



NATIONAL FINCH & SOFTBILL SOCIETY

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THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY



RED SISKIN UPDATE

PREPARING CHITTED SEED

NATIONAL BIRD SHOW



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NFSS MISSION STATEMENT

The National Finch and Softbill Society is dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of keeping and breeding Finches and Softbills to all interested parties, enhancing our knowledge of the proper care of these birds, encouraging breeding programs, and working with other organizations for the preservation of aviculture in this country.

Journal of the National Finch and Softbill Society
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Submitting Materials for Publication. All materials should be submitted to the editor, at editor@nfss.org. NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all written, photographic, and advertising materials submitted. With the exception of advertising, deadlines are the 15th day of December, March, June, and September for the following issue.

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Journal and NFSS Dues. New memberships and late renewals (expired memberships) received by the 15th day of any month immediately preceding an NFSS Journal issue will receive four consecutive issues, beginning with the issue for the quarter immediately after they joined. For dues received after these cutoff dates, the first issue will be one issue later. Cutoff dates to receive the next published issues are as follows: the 15th day of December, March, June and September. If a member's dues remain unpaid beyond the twelve month membership period, said membership shall cease. Should a member's membership cease and be renewed at a later date, the membership shall begin at that payment date. To retain the membership number and related data, said membership must be renewed within (60) sixty days of expiration.

Members Only Password — EggFood
www.nfss.org/members-only



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rebecca Mikel

And JUST like that — it's 2020!

Another year gone, another National Bird Show complete, another NFSS General Election behind us. But each of them are in front of us too – no time like the present to start thinking about all of them.

Animal Rights Legislation, under the veil of “Animal Welfare” isn't going away and we need to be ever mindful of current proposed legislation. Be an active participant in contacting your local representatives, Senators, etc., Let them know how you feel – share your knowledge with them as they prepare to discuss and vote on important legislation in your state. We can all name at least one species whose survival and possible reintroduction to the wild is because of the efforts of local zoos, yet they continue to be targets of these groups also. This membership has a wealth of knowledge and we know that some of the rarer species of birds we keep and breed in captivity are an important part of overall species preservation. Please plan on participating in the NFSS Census – documenting our successes in the bird room illuminates our dedication to captive breeding programs of rarer species of birds. In most every case, we aren't just buying birds and putting them in cages to look at . We are diligent in our quest to learn about their natural habitat, required diets, their breeding habits, what they need for successful rearing of young. The NFSS membership is a well informed group when it comes to rare Finches and Softbills – we need to be using that knowledge to help preserve the hobby we all treasure Promoting the hobby and this Society is something each of us could do very well with minimal effort. We'd love to hear about your efforts in your community – these make great Journal articles.

Which brings me to another topic – Journal articles. We are always on the hunt for new articles for our Journal. Anything related to the hobby is appropriate – birds, housing, feeding, products, aviaries. Contact any Board Member if you have an article complete or need assistance finishing one up you've began already.

Don't forget to keep your NFSS Memberships current, support your local shows, bird fairs, and any other avicultural events. It takes all of us to keep forward momentum!

Rebecca Mikel
President

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NFSS Journal Advertising Rates

Premium Ad Positions:

Position/Size	Per Issue	Per Year
Cover Positions—Full (Inside Front, Inside Back, Back):	\$130.00	\$425.00
Centerfold—Full (2 center pages)	\$300.00	\$975.00

Run of Press Ads:

Full Page:	\$108.00	\$359.50
Half Page:	\$75.00	\$249.00
Quarter Page:	\$48.00	\$160.00

Deadlines for Submitting Ads

All ads must be received two months prior to publication

Issue	Due Date	Issue	Due Date
First Quarter	November 1 st	Third Quarter	May 1 st
Second Quarter	February 1 st	Fourth Quarter	August 1 st

For more information, contact the Advertising Manager — advertising@nfss.org

MEMBERSHIP:

