



National
Finch and
Softbill
Society

Inside:

- ◆ Election Biographies
- ◆ Education Series continued (*Kerri McCoy*)
- ◆ Carbohydrates, Good & Bad Points (*Robert G. Black*)
- ◆ Plumhead Finches (*Craig Gardner*)

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The NFSS Bulletin

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Editorial Policy/Disclaimer:

The NFSS Bulletin is published bi-monthly by the National Finch and Softbill Society. The following deadlines normally apply to all aspects of the Bulletin:

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Volume 2, March/April	March 1st	April 1st
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Volume 4, July/August	July 1st	August 1st
Volume 5, September/October	September 1st	October 1st
Volume 6, November/December	November 1st	December 1st

NFSS members are encouraged to submit articles, drawing and photographs. NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all editorial, photographic and advertising materials 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. We will return them to you after use, if requested.

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Advertisements in the Bulletin are not endorsed by NFSS unless stated otherwise. NFSS assumes no responsibility for advertiser's claims or the quality of their products or services.

President's Message

Eileen and I are busy getting ready for the AFA convention where I will be a guest speaker on the subject of Aviary and Cage Finch Breeding. Many thanks to Steve Hoppin for the loan of his slide library to put this presentation together. He sure takes nice pictures. We will be running an NFSS sale and information table as well, to sign up new members and generate funds from the sale of FinchShop items. I will have a full report on how the convention went in the 3rd quarter. The second quarter minutes follow, and included is a vote by the Board to approve Annette Howard as a panel Judge, effective immediately. Congratulations on this most significant achievement.

Dale Laird
President, NFSS

Winners of the NFSS Raffle!

Winner #1—Jennifer Weeks

Winner #2—James DiDonato

Winner #3—Harry Bryant

Prizes were as follows:

2 Japanese Society finches kindly donated by Michael Marcotrigiano

1 pair Owl finches kindly donated by Harry Bryant

1 pair Gouldian finches kindly donated by Stephen Fairman

NFSS wants to thank everyone who participated in the raffle and especially the donors for their generosity. It is this type of involvement by the membership that keeps the NFSS going.

Kerri McCoy, NFSS 1st Vice President

2001 2d Quarter NFSS Board Meeting Minutes

The following minutes of the 2d quarter Board meeting have been voted upon and approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Several items were Submitted to the Board for discussion by various members that did not receive a motion.

The following motions were submitted and either voted on or tabled. For those items tabled, they are still active motions but were tabled for additional discussion.

- 1) I move we allow the NFSS list master (John Wilson) to use his discretion in accepting foreign bird keepers who are not NFSS members as participants on the email list. **Tabled by NFSS President.**
- 2) I move that we close the NFSS email list to all except NFSS members except those foreign contributors as approved by the list master (John Wilson). **Tabled by NFSS President.**
- 3) Shall the Band Secretary offer the sale of open numbered bands to begin in the year 2002? Yes—5, No—6, Abstain—1, Did not vote—1. **Failed to pass.**
- 4) Shall the Band Secretary offer the sale of open color coded bands to begin in 2002? Yes—11, No—1, Abstain—1, Did not vote—2. **Passed.**
- 5) Shall Mrs. Annette Howard be appointed to the NFSS Judges Panel? Yes—9, No—3, Abstain—1, Did not vote—2. **Passed.**
- 6) Shall NFSS budget \$150 for educational materials yearly? This would be for the mailing and printing of items for the Regional VP's. Yes—12, No—1, Abstain—0, Did not vote—2. **Passed.**
- 7) Shall NFSS be self-insured for band orders under \$40.00 and Post Office insured for orders \$40.00 and over? Yes—12, No—1, Abstain—0, Did not vote—2. **Passed.**

Reports. The following reports were submitted concerning various departments and committees.

3rd Vice President, Judges Panel Chairman—by Mr. Steve Hoppin, NFSS Office of the Fourth Vice President, NFSS Judges Panel Chairman, Points Manager and Research.

Active NFSS Panel Judges	27
Inactive NFSS Panel Judges	0
Apprentice Judges	4

Active Committees:

- 1) NFSS Standards (effective Feb 10, 2001) Red headed Finch, *Amadina erythrocephala*. Chairperson—Sally Huntington.
- 2) Timor Zebra Finch / NFSS Classifications (effective May 29, 2001). Chairperson—Julie Duimstra. Committee members—Cecil Gunby, Paul Williams.
- 3) NFSS Exhibition of Pairs (effective June 3, 2001). Chairperson—Martha Wigmore. Committee members— Steve Hoppin, Sally Huntington, Clayton Jones, Hal Koontz, Dale Laird, Armando Lee, Bill Parlee, Tom Rood.
- 4) Review safety measures for birds and judges during exhibition (effective Feb 10, 2001). Chairperson—Sally Huntington. Committee member—Dale Laird.

Report National Cage Bird Show—2001 Manchester, New Hampshire

The following NFSS Classification Section Sponsors have been acquired for the NFSS Division:

- 1) Softbills—Dale and Eileen Laird
- 2) Zebra Finches—Sally Huntington
- 3) Australian Finches—Kerri McCoy
- 4) Indo-Pacific Finches—Bobbi Keenan/Annette Howard
- 5) Society Finches—Clarence Culwell
- 6) European Finches—Charlie Anchor
- 7) Finches of Africa—Steve Hoppin
- 8) Finches of the Americas—Steve Poe
- 9) Doves & Quails—Darla Dandre
- 10) Pairs—Tom Rood

NFSS would like to extend many thanks to the above individuals for their support.

Regards, Steve Hoppin

Treasurer

NFSS Summary Report 1/1/01 through 5/18/01

Income	\$13,385.50
Expenses	\$5,253.44
Total Income after Expenses	\$8,132.06
Transfers	\$0.00
Overall Total	\$8,132.06
Assets	\$14,417.39
Liabilities	\$0.00
Overall Total	\$14,417.39

1st Vice President Report:

To date, the NFSS raffle has generated \$291 in raffle ticket sales. This amount is far lower than money generated from Raffle #1. Reminder to Board members: at the request of the board, I did away with the requirement that Board members not participate in the raffle. However, to day, only two Board members have sent in raffle tickets.

Harry Bryant has generously donated numerous books for raffle use. Among other hard to obtain books, we have numerous copies of Mobb's *Star Finches* that are signed by the author. This book is very difficult to obtain and should bring in some good revenue. If any regional VP anticipates being able to hold a raffle at a local show/fair, let me know and I could send you a copy of the book to generate some income.

I have been receiving a great deal of participation in donation items for the Nationals Raffle. Thank you to all members who generously donated.

Liaison Report:

Reaffiliation letters were sent to all 2000 affiliated clubs in January of 2001. Reminders were sent in March. In addition, many letters were sent to clubs listed on websites and in Bird Talk. As of May 30, 2001, there are 47 affiliated clubs.

Membership Director Report:

Active members—530

Region #1	107	Region #5	24
Region #2	111	Region #6	100
Region #3	130	Region #7	11
Region #4	47		

Paypal (from internet) results for past quarter:

Dual	2	Renewal	1
Single	9		

Nomination Committee:

The Nominations for all positions are now closed.

For all people running for a position, please submit a short Bio to the Bulletin editor by July 1st. The ballot will run in the Sep/Oct issue of the Bulletin. Names with multiple nominees are listed alphabetically by last name.

