

PLEASE GIVE US SOME MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOU!

Species of finches and softbills you are interested in:

Check the topics that are of most interest to you in *The NFSS Bulletin*:

Nutrition _____ Braiding _____ Husbandry _____ Classifiads _____

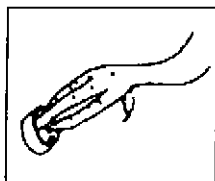
Conservation _____ Exhibition _____ Census _____ NFSS News _____

MAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:

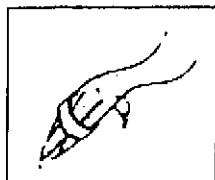
Ms. Lynda Bakula
NFSS Membership Services
P.O. Box 3232
Ballwin, MO 63022

LEG BANDING PROCEDURE

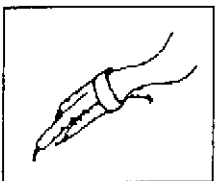
courtesy of
The National Finch and Softbill Society



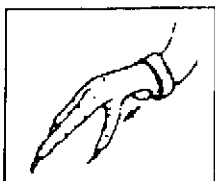
The most important thing to remember when banding chicks is to do it over a counter or table so if the chick is dropped it doesn't fall to the floor. The age to band varies between species but is generally between 5 and 10 days. You can tell by looking at the ankle joint (the joint where the toes come together) and the size of the band.



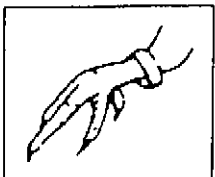
Have the bands, a toothpick (or other small blunt instrument) and some lubricant ready. Be sure you have the bands "right side up" for easier reading.



The band is generally placed on the bird's right leg. Banding just before the parents go to roost in the evening will prevent them from picking at the band. By the next morning they will have forgotten about it.



Hold the chick firmly but in such a way as to not cut off its breathing and so that you don't harm it. Remember, their bodies cannot tolerate compression. Put a little bit of lubricant on the chick's foot and slide the band over the three front toes and finally over the ankle joint. The back toe will probably have to be gently pried out from under the band with a toothpick. The band now should be in the proper location between the ankle and the elbow joints.



Check on the chick the next few days to be sure that the band has not slipped off and that there are no scrapes or irritations on the foot or leg.

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

GUIDE TO ORDERING NFSS CLOSED LEG BANDS

NFSS welcomes comments and suggestions for this Guide. Contact the home office.

size "A"

Small Waxbills
Gold-breasted Waxbill
Orange-checked Waxbill
Bicheno (Owl) Finch
Quail Finch
Red-eared Waxbill
Strawberry Finch

size "B"

Black-checked Waxbill
Cordon Bleu Waxbill
Cuban Melodious Finch
Fire Finch
Lavender Finch
Olive Finch
Rufous-backed Mannikin

size "C"

Black and White Mannikin
Blue-capped Waxbill
Bronze-winged Mannikin
Cherry Finch
Green Singing Finch
Grey Singing Finch
Heck's Shafttail
Painted Finch
Pileated Finch
Pytilias
Red-headed Parrot Finch
Shafttail Finch
Silverbills
Star Finch

size "D"

Blue-faced Parrot Finch
most other Parrot finches
Chestnut-breasted Finch
Gouldian Finch
Pictorella Finch
Pin-tailed Nonpareil
Yellow-rumped Finch
Zebra Finch

more size "D"

most smaller Mannikins
most Twinspots

size "E"

Black-crested Finch
Diamond Sparrow
Golden Song Sparrow
Nuns
Peter's Twinspot
Siskins
Society Finch
Spice Finch

size "G"

European Goldfinch
Magpie Mannikin
other large Mannikins
small Tanagers

size "J"

Pekin Robin
Silver-eared Mesia
other small softbills

size "K"

Java Rice Bird
Red-crested Cardinal
Saffron
Shama Thrush

size "L"

Diamond Dove
other small doves
Quail
other softbills

The NFSS Apprentice Judge Program

*As approved by the NFSS Board of Directors, November 1990,
REVISED AUGUST 1994 (changes shown in italics)*