Single: 259
DUAL: 27(54)
FOREIGN: 9
JUNIOR: 4
TOTAL: 326

TREASURY

2020 Proposed Budget approved by BOD

CHECKING: \$ 4,775
SAVINGS: \$31,482
TOTAL: \$36,257

Amazon Smile Donations YTD: \$54.69

PG&E matched donations YTD: \$795.00

One "A" level National Avicultural Recognition Award Presented to Lauren Ogburn

15 Current Judges on Judge's Pane;; One candidate scheduled to take test

Reimbursement arrangements made for 2019 NBS NFSS Judge

Lauren Ogburn will assist with Society Silhouette as work on updated Society Standard continues

NFSS will provide a basic package of awards to any new club in their first year of affiliation. If the Show is a "double" show – two awards packages will be provided



Membership Application

Please print clearly Application date ____/____/____ Check # _____

Primary Member First & Last Name _____

Primary Member's Email Address _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Area Code _____ Phone _____ (in case we have questions)

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal, list your NFSS# _____ Dual NFSS # _____

☐ Junior Membership (for children 6-18 years old) Date of Birth ____/____/____

Aviary Name _____

How did you hear about us? _____

☐ Check here if you want us to send you an Advertising Packet or Club Affiliation Packet.

Number of yrs.	Single	Dual	Foreign	Junior
1 ➡	<input type="checkbox"/> 30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 42.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 10.00
3 ➡	<input type="checkbox"/> 85.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 99.00		
5 ➡	<input type="checkbox"/> 140.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 165.00		
Lifetime ➡	<input type="checkbox"/> 600.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1100.00		

Mail with check or money order [U.S. Funds] payable to NFSS

Mail to: Sara Roberts, NFSS Treasurer - 720 Live Oak Lane - Pinole, Ca. 94564 - USA

To retain your membership number and related data, your membership must be renewed within 60 days of expiration.



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THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY *Special Election Ballot*

NFSS Membership Number

This must be included or the ballot will not be counted

Dual members will each have one (1) vote and are allowed to copy this ballot

Ballots must be post-marked **NO LATER THAN September 1, 2020**

MAIL BALLOTS TO:

Rebecca Mikel
13779 US 12 E
Union, MI 49130

ELECTRONIC BALLOT: <http://nfss.org>

Region Vice President 2 (South East)

Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, P Rico, and the Caribbean Basin may vote for this candidate.

☐ Kurt Faudel

Write in Candidate _____

State in which you reside _____

3rd Vice President (Census/Finchsave)

☐ Roland Cristo

Write in Candidate _____

NFSS Census

It's that time of year again! NFSS Census

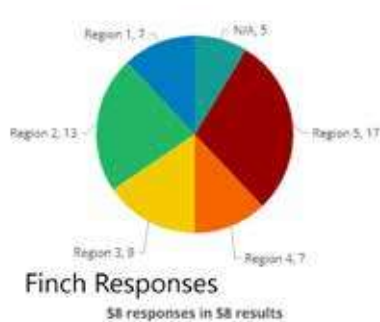
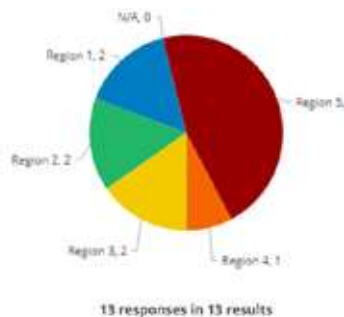
Each year NFSS asks all participate taking the pulse of their birds (members and public) have and breed. Below we have a measureable graph of activity from those who participated

Visit our main page <http://nfss.org> and participate!

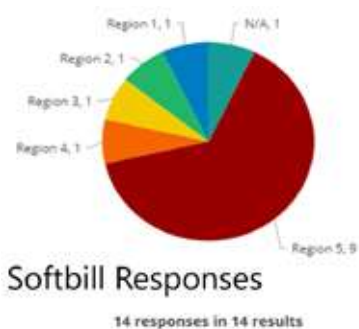
Take a peek at responses NFSS received from members and public this year from each region.

Check it out captured Data reflects Region #5 was our best responders in participation on their breeding success last year!