Board members are as follows:

President: Cecil Gunby, Sally Huntington
 1st VP: Armando Lee
 2d VP: Harry Bryant
 3d VP: Kerri McCoy
 4th VP: Julie Duimstra, Martha Wigmore
 Membership: Steve Poe
 Executive Secretary: Annette Howard
 Treasurer: Mark Phelps
 Liaison Officer: Ginny Allen
 Band Secretary: Chris Eichner

Regional Vice Presidents:

Region #1 James Felix
 Region #2 Daniel Almaguer, Ron Castaner, Margie Lanier
 Region #3 Darla Dandre
 Region #4 Dan Easter, Harold McBrayer
 Region #5 Anna Sinclair
 Region #6 Vince Huntington
 Region #7 Julio Mateo

Nancy Reed, an impartial aviculturist who does not belong to NFSS will receive and count all votes.

The ESTRILDIAN

The ESTRILDIAN is produced for the purpose of relating the most up to date information on all species belonging to the family Estrildidae both in the wild and in captivity. Within its 124 species are all of the *Waxbills*, *Parrot Finches*, *Mannikins* and *Australian finches*. The aviculturist and the scientist have much to offer each other and the ESTRILDIAN brings together like-minded enthusiasts from around the world. The magazine is sent to 13 different countries ranging from Australia to Puerto Rico and has many leading Zoo's, Aviculturists and Researchers as both members and contributors. With well over 100 members in the USA, we have now been able to reduce our overseas subscription rates.

12 months subscription is £15 Sterling; USA \$30 personal check accepted
 ESTRILDID FORUM
 10, Gable Terrace, Wheatley Hill, County Durham, DH6 3JT
 ENGLAND

**Education Department Series Part II:
The Convention of International Trade in Endangered
Species and Purchasing CITES Birds in the U.S**

By Kerri McCoy

I confess that prior to mid 1999 I was uneducated when it came to CITES. It wasn't until my family began preparing for a move to Canada that I realized that CITES directly affected my bird keeping hobby. As I began preparation to organize the move of my aviaries I was informed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service that I had CITES birds and would be required to apply for CITES export permits if I wished to take my finches with me to Canada! The last two years have been a real educational eye opener for me in regards to rules, regulations and legislation involving both the United States and Canada that directly affect my hobby.

It has become increasingly evident that bird hobbyists in general are lacking in knowledge as it relates to laws that effect bird keeping. In the past I would only casually glance at an article that focused on government laws regulating bird keeping. It is becoming increasingly critical that all bird hobbyists educate themselves with the laws that govern our hobby. Whether you are small time hobbyist with perhaps one pair of birds, or a full-scale breeder with hundreds, the rules still affect us all.

I had always been under the impression that CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species), WBCA (Wild Bird Conservation Act), ESA (Endangered Species Act), USFW rules and regulations (US Fish and Wildlife) had little to no affect on my bird keeping hobby. That couldn't have been further from the truth. These articles will be done in a series. Each will focus on a different aspect of laws that govern the birdkeeping hobby.

The CITES treaty went into effect in 1975. To date there are 152 party countries involved with this treaty. For a detailed listing of all participating countries visit: <http://international.fws.gov/cites/citeslop.html> The United States began involvement in the CITES

treaty on July 1, 1975.

CITES is comprised of three Appendices. They are as follows:

Appendix I: which protects threatened species from all international commercial trade. Trade in specimens of these species must be subject to particularly strict regulation in order not to endanger further their survival and must only be authorized in exceptional circumstances. An example of an Appendix I listed bird would be the **Red Siskin** (*carduelis cucullata*).

Appendix II: species that are not currently rare or endangered but could become so if trade is not regulated. The species being traded must be covered by an appropriate Convention export permit issued by the government of the exporting nation before entry to or export from the US will be allowed. An example of an Appendix II listed bird would be the **Parson Finch** (*Poephila cincta cincta*).

Appendix III: species that are not necessarily endangered but are managed within the listing nation. The species being traded must be covered by an appropriate Convention export permit if trade is with the listing nation, or by a certificate of origin or a re-export certificate if trade is with a nation other than the listing nation, as required by the Convention. An example of an Appendix III listed bird would be the **Goldbreasted Waxbill** (*Amandava subflava*).

I know that many of you right about now are beginning to tune out. However, please endeavor to stay with me. Below is a complete listing of finch species that are currently under CITES regulation. Many of you will be surprised to see some of the species listed:

Appendix I:

Carduelis cucullata – Red Siskin

Appendix II:

Amandava formosa – Green Avadavat

Carduelis yarrellii – Yellow-faced Siskin

Gubernatrix cristata – Yellow Cardinal, Green Cardinal

Padda oryzivora – Java Rice Bird, Java Sparrow

Paroaria capitata – Yellow-billed Cardinal

Paroaria coronata – Red-crested Cardinal

Poephila cincta cincta – Southern Black-throated Finch, Parson Finch

Appendix III:

Amadina fasciata – Cutthroat Finch, Ribbon Finch

Amandava subflava – Orange-breasted or Gold-breasted Waxbill

Amblyospiza albifrons – Grosbeak Weaver, Thick-billed Weaver

Anaplectes rubriceps – Red-headed Weaver

Anomalospiza imberbis – Parasitic Weaver, Cuckoo Weaver

Bubalornis albirostris – White-billed Buffalo Weaver

Estrilda astrild – Saint Helena Waxbill, Common Waxbill

Estrilda caerulea – Lavender Firefinch, Lavender Waxbill

Estrilda melpoda – Orange-cheeked Waxbill

Estrilda troglodytes – Red-eared Waxbill, Black-rumped Waxbill

Euplectes afer – Golden Bishop, Napoleon Weaver

Euplectes ardens – Red-collared Widowbird or Red-collared Whydah

Euplectes franciscanus – Orange Weaver, Orange Bishop

Euplectes hordeaceus – Black-winged Bishop, Fire-crowned Bishop

Euplectes macrourus – Yellow-mantled Whydah, Yellow-backed Whydah

Lagonosticta rara – Black-bellied Firefinch, Black-bellied Waxbill

Lagonosticta rubricata – African Firefinch, Blue-billed Firefinch

Lagonosticta rufopicta – Bar-breasted Firefinch, Bar-breasted Waxbill

Lagonosticta senegala – Senegal Firefinch, Red-billed Firefinch

Lagonosticta vinacea – Vinaceous Firefinch, Vinaceous Waxbill

Lonchura bicolor – Black-and-white Munia, Black-and-white Mannikin

Lonchura cantans – African Silverbill

Lonchura cucullata – Bronze-winged Mannikin, Bronze Mannikin

Lonchura fringilloides – Magpie Mannikin, Pied Mannikin

Malimbus cassini – Black-throated Malimbe, Cassin's Malimbe

Malimbus malimbicus – Crested Malimbe

Malimbus nitens – Gray's Malimbe, Blue-billed Malimbe

Malimbus rubricollis – Red-headed Malimbe, Red-headed Weaver

Malimbus scutatus – Red-vented Malimbe

Mandingoa nitidula – Green-backed Twinspot, Green Twinspot

Nesocharis capistrata – Gray-headed Olive-back, White-cheeked Olive Weaver

Nigrita bicolor – Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch

Nigrita canicapilla – Gray-crowned Negrofinch, Gray-headed Negrofinch

Nigrita fusconota – White-breasted Negrofinch

Nigrita luteifrons – Pale-fronted Negrofinch

Ortygospiza atricollis – African Quailfinch

Pachyphantes superciliosus – Compact Weaver

Parmoptila rubrifrons – Red-fronted Antpecker, Jameson's Antpecker

Passer griseus – Gray-headed Sparrow

Petronia dentata – Bush Sparrow, Bush Petronia

Pholidornis rushiae – Tit-hylia

Plocepasser superciliosus – Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver

Ploceus albinucha – White-naped Weaver, Maxwell's Black Weaver

Ploceus aurantius – Orange Weaver

Ploceus cucullatus – Village Weaver, Spot-backed Weaver

Ploceus heuglini – Heuglin's Masked-Weaver

Ploceus luteolus – Little Weaver

Ploceus melanocephalus – Black-headed Weaver, Yellow-backed Weaver

Ploceus nigerrimus – Vieillot's Black Weaver

Ploceus nigricollis – Black-necked Weaver

Ploceus pelzelni – Slender-billed Weaver

Ploceus preussi – Preuss's Weaver, Yellow-capped or Golden-backed Weaver

Ploceus tricolor – Yellow-mantled Weaver

Ploceus vitellinus – Vitelline Masked-Weaver

Pyrenestes ostrinus – Black-bellied Seedcracker

Pytilia hypogrammica – Red-faced Pytilia, Yellow-winged Pytilia

Pytilia phoenicoptera – Aurora Finch, Crimson-winged or Red-winged Pytilia

Quelea erythrops – Red-headed Quelea, Red-headed Dioch

Serinus canicapillus – West African Seedeater

Serinus leucopygius – White-rumped Seedeater, Gray Singing Finch

Serinus mozambicus – Yellow-fronted Canary, Green Singing Finch

Spermophaga haematina – Western Bluebill, Blue-billed Weaver

Sporopipes frontalis – Speckle-fronted Weaver, Scaly-fronted Weaver

Uraeginthus bengalus – Red-cheeked Cordonbleu, Cordonbleu

Vidua chalybeata – Green or Village Indigobird, Senegal Combas-sou

Vidua interjecta – Long-tailed Paradise-Whydah

Vidua larvaticola – Baka Indigobird

Vidua macroura – Pin-tailed Whydah

Vidua orientalis – Northern Paradise-Whydah

Vidua raricola – Jambandu Indigobird

Vidua togoensis – Togo Paradise-Whydah

Vidua wilsoni – Pale-winged Indigobird, Wilson's Indigobird

The exhaustive list, which includes numerous softbill and other bird species is available in its entirety at: <http://international.fws.gov/cites/cites.html> For those without internet access you can write for the full appendices at the following address: US Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, VA 22203 Phone: 800-358-2104, Fax: 703-358-2281.

The full CITES appendices are categorized as follows: latin name, common name, appendix listing, country listing the wildlife and date of its inclusion in the CITES appendices. Please note: it is best to look up the latin name of a species rather than looking under the common name. Many species are listed under common names that are not commonly used here in the US. Example: Goldbreasted waxbill is listed on the CITES appendices under zebra waxbill.

Many of you by now have come to realize that you have some of these species in your aviaries. You are however questioning how all of this affects you since you are not moving out of the country or intending to import birds any time soon. It is however very important for all hobbyists to understand that CITES affects them even when they are not crossing a country border or importing stock.

We have all attended bird fairs from time to time. We have all purchased birds through the years from fellow hobbyists we know and sometimes those we don't. I don't think there is a single hobbyist reading this article that hasn't purchased birds at some time. We all need to add new bloodlines to our existing ones. We all are bitten by the bug and add a new species to challenge us. And, we have unfortunately lost a mate to this or that that needs replacing. This is all common practice of the birdkeeping hobby. It is, however, very important for hobbyists to understand when they are potentially jeopardizing themselves and unknowingly breaking the laws that are put in place to regulate our hobby.

Purchasing CITES birds within the US: The laws in Canada differ somewhat from the US in terms of the importation of CITES species. CITES species are allowed importation into Canada provided they have proper CITES permits attached to the shipment. This rule however, differs somewhat in the United States.

US Rule states that CITES birds that are imported into the United States after 1992 must have a WBCA permit. As stated in a previous article the Red Siskin is the only finch specie currently under WBCA permit. **Presently, that means that any more than two CITES finches CANNOT be imported into the United States legally per person per year without a Cooperative Breeding Program permit.**

Many of us keep CITES birds. Many of us have purchased CITES birds here in the United States and never questioned their origin; imports or domestics it didn't matter provided we were able to obtain the species we were looking for. And, since the implementation of the WBCA it has become increasingly difficult to locate many CITES species. I however implore each and every one of you to follow the below recommendations the next time you make a purchase.

#1 If you are purchasing a CITES bird question the seller whether the bird is domestically raised or imported.

#2 If domestically raised, get a signed statement from the seller stating such and keep this with your records.

#3 If imported, understand that only 2 CITES birds per person per year are allowed LEGAL importation into the United States without a Cooperative Breeding Program permit. If you see a 100 certain imported CITES finch species available for sale, walk away unless the Seller can provide you with documentation guaranteeing you of their legality. And, that would mean that 50 people would have each had to have imported 2 of those finches each for them to be legal.

#4 If you raise CITES birds take care to keep careful records of your breedings. Close band your birds to increase the ability to prove their legitimacy. The majority of us practice record keeping of some form or fashion. It is important to keep accurate records of breedings, bills of sale and any and all paperwork related to a purchase or sale of a CITES bird.

#5 Understand that it is **YOUR** responsibility to prove the legitimacy of birds in your aviaries should you ever be questioned by authorities. "I don't know" or "What's CITES" doesn't cut it today. If you purchase illegal CITES birds you run the risk of having them confiscated and being formally charged by authorities with their possession. It just isn't worth it.

Do not allow my "recommendations" list to deter you from working with CITES birds. It is the work of hobbyists today that will preserve CITES species for the hobbyists of tomorrow. This article was written only to educate the bird hobbyist and provide us all with an understanding of the rules and regulations that govern our hobby and how to work legally within them.

CARBOHYDRATES THE GOOD AND BAD POINTS By Robert G. Black

Carbohydrates are a primary source of energy for birds, animals, and humans. In quantity consumed and energy value extracted, the carbohydrates usually rank first in the diets of most species of birds commonly maintained in aviculture. The carbohydrates function primarily in the diet as a source of energy in the avian body for heat and muscle work, but can also be stored to a certain extent.

Most carbohydrates are plant products, formed by photosynthesis, using sunlight in the presence of chlorophyll. Technically, the plants turn light energy into chemical energy by combining carbon, hydrogen and oxygen in a complex series of reactions. The resulting sugars and starches are stored in the structure and seeds of the plant. When birds eat this material, it yields carbon dioxide and water in the body as by-products. The dry matter of most plants ranges from 60% to 90% carbohydrates.

As surprising as it may seem, *there is no definite, known nutritional requirement for carbohydrates in the diet.* Fats or protein can substitute, if perhaps less efficiently, for the known functions of carbohydrates in avian metabolism. Nevertheless, it is fortunate that most species can digest and utilize carbohydrates easily, or the available food supply would be drastically reduced.