1. Any new apprentice is required to write a letter of request to the Panel Director, listing her/his qualifications.
2. Qualifications **MUST** include:
 - a. *Currently are and have been a member of NFSS for at least three years.*
 - b. Have bred finches for five years.
 - c. Have exhibited under own name (or own aviary name) for three years.
 - d. Must have *won points* five (5) times in top ten in shows under (at least) three (3) NFSS Panel Judges.
3. Must take and pass a written test with 90% or better. If not passed, must study for one year and take the test again (not within one year). The test to be taken only at: the Kaytee Great American or the National Cage Bird Show, by pre-arrangement only.
4. Cannot apprentice until the test is passed. Each of three apprenticeships to be pre-approved by the Panel Chairman, the Panel Judge involved and the Show Manager of the show involved.
5. Once three apprenticeships are completed and satisfactory reports are received from the judges involved, the apprentice must submit a request through the Panel Director for final Board approval.
6. The apprentice must appear before the Board (or submit a *notarized* statement) indicating she/he understands and agrees to the following:
 - a. When requested to write a report, it must be done immediately. (Example—the three reports of shows to be judged.)
 - b. All show reports must be in within two weeks.
 - c. All judges must respond to all inquiries and must participate on Standard committees.
 - d. NFSS Panel Judges must adhere to all NFSS Judges rules and must judge by current NFSS Standards.

**For more information on becoming an
NFSS Apprentice Judge, contact**

Dr. Al Decoteau

NFSS Judges Panel Chairman

P.O. Box 369

Groton, MA 01450

Phone (603) 672-4568 Fax (603) 672-3120

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

BAND ORDER FORM

NFSS offers to members only closed traceable aluminum bands. Available only in the NFSS color of the year, the bands are engraved with the initials *NFS*, size code, year and number. No choice of numbers.

All orders are recorded for permanent reference. Bands are ordered in strings of ten, all the same size. New members may order before receiving membership number. Write "New" for membership # on order form.

NO RUSH ORDERS!
 Allow 30 days from receipt of
 your order for delivery.
 Anticipate your needs to avoid
 frequent re-orders.

BAND SIZE	# OF STRINGS	PRICE/ STRING	TOTAL AMT
A		\$2.75	
B		\$2.75	
C		\$2.75	
D		\$2.75	
E		\$2.75	
G		\$2.75	
J		\$2.75	
K		\$2.75	
L		\$2.75	

POSTAL INSURANCE:

Under \$50 - \$.75

From \$50 to \$100 - \$1.60

Over \$100 - \$2.40

If you choose not to include this sum NFSS will not be responsible for replacement of bands lost in shipment.

SUBTOTAL _____

INSURANCE _____

TOTAL _____

Mail form and payment for
 1994 bands only to:

Denise Capazzi
 NFSS Band Secretary
 976 Long Cove Road
 Gales Ferry, CT 06335
 (203) 464-6961

Name _____ Membership # _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Check Nov/Dec issue for 1995
 band order form from our new
 Band Secretary Eileen Laird.

FINCHSHOP

the National Finch and Softbill Society store

ITEM	QTY	SIZE/ STYLE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL AMT
Video <i>"The Wonderful World of Finches and Softbills: An Introduction"</i>		Members & Affiliates: Non-Members:	\$17.00 \$22.00	
Show Cage Plans (see sizes below)			\$4.00	
All 3 Show Cage Plans			\$10.00	
Plastic Water Bottle			\$6.00	
Zebra Pin			\$5.00	
Gouldian Pin			\$6.00	
Aracari T-Shirt (s/m/l)			\$12.00	
Eric Peake Lithograph <i>The Diamond Sparrow</i> Signed & numbered			\$50.00	
Name Badge (members only) <i>Print name at bottom of form.</i>			\$5.00	
Past <i>Bulletin</i> Issues			\$2.50	
Any 6 Issues of <i>Bulletin</i>			\$12.00	
NFSS Handbook			\$12.00	

NFSS SHOW CAGE PLANS - updated in '93

- # 1 Cage *Finches up to and including Zebras*
- # 2 Cage *Finches larger than Zebras*
- # 3 Cage *Softbills*

TOTAL _____

Name _____ Member # _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____

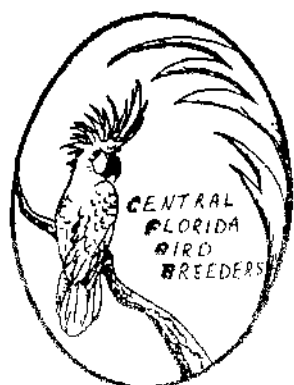
Mail form and payment to

FINCHSHOP
 c/o Pat & Mary Krichten
 419 Third St.
 Hanover, PA 17331

For more information call
 (717) 632-8092

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FOR INFORMATION CALL:

Gene Goss (407) 957-1274
Don Elmore (407) 676-2445