

The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 13, No.4



National Finch & Softbill Society

July—August 1996



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Publisher

The National Finch and Softbill Society

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Thank you to you all!

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*: 2/01, 4/01, 6/01, 8/01, 10/01, 12/01. Question? Just call!

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In this issue:

The 1995 annual census is in! A very big thank you Stephen Hoppin, Census Manager, for all the hard work in compiling this years census information. I know Steve did an excellent job in including any late arrivals of census forms. But if yours is not include in the results, contact Steve or myself. I was planning to have an article in "Your Bird's Health" by Ron Castaner, but he just sent in a wonderful article on getting your birds ready for the show season. Instead we have a very intriguing article for "Your Bird's Health", about the weather and its affect on your birds breeding.

We also have another great article from Mr. Roche on another fascinating European Finch. Several issues ago a member wrote in to "Flocking Together" concerning information on Fire Finches. There was an excellent article on Fire Finches in the *Finch News*, the newsletter of the Queensland Finch Society, from Australia, so the article is reprinted here for our membership to enjoy.

In the beginning of June, my wife went into premature labor. she was 7 months pregnant. She was Hospitalized for 3 weeks before giving birth to our son. Because he was premature he needed to stay in the hospital for 4 weeks. About the time this started, my fax went to war with my answering machine, so neither one worked. Pointing to the story: is if you tried to contact me without success, my apologizes. I have a new answering machine and hope the war is over, so please try me again.

Thanks - Robert

Deadline for the next issue is
July 1st.

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Cover and Illustration Credits

All illustrations done by
Angela Petrie

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From the Editor's Desk...



While doing the daily hosing of my Hanging Parrot flights. I began thinking of last month's excellent report on the Waxbill Survey. I wondered to myself, what exactly is a waxbill. This commonly used term, waxbill, is not a taxonomic grouping, that is, a category used to classify birds scientifically by genetics. The birds we call waxbills are related though. The authors of the Waxbill Survey report did do an excellent job of defining what they considered waxbills.

That all seems clear, but how about Softbill. A word used in the very name of our Society. People new to aviculture ask all the time "Is that a species of softbill?" The name is misleading. I remember the first time I grabbed a Barbet, a softbill, and it grabbed me back with its beak. I instantly realized that softbill did not mean the bird had a soft-bill. I screamed like a little girl when that barbet crunched down on my bare fingers!

There was a bird named Reggie, that I once worked with. Reggie was a hand-fed Black-billed Magpie. Very intelligent and supposedly tame. One of Reggie's favorite tricks was to lure you into his

aviary, then pounce on your head and do a Woody Woodpecker imitation. Let me tell you, if Reggie ever woody woodpeckered your head you'd definitely argue that he was no softbill.

The name softbill was actually concocted from the soft foods some birds ate. Because these birds were fed, housed and managed similarly, they all got the name softbill. The name has no scientific definition and softbill birds come from many different Orders. Different softbills can be as different to each other as you and I are to Whales and Aardvarks.

One result of the soft food diet is soft droppings. Although with most of these birds, dropping is an inappropriate name. Squirts are more like it. These birds seem capable of defying gravity at times. With most softbill diets being high in carbohydrates, these birds make me think of them as hyper-active children with loaded squirt guns.

So as I am hosing my Hanging Parrot flights, I'm wondering, "Are these little guys softbills?" I know they are a type of hookbill, but with their soft food diet they could easily challenge most softbills to a horizontal squirting contest.

Either way we consider the Hanging Parrots, the birds we call softbills are still one of the most diverse and interesting group of animals there is!

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Flocking Together...



This issue's letter is not so much a question or answer, but is rather a commentary to the membership and I feel it fits in Flocking Together.



A Case to Continue the Unflighted Bird Award

If I had been a bird in another life, my personality tells me I was likely a Zebra Finch. I am sociable and as some of you know I tend to be chatty. I admit to being extremely curious: I love to do frequent nest checks, pretty much as any Zebra Finch might do, and most of all, I like to be part of a "flock", in this case, a flock of people who give the world the best birds possible.