Can your Region participation beat Region 5 this year?



Dove & Quail Responses



Preparing Chitted Seeds for Your Finches

Lauren Ogburn

Chitted Seed, The Sunbay Way!

Chitted, or sprouted seeds are more nutrient-dense than dry seed, as they are higher in vegetable proteins, vitamins, minerals, enzymes, and chlorophyll. Not just for breeding or young birds, the advantages are year-round, and should be a part of the daily diet.

There are MANY ways to serve your birds chitted seed. None are "wrong". Sharing the way it's done here.

1. put a scoop of seed to chit in a strainer, rinse, and let sit in water overnight.
2. Rinse and hang the seed in step 1 the next day, leave 24 hours.
3. The seed that has been hanging 24 hours should be *just* burst open. If left too long it will grow tendrils, still good, but not as nutritious as just burst open. Rinse well, drain. Feed and watch them devour!

We use "Terri's Sprout Mix" from glamgouldians.com. You can use a good finch mix, (no colored bits) to mix in to stretch it out.

You can purchase the large strainers at World Market, or Amazon. NOTE: some do, but I do not add anything to soak water. Just clean, fresh water.



National Bird Show Photos

Rebecca Mikel



WINNER of the BEST FINCH at the NATIONAL BIRD SHOW and the WILLIAM PARLEE AWARD was a Fawn Shafttail finch owned by Ricky Gastin of Ontario, Canada. In the photo is Sally Huntington NFSS, V.P. and holding the Parlee Award is Ricky Gastin. Congratulations Ricky!



For more information, go to www.ncbs.org

Update on the Red Siskin

Miguel A. Arvelo, DVM, MSc.



We are thrilled to share the most recent news about the Red Siskin Initiative (RSI) during this special time of year. 2019 has been a year of major achievements for the RSI. We have preserved more than 600 acres of tropical dry forest in northern Venezuela, Red Siskin habitat, thanks to the implementation of agroforestry practices (for coffee and bananas in particular), the farmersí certification as US Organic & Smithsonian Bird Friendly, and hand-in-hand collaboration with local communities, all financed by the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and other partners. In July, USFWS, the Smithsonian Institution and American Bird Conservancy gave us the green light for Phase II of

this work, which will expand shade farming even more, start recovering deforested areas, and initiate educational activities for children in the community. The vote of confidence by a major funder to expand our work has been incredibly motivating for us and the farmers partnering with us.

This year we also finished construction on the first Red Siskin Conservation Center (RSCC) in Venezuela, located in a small private zoo, Leslie Pantin Zoo, which is expanding its already large commitment to native wildlife conservation to now include the Red Siskin. RSCC is exclusively for breeding Red Siskins for eventual reintroduction in nature, and will lead education and threat intervention activities as well. And it looks like we finished just in time: Just a few weeks after finishing, we rescued our first set of birds confiscated by wildlife authorities!

To promote a more sustainable use of this bird, we have been collaborating with private breeders, and exchanging ideas and points of view about how to most effectively reduce demand for wild birds, which is a central threat. Together we are exploring best avicultural practices, and listening to ideas about sustainable captive production, culminating in a groundbreaking first meeting with national aviculturists in November.

Given these achievements, our priorities for 2020 include:

- Expanding collaboration with aviculturists to build and implement a new program, "From extraction to protection.†
- Start breeding Red Siskins in RSCC facilities.
- Start planning and design of pre-release conditioning facilities, to prepare for future reintroductions.
- Fund and build a native plant nursery at the RSCC so that rescued and captive bred Red Siskins can prepare for life in the wild by learning to eat wild food sources.

Despite the continuing difficult situation in Venezuela, 2019 has been an amazing year for the Red Siskin, and this has been partly thanks to your contribution to the RSI in past years. We so appreciate your valuable support and so wanted to keep you updated about our progress.

Your financial support has made a huge difference, especially as Venezuela continues to be a place where a little bit goes a long way. The Red Siskin can still use your help though, so any support you can contribute in 2020 will be equally appreciated. To donate, go to www.redsiskin.org/donations/



If you wish to learn more about our work, please visit our recently updated website: www.redsiskin.org.