Carbohydrates are classed under several headings, depending upon their chemical structure. They range from very simple in their structure to incredibly complex. This structure determines whether the carbohydrate is digestible, absorbable, and capable of being utilized by the avian body. The characteristics and properties of the carbohydrates are dictated by their molecular structure.

The food carbohydrates are classified as sugars and starches, and the sugars are the simplest of the carbohydrates in chemical structure. The sugars are subdivided into several categories, depending upon their structure, while the starches are made up of groupings of the various sugar molecules. The numbers of different

starches possible through the joining of the various sugar molecules in different combinations is truly astronomical.

The simplest of these sugars are called monosaccharides. These are the simplest carbohydrates. Monosaccharides contain from three to seven carbon atoms. By far the most important in nutrition is glucose, which I will cover in more detail later. Glucose is found in some fruits and honey in pure form. This is why diluted honey can be such an instant pick-me-up for a sick bird after the cause of the sickness has been removed. Glucose needs no digestion; it is absorbed as is, circulates to the cells that need the energy, and is used almost instantly for energy without any chemical change being needed along the way.

Another important monosaccharide is fructose, and it is also called fruit sugar. As the name implies, this sugar is found primarily in fruits. Fructose is also known as levulose, and it is also found in vegetables and honey.

Galactose is one of the two simple sugars that make up each molecule of lactose, the compound sugar found in milk. The other simple sugar in lactose is glucose. Most birds cannot digest the lactose in milk products, because their bodies cannot make the enzyme that is necessary to break lactose down into the two simple sugars.

Glucose, fructose, and galactose are the major forms of carbohydrate circulating in the bloodstreams of avian species. Though more than twenty monosaccharides have been identified by science, these three are the most important in the study of nutrition. All three are known in three separate forms, one with a straight carbon chain, one with a left facing molecule, and one with a right facing molecule.

One other monosaccharide is quite important in nutrition, and that is ribose. Ribose is found in corn and beets naturally and ribose alone forms the carbohydrate portion of both DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) and RNA (ribonucleic acid). Ribose is also a constituent of the vitamin riboflavin, also known as vitamin B₂.

The term disaccharide means two monosaccharides linked to-

gether to form a more complex sugar. The disaccharides are the simplest of the multiple sugars. Three of these disaccharides are important in the nutrition of birds, but the digestive system cannot absorb them until the required enzymes have broken down the disaccharides into their component monosaccharides.

Sucrose is the most important of these disaccharides. It is formed by the combination of one glucose molecule and one fructose molecule. Sucrose is our common white sugar, extracted from sugar cane or sugar beets. In the process of digestion, an enzyme called sucrase or invertase splits these two joined molecules and releases the free monosaccharides glucose and fructose.

Maltose is the second important disaccharide. It is composed of two glucose molecules linked together. The enzyme maltase breaks these apart in the small intestine and thereby releases two molecules of glucose for each molecule of maltose.

Lactose is the third important disaccharide. Lactose is of great importance in human nutrition, since it is the sugar found in milk. One glucose molecule and one galactose molecule join to make one molecule of lactose. Lactose is the only common sugar that is of animal origin. The digestion of lactose requires that the enzyme lactase be present to break the lactose molecule into its glucose and galactose constituents. Lactose is much less soluble than the other sugars, and it therefore is digested much more slowly in the intestinal tract.

Most birds, however, lack the enzyme lactase to break the lactose down. Before giving any of your birds milk or milk products, test them for lactose tolerance. This means that you should give them a little of the product and then watch closely for any sign of diarrhea or other distress. Most avian species have not been tested for lactose tolerance, since no one has yet been willing to pay for the extensive testing that would be required for the over 9,000 living species of birds. Since milk is not a natural food for avian species, however, it is a safe bet that most species will not be able to digest milk products effectively because of their lactose content. Even within the same species, however, there may be strains in captivity that can tolerate lactose with no problem whatsoever, and other

strains that will show symptoms of indigestion and diarrhea from any lactose-containing material that they consume.

Once past the infant stage, over half of the human race can no longer tolerate lactose in the diet. For the Caucasian peoples, over 90% can eat milk or milk products with no problem. This is why milk products can be so important in the nutrition of Americans and Europeans. With the native African peoples, this tolerance drops to about 50% of the population. Even half of black Americans cannot tolerate lactose, and milk products will upset their digestive systems and cause diarrhea, as the body tries to rid itself of this indigestible substance. Of the Asian peoples, 90% cannot tolerate lactose, because of the digestive upset it causes. This is why you find absolutely no milk products ever used in the justly famous and delicious Chinese cooking.

Once milk has been converted to other foods, such as cheese or yogurt, birds may be able to tolerate it. The bacteria in milk change the lactose into lactic acid, and this is what causes milk to go sour. The bacteria that transform milk into cheese and yogurt also often feed on the lactose in the milk, and leave these foods safe for the birds. However, the expense of such milk products alone is enough to limit their use as a food for birds when in the care of most aviculturists.

Many old books recommend milk sop, bread soaked in milk, as a food for cage birds. I definitely do not recommend milk products of any kind for birds, for the reasons already noted. Feeding this milk product can create far more problems with indigestion than it can solve through its nutritional value. Also, white bread is an extremely poor food for birds or people – Most of the vitamins and minerals have been removed in making the white flour and most bread has a zero value of complete protein. Bread is a carbohydrate food only, and most cage birds are already forced to eat more carbohydrates than they need. Whole wheat bread is marginally better, but I still do not recommend any kind of bread as a food for birds.

The polysaccharides are those carbohydrates that contain three or more monosaccharide molecules joined together. Starch is the only polysaccharide that can be used efficiently in the metabolism of

birds. Nutritionally, the starches are the most important group of carbohydrates. There can be more than a thousand simple monosaccharides, such as glucose, in a single polysaccharide carbohydrate chain. The resulting carbon chain formation can be straight or branched. Rice, wheat, corn, and millet contain about 70% starch. Even as much as 40% of the content of beans and other seeds is starch. Cereal grains are the most important source of starch in avian nutrition, but tubers, such as potatoes, are also important sources of the carbohydrates for human consumption. Agar and pectin are examples of common products that are polysaccharides.

In the digestive process, the digestive system splits complex carbohydrates into monosaccharides through the action of the specific enzymes needed to detach each type of simple sugar from the carbohydrate chain. This splitting process is called hydrolysis. Hydrolysis occurs quite rapidly under the influence of enzymes. The enzymes act as catalysts only. They speed up the reaction, but are not altered in structure by so doing. The digestive tract cannot absorb starches, and absorbs only the resulting monosaccharides after the starches are broken down.

Glucose is the most common monosaccharide, and it is by far the most important in the nutrition of birds and animals. Glucose is the blood sugar for all birds and animals, and it is controlled in this function by the body within very narrow limits. It is the basic source of energy in all birds and animals. Glucose occurs in three structural forms, called the open-chain form and the ring forms. All three forms are equal in every respect, both nutritionally and metabolically. Glucose is highly soluble in water, is neither acidic nor alkaline, and the tissues utilize it directly. The body can convert glucose to other monosaccharides as needed in a reversible process. At the cell level, energy becomes available when glucose is broken down in the tissues.

The body can store carbohydrates within the body in the form of glycogen. Glycogen is a polysaccharide, similar to starch. For this reason, glycogen is sometimes called 'animal starch'. Glycogen is stored in the liver and in the muscles.