So what do Zebra traits and "flocks" have to do with maintaining the awards for "Best Unflighted"? The unflighted award can appear insignificant until we examine its basic role in accomplishing several primary goals of exhibiting and breeding. During a regular show, even if an unflighted entry doesn't challenge the vividly colored, full feathered mature department of older birds, other important things happen. The young bird, with its new close-band is acclimating to future stresses: the travel, noise, confusion, strange bird-calls, "seedy" hotel rooms and other familiarizing rigors of a show. At the show, the specific category of the young class distinguishes close-banded from all others. It is an additional recognition for the time spent banding the week old hatchlings. As *unflighted* they are singled out not only for the judging, but unofficially by other breeders who critically examine and assess these youngsters. This open sharing of priceless experiences brings us *one of the best aspects of bird raising*. Clarity comes from a breeding suggestion from someone who has been-there, done-that, a genetic question is validated, a feeding pointer is offered for a specific color or condition weakness, someone says something that makes sense about a problem you have had. This is bird breeding at its best, and it centers around the unflighted category.

Flocking Together Con't...

Further, close-banding of birds is still one of the least expensive ways to verify the bird's identity, and thus permit accumulation of points toward championship. Still further, the *unflighted* award (young class) is the only aspect of Finch Showing which requires the bird be close-banded (as proof it is this year's bird). This early close-banding begins the easiest system of truly tracking whether that Orange-breasted cock (NFS D0709-94) and a particular hen (NFS D0113-93) predictably produce strong birds. Birds we'd be proud to ship cross-country upon request of an enthused fellow breeder. The unflighted award is motivation for beginners and the seasoned breeder to continue close-banding their birds. Oh yes, it also helps take some of the embarrassment away when the unflighted newcomer, you've worked so hard on, puts its head-under-wing and shivers, hides on the bottom of the cage, squats awkwardly on the perch, or beats himself silly when the judge gazes into the cage. Let's keep the award as it is. Enough now. My Zebras and I have some nest to check.

Respectfully,
Sally Huntington

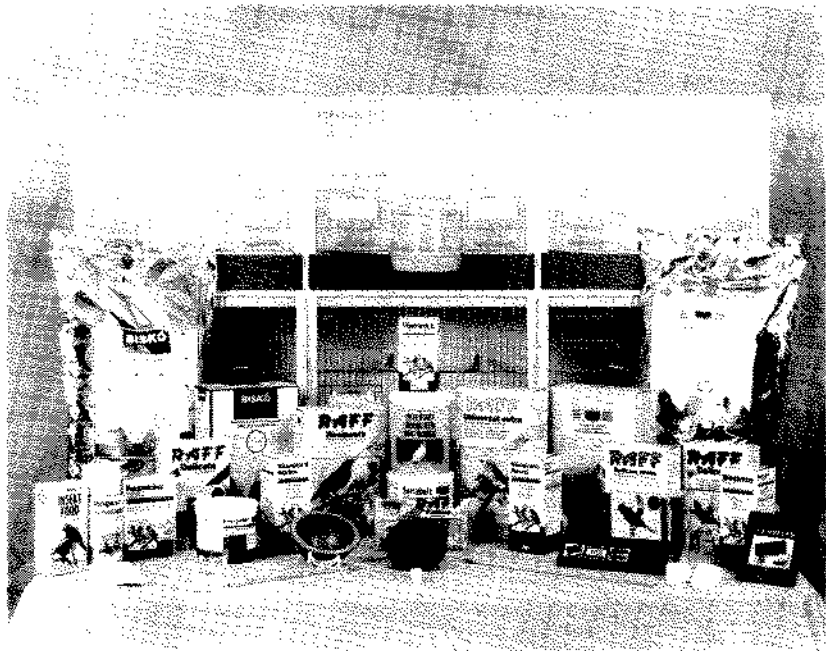
Want to correspond with fellow NFSS members who share your interest in a particular species or who may have met a challenge in their bird room similar to the one you are facing? Use the NFSS **FLOCKING TOGETHER** column to send out to the membership. Mail your request to the Editor, *The NFSS Bulletin*.

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.