Please, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, thoughts, or advice! We look forward to hearing from you.

Miguel A. Arvelo, DVM, MSc.
Coordinador Iniciativa Cardenalito, VE/Red Siskin Initiative Coordinator, VE



Breeders meeting November 2019



RSCC facility



RSCC enclosures



Organic Certification visit

NFSS AFFILIATED CLUBS

Affiliate/Awards Director
affiliations@NFSS.org

CALIFORNIA

Finch Society of San Diego County

Meetings: 4th Sunday of each month
Location: Poway Elks Lodge, 13219 Poway Road, Poway, CA
Website: <https://finchsocietyofsandiego.org/>
Email: sdfinchsociety@gmail.com

West Coast Zebra, Society & Gouldian Finch Show – Specialty Club

Meetings: none
Contact: Richard Renshaw - email: rrenshaw@yahoo.com
Website: www.efinch.com/show

CONNECTICUT

East Coast Finch Society

Club Contact: Jose Urritia
Email: jm_jariel@yahoo.com
Phone 631-875-1544

FLORIDA

First Coast Finch & Softbill Society

Meetings: 1st Saturday every 3 months
Club Contact: Lauren Ogburn
Phone: 904-923-7431
Visit us on Facebook!

EVENT 1

Show: First Coast Finch & Softbill Society- October 24th, 2020
Location: The Ramada Gateway Hotel, 7470 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy.
(Highway 27) Kissimmee, Florida 34747
NFSS judge: Armando Lee

EVENT 2

Show: First Coast Finch & Softbill Society -Saturday October 25th, 2020
Location: Clay County Fairgrounds 2493 State Road 16 W, Green Cove Springs, FL
Contact: Lauren Ogburn / Van To
Phone: 904-923-7431
Email: sunbay@comcast.net
Judge: Bob Peers

NFSS AFFILIATED CLUBS

Affiliate/Awards Director
affiliations@NFSS.org

Florida Canary Fanciers

Club email: ariacanaries@gmail.com

Club Website: <https://www.floridacanaryfanciers.club/gallery>

Meetings: 2:30PM July 19, September 20, November 15, 2020

Location: Osceola County Library, West Osceola Branch ,À Multipurpose Room,
305 Campus Street, Celebration, FL 34747

Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club – Founded in 1989

Meetings: 4940 SE Anchor Ave, Stuart, FL.

Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/TCEBC1989/>

Contact: President – Maryann May

Phone: 772-971-2554

Email: tcbirdclub@gmail.com

GEORGIA

Warrenton Summer Classic

Hosted by Georgia Youth Aviculturists

Contact: thomaswilkerson42@outlook.com

ILLINOIS

National Bird Show, Saint Charles, IL

Location: Pheasant Run Resort, 4051 E. Main St, St Charles, IL 60174

Website: <https://www.ncbs.org>

Phone: (630) 584-6300

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Cage Bird Association

Meetings: Vary

Website: <http://www.masscagebird.org/>

Email: goshawk@aol.com

Club Contact: Denise Cabral

NFSS AFFILIATED CLUBS

Affiliate/Awards Director
affiliations@NFSS.org

MICHIGAN

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders of Michigan

Web page: <http://www.scfbmichigan.com>

Meetings: Meetings 3rd wkend of the month at members' homes.

Contact: Mary Tarsitano

Club Contact: mtarsitano@gmail.com

Phone: 586-781-6429

EVENT 1

Show: Annual All Bird Show ,Saturday, October 17th, 2020

Times: General entry Saturday, 7:00am-9:00am, Early entry 10/16 from 5pm-9pm

Register American Singers in advance by contacting (TBD) via email to (TBD).

American Singers MUST be entered no later than 9:00PM Friday evening.