Cellulose is the primary carbohydrate that plants use to form

their stems, branches and trunks. Though cellulose is a carbohydrate and an energy source, it furnishes only bulk in the avian diet, since birds do not possess the enzyme cellulase in the digestive tract for breaking it down. Cellulose is completely unabsorbable.

The best sources of carbohydrate content in the diet of seed-eating birds will be the cereal grains: wheat, millet, oats, canary seed, etc. For softbills, lories and similar feeders, fruit will be the best source. In preparing mixed foods from which birds cannot separate protein from carbohydrate, it is unwise in the extreme to dilute a high protein food with additional carbohydrate. Leave carbohydrates in their natural form or feed them separately. For example, I strongly advise against mixing bread crumbs or corn meal with hard boiled egg, as a nestling food. Such a practice forces the birds to consume excess carbohydrate in order to get the protein content they crave, particularly while feeding young ones. This can and will cause obesity, as the birds are forced to eat an excess of carbohydrates in order to get the protein that they must have.

Mashed, hard-boiled eggs are one of the best and cheapest high-protein foods you can feed. Because of their high water content, add a spoon of powdered vitamin-mineral supplement to each boiled egg and mix it thoroughly. If the egg mix still seems too wet and sticky, add a couple of spoons of soy protein and mix it again. The soy protein greatly increases the protein content of the mix, and makes it even better for the birds nutritionally. NEVER add corn meal, flour, or cereals to the egg mix, as these items are predominantly carbohydrates – they will do no good and will do positive harm to the nutritional value of an egg mix. Also, never add anything oily or wet to the egg mix, as these items will cause the egg to spoil very rapidly.

I have been able to maintain lories in perfect health with this mix and other soft foods, without the need for messy nectars or complicated fruit mixes. Softbills love the egg mix and will take it in preference to every other food except chopped raisins! I have successfully hand raised such unusual babies as Least Terns and a Purple Martin using the egg as their primary nestling food.

Most breeders, unfortunately, feed a huge excess of carbohy-

drates in the diets of their birds. The endless repetition of seeds, grain products, fruits, cereals and vegetables adds primarily sugar and starch to the diet, rather than the proteins, oils and fats that are required for the birds' health.

As I previously mentioned, no bird will ever suffer from a carbohydrate deficiency. Carbohydrates in any form are simply not necessary in the nutrition of birds, though you can hardly keep from feeding some carbohydrate foods to your birds in any normal diet. Overloading cage birds with high carbohydrate foods, however, is a sure road to illness and death.

END

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ELECTION BIOGRAPHIES

A complete list of candidates is provided on page 9 of this issue.

Candidate for President

Sally C. Huntington—I thoroughly enjoy raising and exhibiting finches and softbilled birds! As your next President of the National Finch & Softbill Society, I would dedicate myself to introducing others to the fascinating challenges of breeding, studying, and endeavoring to understand the behaviors of these birds.

I will do my best to ensure that NFSS does its utmost to meet the needs of ALL of its members whether the member wishes to participate as a hobbyist, as an experienced aviculturist in the FINCHSAVE program, as an exhibitor or just as an enthusiastic spectator in the world of finches and softbills.

As your NFSS President I would achieve these goals through ongoing communication with the members via email, telephone contacts, through writing articles for NFSS and other aviculture journals and by continuing to participate in local, regional and national level avicultural activities

My goals are to continue to clearly demonstrate that NFSS is for all aviculturists! The NFSS seminar, "Hand-Taming Finches," that my husband Vince and I presented at the 2000 AFA convention brought NFSS back into the forefront as an advocate for avian support at all levels. From active hobbyist support to continuing contributions to national and international positioning such as the Convention of International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES), to improvements in US health and transportation standards for birds and other animals, to the impact extremist groups have on our hobby - I will stay in tune to these issues and report how they can impact our lives.

As your NFSS President I will actively promote NFSS at bird events throughout the country such as bird marts, bird expos and by judging shows, at meetings of avian veterinarian associations and other avicultural organizations.

As your NFSS President I will call upon the experience and active support from other aviculturists to share with you! I have served 3 terms as the President of the Finch Society of San Diego County, with some 220 members, one of the largest all finch societies in the USA. I will continue my close contacts with the Australian Finch Association because of the beneficial hands-on work that association does with Australian and Southeast Asian birds.

My current memberships in avian societies include; the National Finch

and Softbill Society (NFSS), life member of the Finch Society of San Diego County, the American Federation of Aviculture (AFA), the Society of Parrot Breeders and Exhibitors (SPBE), the Model Aviculture Program (MAP), the National Cage Bird Show (NCBS) and the North American Parrot Society (NAPS).

Candidate for 4th Vice President

Julie Duimstra—Hello NFSS Members. I am Julie Duimstra, your candidate for the NFSS Vice President position - the Judge's Panel Chairman. I have been successfully raising, keeping and exhibiting many species of finches and, more recently, softbilled birds for the past 15 years. My membership number in NFSS is 2233 having joined the society in 1994. I served NFSS as the Finchshop Manager for 5 years and facilitated bringing the Finchshop items to our membership on the NFSS website.

My interest and enjoyment in aviculture and exhibiting birds combined with my visual abilities to discern fine details took me one step further and I became an NFSS Panel Judge in the year 2000. Last year I had the opportunity to judge the NFSS show with the largest number of entries - held at Roseville, CA.

I am a Biologist and have spent most of my professional career working as an Electron Microscopist in research and diagnostic veterinary medicine at universities. I live in the beautiful Pacific Northwest and when not participating in avicultural activities and studying, enjoy travel, theater, hiking and deep sea fishing.

Martha Wigmore—It has been my pleasure to be involved with NFSS almost from its inception, joining as member 154 in January 1985. I am breeder of over a dozen varieties of finches and doves and some of the hookbills, and it has been my pleasure to share my birds with others at shows since 1983 as an exhibitor, and as president, editor and treasurer of two local cage bird clubs. Some of my most treasured experiences have been as an NFSS Panel Judge since 1987, sharing my love of our birds through one of our hobby's most effective outreaches - our shows. I am a firm believer in the shows, not because of the accolades and awards a few exhibitors receive but because I strongly feel that there is no more effective avenue in our country for supporting and educating one another in aviculture and improving our efforts with the priceless gift we have been given of these birds. Second to the shows - where we can actually SEE and experience the birds - I believe the **Bulletin** and other written word are vital to our hobby. I was Editor of **The NFSS Bulletin** for two years, giving the publication a new design and its present small-magazine format. And I have been privileged to work closely with each past NFSS Judges Panel Director on the editing of **The NFSS Judges Handbook and Official**

Standards, redesigning and keeping the publication updated. I am currently involved with this work of editing and updating the **NFSS Handbook**.

I have worked with so many fine aviculturists over the years in my many positions on the NFSS Board - most recently as Treasurer, 2nd Vice President and editor of **The NFSS Bulletin**, Corresponding Secretary, and initially as Region 5 Vice President. I have chaired and participated on several standard committees - I am currently chairing the committee preparing a Pairs standard - and served on the committees to revise the NFSS Bylaws and show classifications. In all, in addition to my 13 years judging NFSS shows as a Panel Judge, I have served NFSS on the Board and in committee-work in over 10 of the last 16 years. I would bring to the position of NFSS 4th Vice President/Judges Panel Director a wealth of experience with NFSS and the cage bird hobby. And it has been shown in all that I have done with NFSS that I work with a high level of professionalism and maturity - and playfulness! I hope that you will allow me to serve NFSS at this time as 4th Vice President. We'll see you at the shows!

