



# Finch and Softbill Save (FSS)

A Conservation Program Established by the  
National Finch and Softbill Society

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Most finch and softbill species are not bred enough in the US and Canada, leading to a decline in the number of individual birds and bird species available today. A number of factors have contributed to this decline, including import restrictions, lack of motivation to breed these species, and difficulty finding other breeders with whom we can exchange bloodlines. Finch and Softbill Save strives to increase the number of captive-bred birds by sharing information that may lead to improved breeding success and by providing a way for breeders to work cooperatively.

## NEW – Finch and Softbill Save is Going Online!

Finch and Softbill Save is taking advantage of the web to make it easier to fulfill the program requirements and to improve our ability to analyze the data reported by participants. A web-based application is being developed that will allow participants to record their breeding results online along with observations about the environment and conditions that led to those results. The program will include the following features:

- **Annual reporting routines** will evaluate the data reported by participants and tally the statistics provided for each species. Such analyses offer a snapshot of the state of aviculture for each species and can lead to species profiles to assist our breeding efforts.
- **A studbook** will maintain the documented ancestral history of all birds in the program, providing pedigrees and tools to help ensure genetic diversity.
- Breeders of rare species can easily **network to exchange bloodlines** and expand flocks, without sacrificing each participant's **control over private information**.

## We Need You!

No conservation effort, no matter how well conceived and well designed, can succeed without participation from the avicultural community. You can help by joining FSS and sharing your results. All species of finches and softbills that can be legally kept in captivity in the US and Canada are included except zebra finches, society finches, gouldian finches, and java rice finches, which are already well-established. There is no fee to join, but you must be a member of the National Finch and Softbill Society.

## How to Join:

**NFSS:** Visit the NFSS website at [www.nfss.org](http://www.nfss.org).

**FSS:** Ensure your NFSS membership is current and join the Finch and Softbill Save Yahoo! group at: [http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/Finch\\_SoftbillSave/](http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/Finch_SoftbillSave/). Software development has just begun, but progress reports will be made to the Finch and Softbill Save Yahoo! group.

## For more information, contact:

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