Entry fee of \$4.00 per bird No additional fee after 20 entries

Open to the Public 10:00 am, 4:00 pm, Spectator Entry Fee \$4.00

Finches, Parrots, Canaries, Breeders ~ Silent Auction, Raffle, Concessions

MISSOURI

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month 2pm - 4pm

Location: Coronation of Our Lady Church, 13000 Bennington Ave. - Grandview, MO

Club Email: gkcas@live.com

Contact: Maria Michel

Phone: 816-803-1874

Email: maria-michel@live.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society

Meetings: 7:30 pm – 2nd Monday each month

Location: Villa Crest Retirement Ctr, 276 Hanover Street, Manchester, NH 03103

Email: Prismsdad@aol.com

Website: www.BOAF.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BOAFNewEngland>

NEW JERSEY

Garden State Bird Association

Visit us on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/GardenStateBirdAssociation/>

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Affiliate/Awards Director
affiliations@NFSS.org

NEW YORK

Colorbred Canary Club of New York

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month (Except July, August & Holidays)

Location: Averill Blvd. Park, Elmont, (Long Island), NY 11001

Club Contact: José Zelada 646-872-6258

Email: nycolorbredcanaryclub@gmail.com

Facebook: Colorbred Canary Club of New York

EVENT 1

Show: 21st Annual Colorbred Canary Club of NY, October 3, 2020

Location: St. Jude, Aô's Church, 1696 Canarsie Road, Brooklyn NY 11236

Judges:

Melanin: Ignacio Del Amo

Lipochrome: Jose Manual Yelamos

Types: Paolo Soban

Finches: Nizam Ali

OREGON

Columbia Canary Club

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of most months, Milwaukie Grange

Website: <https://www.columbiacanaryclub.org/>

Facebook: Columbia Canary Club

Location: Milwaukie Granger Hall, 12015 S.E. 22nd Avenue, Milwaukie, OR

Contact: Nina Rapp / President

Phone: 503-663-7277

Email: chucknina@therapps.net

Email: sfoote@xpressdata.net

Phone: 503-310-3133

TEXAS

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association

Club Email: texasbirdbreeders.org

Contact: Cheryl Beard Burns

Phone: 817-572-6262

Email: royceandbarbirwin1973@netzero.com

Social Media: Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association on Facebook

NFSS AFFILIATED CLUBS

Affiliate/Awards Director
affiliations@NFSS.org

TEXAS

Canary and Finch Society of Houston

Club Meeting: Sheraton North Houston Hotel, Every 2nd Sunday
15700 JFK Blvd., Houston TX 77032
Club Contact: Ray Terrazas

WASHINGTON

Lory League

No meetings. We are a paper club
Social Media: yahoo group and a facebook page
Website: www.loryleague.org
Contact: Julie Corwin 206-501-7428

PUERTO RICO

Asociacion de Criadores de Finches del Estec, Inc.

Meetings: Wednesdays 7 to 9pm
Location: Lus Catalina Mall, Food Court, Caguas P.R.
Website: Asociacion Criadores de Finches
www.facebook.com/2159842354029671
Email: alannis02@yahoo.com



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Web: <https://skipio.biz/home/shop>



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For those of you who do not know about Amazon Smile, or who have not signed up, It operates in exactly the same way that Amazon does and at all the same prices. All you have to do is type in Amazon Smile and sign in and designate NFSS as the charity you wish to be given credit for the purchase. For all purchases made by those that have designated us, .05% will be paid to us every quarter. This is a form of revenue that we wish to take full advantage of.

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4th Vice President - Judges Panel/Standards/Research
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Phone 845-518-5406 • Email: Judgespanel@nfss.org

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South Ozone Park, NY 11420
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redfish1950@yahoo.com

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Become an NFSS Judge
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LEG BAND ORDER FORM - Prices effective January 2, 2020