Candidate For Regional Vice President- Region 1

James Felix – I live in Pittsburgh, PA. I started raising finches in 1982 – 1985. I had to give up my finches, because my job (at that time) required me to spend long periods out of town. I got back into the raising finches in 1995. I have raised many different species of finches through the years. I joined the NFSS in 1997, and have been a member ever since. I'm also a member of the FinchSave Program, the Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society, and the Erie Cage Bird Club. I am also an active member of the Finchlovers, Aviarylfe, NFSS, and Dove & Pigeon lists. Through the years while being on these lists. I have tried to help, and educate others with the care, breeding, and showing of finches, while introducing and educating them about the NFSS. My goals are to get more people interested in raising finches and softbills and for them to become active members of the NFSS and its FinchSave program, not only in the Western Pennsylvania area, but also across the country. I have done this since joining the NFSS and will continue to do so regardless of the outcome of the election.

I like to thank you for considering me as a candidate. All I can say is that I'll try and do the best job that I can if elected.

END

Please note on pages 39 and 40, new email addresses have been posted for Judge Dennis Lewis and Region 5 VP Anna Sinclair.

PLUMHEAD FINCH, Part I

Aidemosyne Modesta

By Craig Gardner

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Introduction. These charming little Australian natives are also called Cherry finches and similar names in many parts of the world. All names refer to the deep, blood plum, red on their head. Five or so years ago, I read somewhere (Australian Aviculture, I think) that these finches were in decline in Australian aviaries and needed serious breeding efforts to make its future secure. I read all I could find about them and decided to give them a go, if I could find them. Although I am certainly no expert, I was quietly confident I could breed this finch.

Sexing. Sexing adult Plumheads is easy. Males have a tell-tale bib under their beak and generally more defined stripes on their body, and a little more crimson on their head. The females also have a white eye stripe. As soon as they start to acquire their adult plumage, the young males will start to gain the brown bib. This is usually within around six weeks after fledging and is quicker in summer months.

Housing. My birds are housed in a large planted aviary (approx. 4x6 meters) of which about 1/3 is sheltered. The back wall blocks the cold winter winds from the south. The open flight has a wire roof which has a strip of galvanized roofing on the east wall to accommodate dry brush nesting. All perches are made from natural branches and vines. Three pairs of Plumheads share this aviary with four pairs of Diamond Firetails, two pairs of Gouldian finches, and one pair each of the following: Painted finches, Red-faced Parrot finches, and Cuban finches. All of these birds breed well together and although Plumheads are at the bottom of the pecking order, they regularly fledge nests of 3 to 5 young. There are nesting boxes, wicker baskets and dry, prickly paper bark brush both under the shelter and in the sheltered section of the flight.

Feeding. All my birds are fed Finch breeder mix with separate red millet, canary and niger. Cuttlebone is always placed in three or four positions around the cage and grit is always available. I make a mix of equal parts cuttlebone, charcoal and coonara shells in a (five gallon) bucket, then crush it with a pick handle and sieve it. I collect grass seeds daily from several locations. I try to pick as wide a variety as possible, excluding papsulam grass, which can be poisonous. It mainly seeds in summer and is identifiable by its black, sticky seeds on meter long stems. Plumheads love all

grass seeds, especially native varieties, whether feeding young or not. All of my birds love salt bush (*Rhagodia spinesens*) and I feed it at least weekly. I transplanted some large clumps of dandelion into the flights and soon the parrot finches learned to open the seed heads by tearing the side away when they are about to open. Not long after, the Plumheads also learned this and they relish these seeds. I haven't seen any other species use this method, although they all eat the ones I pick and open for them. Palm grass grows in the flight and Plumheads are always seen feeding on this. Each day I feed either Silver beet, spinach, broccoli, or other greens and all are taken by Plumheads. Fresh corn on the cob is also fed daily, but the Plumheads rarely partake of this. Bush fly maggots are fed daily and Plumheads eat a little of these only when feeding young. I only feed soaked seed if the weather is so bad that I can't get out and get grass seed. No commercial vitamin/mineral supplements are fed, as I prefer to feed them naturally.

Water. Clean bathing water is essential for all finches and Plumheads are no exception. My three pairs, and any young they have, come down in a flock and bath together at least once a day, all year round. Fledglings have frequently been sighted bathing the first day out of the nest. I have installed an automatic overflow system that can be programmed to come on more often in summer, or for longer periods. We manually tip it out at least twice daily, then just push "Water All Stations". The run-off waters the garden. All water dishes are on bricks or rocks away from food. Nearby, I have placed upright standing rocks for the birds to use as intermediate perches when coming in to drink or bathe. This keeps their nails trim and feet pads healthy. All dishes have a flat sone in them so fledglings can get out if in trouble.

Courtship. Plumhead males dance a bit with grass in their beak, but their most notable courtship trait is that the males stand dancing on a branch with grass in beak, then flies across to the furthest perch snapping his wings together. This action makes a loud clicking sound. All the finch species I have, go through their courtship routines and usually get "knocked back" after it, but every single time I have noticed the Plumheads doing their wing-clicking flight, they "get lucky". Plumhead fledglings in my aviary have been sighted displaying only 23 days after fledging.

To be continued...

Craig Gardner is an Australian birdkeeper from Melbourne, Victoria. His web site and email address are as follows:
www.geocities.com/craigfinches/index.html
cgardner@vtown.com.au

NFSS FinchSave Application

Mail this completed form to: FinchSave Manager, Daniel Almaguer,
 P.O. Box 533015, Orlando, FL 32853-3015, Phone: (407) 894-3808,
 Fax: (407) 894-6400, e-mail: DRAFinch@aol.com

Interested in joining FinchSave? Please fill out the below preliminary information and send to the FinchSave Manager, Mr. Daniel Almaguer. Upon receipt of this form, you will receive a complete information package outlining all aspects of the FinchSave Program.

Name: _____ NFSS# _____
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marbilld@earthlink.net
www.feathers.org

Badger Canary and Finch Club

Susan Feldstein
262-965-5362
devonormum@aol.com

Baltimore Bird Fanciers (Region 1 Show Host)

Barbara Shannon
410-356-5850
drhaynes@ubmail.ubalt.edu

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society (National Cage Bird Show Host)

Ray Schwartz
603-362-6106
prismsdad@aol.com
www.BOAF.com

Cajun Canary and Finch Club

Meade H. Phelps
504-887-0724
neworleansmeade@aol.com

Canary and Finch Society

Margie McBrayer
281-338-2814
ulmspatz@hotmail.com

Capitol City Bird Society (Region 6 Show Host)

Kateri J. Davis
530-753-7685
CCBSbirds@aol.com
www.capitolbird.com

Central Alabama Avicultural Society (Region 2 Show Host)

Margie Lanier
334-567-4073
rmlanier@earthlink.net

Central California Cage Bird Club

John Astorino
209-823-0200
birds1980@yahoo.com

Central Savannah River Area Exotic Bird Assoc.

Kathleen Clark
706-556-0996
kakkiclarke@aol.com

Connecticut Association for Aviculture

Denise Hofer
203-227-1418
denrhof@juno.com

Connecticut Canary & Finch Club

Felix Felix
860-953-1362
Email: Alfredo Robles
canariomio@aol.com

Durham Avicultural Society of Ontario

Vincent H. Moase
905-723-1978
vmoase@home.com
www.birdclub.ca

Finch Connection Bird Club

Paula Hansen
503-581-8208
phhanssen@earthlink.net

Finch Society of San Diego County

Sally Huntington
858-452-9423
sallych@san.rr.com
www.member.xoom.com/finchsociety

First Internet Bird Club

Myra Markley
319-362-9390
seffera@seffera.net
www.bird-club.org

Florida West Coast Avian Society

Ginette Parisi
2845 Proctor Road
Sarasota, FL 34231

Florida State Fair

Dale Laird
407-657-7989
dalel2@prodigy.net

Fort Worth Bird Club

Clarence Culwell
817-220-5568
culwell5@flash.net
www.FWBC.org

Friends of the Aviary

Chris White
905-546-4842
chris.white@interbiz.ca
www.friendsoftheaviary.ca

<p>Georgia Caged Bird Society Pat Miller 770-971-8080 jandpmiller@mindspring.com</p>	<p>Illini Bird Fanciers Tom Rood 217-774-5265 tjrood@bmmhnet.com</p>	<p>birdhop@aol.com</p> <p>New York Finch and Type Canary Club Stan Kulak 718-967-6899 barstand@erols.com www.nyfinchtypecanary.homestead.com</p>
<p>Great Lakes Avicultural Society Diana Hugo 616-842-0163 hugo@iserv.net www.i2k.com/~glas/</p>	<p>International Canary Society Marie Gleason 716-282-2944 frankruthsalvini@aol.com www.upatsix.com/ics</p>	<p>Peninsula Caged Bird Society Marian "Bea" Rogers 757-484-6001 dickivy@two-rivers.com www.freeyellow.com/members9/clubpage/index.html</p>
<p>Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club Pam Thompson 708-489-5051 acs64t@aol.com www.GCCBC.org</p>	<p>MidAmerica Cage Bird Society Great American Bird Show (GABS) Host Rhoda Shirley 515-243-1511 zaco@ticon.net</p>	<p>Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society April Blazich 919-851-8079 aprilb@bellsouth.net</p>
<p>Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society, Inc. Margie Jonnet 412-795-1904 mjonnet@katz.pitt.edu</p>	<p>Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club Darlene McDonnell 615-355-4250 tnma2@home.com</p>	<p>Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club Richard Pizzurro 408-927-0734 Doreen Waugh dorcen123@mindspring.com</p>
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<p>Honolulu Canary and Finch Club Kathy Perreira 808-844-3629 ala1884@aol.com</p>	<p>Motor City Bird Breeders (Region 3 Show Host) Pat Piekarz 810-296-2957 P3495@aol.com</p> <p>National Institute of Red Orange Canaries Stephan V. Hopman 815-469-8455</p>	<p>Continued...</p>

AFFILIATED CLUBS For 2001

Continued from previous page

<p>Southeast Tennessee Avicultural Society Janet Burrell 423-472-1306 jbjg2202@aol.com</p>	<p>Texas Bird Breeders (Region 4 Show Host) Clarence Culwell 817-220-5568 culwell5@flash.net</p>	<p>Virginia Society of Exotic Finches Peggy Duvall 757-623-4786 peggyc@macs.net</p>
<p>Suncoast Avian Society, Inc Joseph Ventimiglia 727-392-9391 www.suncoastavian.society.org</p>	<p>Texas Canary Club Tina Dalecki 281-370-7422 tdakecki@ltw.net</p>	<p>West Suburban Caged Bird Club Therese Baker 630-879-9476 tmb@concentric.com www.wscbc.org</p>
<p>Tennessee Valley Exotic Bird Club Kim Strong 3411 Longhollow Rd. Knoxville, TN 37938 Leading24@aol.com</p>	<p>Tri-State Avian Society Barry Laster 850-668-0908 barryL@polaris.net www.tristateavian.society.org</p>	<p>END</p>

2001 SHOWS & EVENTS

(See Club listings for contact information)

<p>AUG 4 Show Suncoast Avian Society St. Petersburg Coliseum St. Petersburg, FL Judge: Dennis Lewis</p>	<p>AUG 17—SEP 3 California State Fair Capitol City Bird Society</p>	<p>Elk Grove, IL 60005</p>
<p>AUG 3-4 Show Midwest Zebra & Society Finch Club American Inn North KCMO Judge: Clarence Culwell Aug 3...Seminars 12-6 pm Aug 4... Show</p>	<p>SEP 1-2 Shows Central Alabama Avicultural Society (Region 2 Show Host) Governor's House Hotel and Conference Center Montgomery, AL Judge: Clarence Culwell (Day 1), Sally Huntington (Day 2)</p>	<p>SEP 9 Event Society of Canary and Finch Breeders Livonia, MI</p>
<p>AUG 7-11 Event 2001 AFA Convention Houston, TX J.W. Marriott www.afa.birds.org/ convention/index.html</p>	<p>SEP 8 Fair National Institute of Red Orange Canaries Baby Feathers Show/Fair Elk Grove Township Hall 2400 Arlington Ht. Road</p>	<p>SEP 15 Fair Connecticut Association for Aviculture Bird Fair and Symposium Ramada Inn 400 New Britain Ave. Plainville, CT 060602</p>
		<p>SEP 21-23 Show Durham Avicultural Society 24th Annual Show Jubilee Pavilion 55 Lakeview Park Ave. Oshawa, ONT L1H 8S7</p>

<p>SEP 22 Fair/Sale Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club Hattendorf Center Elk Grove, IL</p>	<p>OCT 7 Fair Suncoast Avian Society Minnreg Bldg. Ft. Lauderdale, FL</p>	<p>Coyne Hall 9401 Seaview Ave. Brooklyn, NY Judge: Bill Parlee</p>
<p>SEP 23 Fall Fair Missouri Cage Bird Assoc. Stratford Inn Fenton, MO</p>	<p>OCT 12-13 Shows The Finch Connection Bird Show and Exhibit Oregon St Fairgrounds Salem, OR Judge: Julie Duimstra</p>	<p>OCT 20 Fair West Suburban CB Club DuPage Cnty Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL</p>
<p>SEP 29 Show Connecticut Canary & Finch Club Fatima Square Church Kane Street Hartford, CT 06106 Judge: Al Decoteau</p>	<p>(Day 1), Clarence Culwell (Day 2)</p>	<p>OCT 20-21 Shows Capitol City Cage Bird Club (Region 6 Show Host) Placer County Fairgrounds Roseville, CA Judge: pending</p>
<p>OCT 6 Fair CSRA Exotic Bird Assoc. Julian Smith Casino Augusta, GA</p>	<p>OCT 19-21 Show Int'l Canary Society Lockport Best Western Lockport, NY Judge: pending</p>	<p>OCT 27 Show Canary & Finch Society League City Civic Center 400 West Walker League City, TX Judge: Steve Hoppin</p>
<p>OCT 6 Show Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club TN State Fairgrounds Nashville, TN Judge: Paul Williams</p>	<p>OCT 20 Show Baltimore Bird Fanciers (Region 1 Show Host) 61st Annual Show Tall Cedars of Lebanon Hall Old Harford Road and Putty Hill Avenue Parkville, Maryland 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Judge: Jackie Civitarese</p>	<p>OCT 27 Show Central California Cage Bird Club SOS Club Modesto, CA Judge: pending</p>
<p>OCT 6-7 Shows Aviary and Cage Bird Society of South Florida War Memorial Auditorium 800 NE 8th Street Ft. Lauderdale, FL Judge: Dale Laird (Day 1), pending (Day 2)</p>	<p>OCT 20 Show Fort Worth Bird Club Grapevine Conv. Center Grapevine, TX Judge: Tom Rood</p>	<p>OCT 27 Show Motor City Bird Breeders Italian-American Community Cultural Center 28111 Imperial Drive Warren, MI 48092 Judge: Conrad Meinert</p>
<p>OCT 6-7 Shows—Great American Bird Show Hosted by MidAmerica Cage Bird Society Hotel Ft. Des Moines Des Moines, IA Judge: Paul Williams (Day 1), Miki Sparzak (Day 2)</p>	<p>OCT 20 Show Great Lakes Avicultural Society Rockford North Middle School Rockford, MI Judge: Paul Williams</p>	<p>OCT 27-28 Show Society of Canary and Finch Breeders Livonia, MI Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau</p>
<p>OCT 20 Show New York Finch and Type Canary Club St. Judes Church</p>	<p>OCT 20 Show New York Finch and Type Canary Club St. Judes Church</p>	<p>Continued—next page</p>