► SPLIT PLASTIC BANDS — \$3.00 per string of 10 bands — Indicate quantity / color below										
XB (4.1mm):					X3 (4.5)			TOTAL:		
Check our website for updated availability, sizes, colors and new products. All size recommendations found on-line http://nfss.org/band-size-charts/										
► E-Z KIT SMALL — (2.0mm): 24 bands per kit/8 colors — \$6.50 ea.										
► E-Z RINGS SMALL — Indicate you Quantity/Prices: 10 /\$1.65 — 25/\$3.25 — 50 /\$6.50										
Red	Blue	Orange	Green	Purple	Yellow	Black	White			
► E-Z KIT MEDIUM — (3.0mm): 24 bands per kit/8 colors — \$6.50 each										
► E-Z KIT LARGE — (4.5mm): 20 bands per kit/5 colors — \$6.50 each										
► RING COLLECTOR — Size 7" X 2.5" - \$4.00 each										
► BAND CUTTER — \$30.00 each										
ALUMINUM BAND SIZES MEMBERS ONLY BELOW:								TOP SUBTOTAL:		
Size A (2.1mm): Gold-breasted Waxbill, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Owl Finch, Red-eared and Strawberry Waxbill. Size B (2.4mm): Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cordon Bleu, Cuban Melodious Finch, Fire Finch, Olive Finch, Rufus-backed Mannikin and Timor Zebra Finch. Size C (2.6mm): Cutthroat, Heck & Shaftail Finch, Purple Grenadier, Violet-eared and Blue-capped Waxbills, Cherry Finch, B&W and Bronze-winged Mannikin, Painted Finch, Pileated Finch, Green/Grey Singing Finch, Pytilia, Red-headed and Forbes Parrot Finch, Silverbill, Star Finch, Crimson Seed Cracker, Red Siskin, Cutthroat Finch and Lemon Breasted Canary. Size D (2.7mm): Society (American), Blue-faced/Peals Parrot Finches, Red Headed Finch, Gouldian Finch, Chestnut-breasted and most Mannikins, Pintailed Nonpareil, most Twinspots and American Zebra Finch. Size E (2.8mm): Society (Euro), Black-crested Finch, Diamond Sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspot, Spice finch, European Goldfinch, European Zebra Finch and Canary (Gloster, Pfiere). Size G (3.2mm): Magpie Mannikins, Siberian Goldfinch, small Tanagers and Canary (Border, Roller, Red Factor and Lizard). Size J (3.3mm): Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias, small Softbills and Canary (Yorkshire, Norwich, Crested and Frill). Size K (3.5mm): Java Rice birds, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch and Shama Thrush. Size L (4.2mm): Diamond Dove, Mousebird, small Dove and Quail. Size M (4.5mm): Leaf Birds, Pagoda Mynah, Large Sunbirds and Superb Starlings.										
► CLOSED ALUMINUM BANDS - Indicate quantity / color below. \$5.00 per string of 10 bands										
A	B	C	D	E	G	J	K	L	M	TOTAL:
*HANDLING FEE: MUST be included in all orders. ** Outside USA orders add \$ 5.00										
Under \$ 20.00		\$6.00		\$ 41.00 — \$60.00		\$10.00		TOP SUBTOTAL		
\$21.00 — \$40.00		\$8.00		\$ 60.00 — \$ 100.00		\$12.00		BAND SUBTOTAL		
USPS TRACKING included in all orders!								*HANDLING FEE		
*** Optional USPS INSURANCE (US Domestic only)								**OUTSIDE US		
\$ 00.01 — \$ 50.00		\$ 2.20		\$101.00 — \$ 200.00		\$ 3.50		***INSURANCE		
\$ 50.01 — \$ 100.00		\$ 2.75		\$ 200.01 — \$ 300.00		\$ 4.60		TOTAL		

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The EuroCage™ is based on a design used by many European bird breeders. The cages can be used singly or in stacks of three high, covering an entire wall or room. The cages are light, sturdy, have powder-coated fronts and durable white plastic sides. These opaque sides are an important part of successful breeding; they separate the pairs so they can hear each other without seeing each other. Each unit can be equipped with a fluorescent light to show the birds to their best advantage. Nestboxes can be placed on a platform inside the cages which assures that banks of cages can be neatly fitted together. The design of the cage allows for maximum hygiene with minimum effort, and the high quality aluminum tubing is designed for a lifetime investment. Any questions...

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