Shows and Events - Continued	Eureka, MO Judge: Martha Wigmore	NOV 23-25 Show Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club Wilcox HS Santa Clara, CA Judge: Bill Parlee
OCT 27 Show Badger Canary and Finch Club, Oshkosh, WI Judge: Cecil Gunby	NOV 3 Show Texas Bird Breeders (Region 4 Show Host) Mayborn Conv. Center Temple, TX Judge: Armando Lee	NOV 24 Show National Institute of Red Orange Canaries Holiday Inn 1000 Busse Road Elk Grove, IL Judge: Charlie Anchor
NOV 3 Show Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club Tinley Park Holiday Inn Tinley Park, IL Judge: Patrick Vance	NOV 3-4 Show Georgia Caged Bird Society Jim Miller Park Marietta, GA Judge: Dale Laird	DEC 1 Show Cajun Canary Club Quality Hotel and Conference Center Metairie, LA Judge: pending
NOV 3 Show Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society, Inc. Monroeville, PA Judge: Al Decoteau	NOV 15-17 NCBS Hosted by Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society Holiday Inn—The Center Manchester, NH Judge: Martha Wigmore	END
NOV 3 Show Missouri Cage Bird Assoc. Days Inn		

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Steve Poe
706-790-5262
stevepoe2@home.com

Liaison Officer Ginny Allen reports that Pat Miller, Georgia Caged Bird Society delegate, has designed a new Show Secretary Form that matches the 1998 NFSS Finch and Softbill Classifications and makes the job of show secretary easier. These are available to any affiliated club by email and can be reproduced for show catalogs, classification sheets, and show records. Email is gndallen@earthlink.net

2001 NFSS AWARDS

Mail to: Darla Dandre, P.O. Box 1231, Lisle, IL 60532-7231
 Phone: (630) 671-1143, Email: dbirdranch@aol.com

This information must reach the Awards Manager at least two months BEFORE show date. Awards are sent Priority Mail to the designated person.

PLAQUES All plaques are \$25 each. They are walnut finish with the engraved NFSS logo on brass over black plate on the left and the club information on brass over black plate on the right. All are 6x8.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ Best in Show | _____ Best in Show Softbill |
| _____ 2d Best in Show | _____ Service/Breeder Award |
| _____ 3d Best in Show | |

ROSETTES The basic set of rosettes for finches and softbills consists of ten rosettes with the NFSS logo on the button. One Best Unflighted rosette is also included. Unflighted birds are those banded with current year (2001) bands.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| _____ Basic Rosette Package (1-10 plus Best Unflighted) | \$45.00 |
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Show/Event Location _____

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TAKE NOTE!
 We've added a new judge this month. Congratulations to **Annette Howard!**

Changing your address?

Allow NFSS to be the first to greet you at your new home!

Be sure to notify:

Club Delegates also notify:

NFSS Membership Director
 Eileen Laird
 P.O. Box 2459
 Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459

NFSS Liaison Officer
 Dianna Rubly
 525 Pottsville Street, PO Box 52
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Name: _____
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The basic affiliation fee is \$25.00. Make check payable to NFSS.

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*Phone: _____ *Email: _____

Club Email Contact (Important): _____

Club Web Site _____

Show/Event Date: _____ Panel Judge: _____

Show Location: _____

Send NFSS Bulletin to: _____

Please list other fairs or events hosted by your club for listing in the Bulletin. Please include dates, locations, and a contact member with phone number and/or email address: _____

**The National Finch and Soffbill Society
Guide to Ordering NFSS Closed Leg Bands**

Size A: Gold-breasted Waxbill, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Owl Finch (Bicheno), Quail Finch, Red-eared Waxbill, Strawberry Finch, and other small waxbills.

Size B: Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cordon Bleu, Cuban Melodious Finch, Fire Finch, Olive Finch, Rufous-backed Mannikin.

Size C: B&W Mannikin, Blue-capped Waxbill, Bronze-winged Mannikin, Cherry Finch, Green Singing Finch, Grey Singing Finch, Heck's Shaftail, Lavender Finch, Painted Finch, Pileated Finch, Pytilias, Red-headed Parrot Finch, Shaftail Finch, Silverbills, Star Finch.

Size D: Blue-faced Parrot Finch, Chestnut-breasted Finch, Lady Gouldian Finch, most smaller mannikins, most other parrot finches, Pictorella Finch, Pintailed Nonpareil, most twinspots, Yellow-rumped Finch, Zebra Finch.

Size E: Black-crested Finch, Diamond Sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspot, Siskins, Society Finch (Bengalese), Spice Finch.

Size G: Magpie Mannikin, most larger mannikins, small tanagers.

Size J: European Goldfinch, Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias, most small softbills.

Size K: Java Rice Birds, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Shama Thrush.

Size L: Diamond Dove, other small doves, Quail, softbills.

Size M: Leaf Birds, Pagoda Mynah, large sunbirds.

Size R: Green/Purple Starlings, Superb Starlings.

Size S: Indian Hill Mynah, Java Mynah, Ring-necked Dove, Toucanettes, White-tailed Jay.

Size T: small hornbills, Plush-capped Jay, small toucans, small touracos.

Banding instructions included with each order

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Write "New" for membership number on the order form. Orders processed weekly as received. Please, no mail requiring signatures. **\$1.00 handling fee effective 3/1/99.**

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Video: Finch Husbandry	Add #3.20 S&H	\$25
Video: The Wonderful World of Finches & Solt- bills: An Introduction	Members/Affiliates Non-Members	\$17 \$22
NFSS T-shirt, 10 colorful Finches in Stalks of Grass. White Only, 50/50 Blend	Indicate size, M, L, XL, XXL	\$18
NFSS Judges Handbook and Official Standards	NEW AND AT A LOWER PRICE!	\$10
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1998 NFSS Handbook Membership Yearbook		\$4
Past Bulletins, 1994 and later		\$4
Past Bulletins, 1993 and older		\$3
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