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Preparing Birds For Show

by Ron Castaner
West Palm Beach, FL

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*written specially for the: The Aviary
and Cage Bird Soc. of South Florida*

Now is a good time to take a really good look at the birds and select which bird (or birds) you might want to consider entering in a show. Look at the size, color, feathers and disposition of the bird(s). Check their feet for any missing toes or toe nails. put these aside they will not be show quality. Make sure they stand up correctly. high and proud of themselves. Start cleaning their feet with ivermectin. File their beaks if necessary and make sure to bathe them at least twice a week, early in the morning. The diet should be varied, but not too rich in soft foods. Otherwise the birds may become obese or lethargic.

Arrange selected birds separately in order to eliminate the risk of damaged feathers or other possible injuries. You will have to examine the birds daily to see if they are still of show quality. Anything can happen, and probably will. That is why it is best to select several of the same kinds, so you can put back any that should suddenly lose a feather, a toe nail, etc. Using a small spray bottle with an adjustable nozzle (the ones used to mist house plants are great) and distilled water

and spray the birds. Make sure to remove all food containers before spraying. Also, make sure the cage(s) is clean, to avoid the risk of the bird soiling it's plumage. The best time to spray them is the late morning so they have plenty of time to dry off before roosting for the night. As the bird(s) come into show condition spraying is reduced to a fine mist, which is just enough to dampen the feathers. Two days before the show, stop misting all together allowing the feathers to tighten up and the natural oil to build up, adding a sheen and better look of conditioning.

The preparation cage should be relatively small with two perches. Position one on top and one near the cage floor. I use a regular breeding cage, and this seems to work well for me. As the show date gets closer the perches are placed at the same level so the birds become used to the configuration of the show cages. Normally the show cage for the small finches measures fifteen and a half inches long by twelve and a half inches high by seven and a half deep. Bar spacing between front wires is half an inch. For the larger birds in the finch category the cage would of course be larger: say for example, the Pekin Robin.

Show cage training should start early by hanging show cages in front of the preparation cage door and providing treats and greens inside the show cage. this will encourage the bird to enter and they will

soon learn that there is always something special inside the show cage. This method not only has the advantage of making the bird feel at home, but the main idea is the bird can come in and out of the show cage without being caught. This will prevent the risk of damaging the feathers or injury to the bird.

The bird(s) should spend the day before the show in their show cage. They should be moved around the bird room to simulate the movement and the handling that occurs during the show. Also, do not be afraid to go in and out of the bird room. Create traffic and noise so they can get use to people, noise and any other activity. Breeders quickly realize that exhibiting birds requires more than just taking birds from an aviary or stock cage and putting them in a show. To get the best results out of their birds, they must have some training, as to how to behave in show cages. Exhibiting is another aspect of aviculture that helps the breeder improve the standard of the stock, and promote healthy spirit of competition among members of local and nationwide clubs.

The cages must be spotless. The exterior, including the wire fronts are painted with a glossy black and these should shine. The interior is painted with white vinyl silk emulsion and should also have a shine. There should not be any spots or dirt anywhere. The perches are cleaned with sand paper and made sure they fit tight. No wobbly perches, this

makes the bird nervous and they will not perch comfortably. Be sure there are not any water containers inside the cage. Use only external water tubes, glass or plastic. The last thing you want is to have a bird all wet from bathing in the middle of the competition. Also, and I cannot emphasize this enough, **DO NOT USE COLORED SEED IN THE SHOW CAGES. USE PLAIN SEED!!** All it takes is for one colored seed to turn a light colored bird red or green and it could lower its chances in the competition. Seed containers are not normally used as they would tend to slide around when being carried to and from the judging stand. Generally, what everyone does is put a layer of seed on the floor of the show cage. I have found that by putting a paper towel on the bottom, folded to fit and not noticeable, then place the seed on top, it is much easier to clean afterwards. Just be sure to use the plain seed.

It's time to load up for the show. If it is a short distance, you can remove the water tubes just till you get to the show. I personally use storage boxes and put five or six cages to a box. I have seen a lot of other folks use the same method and it is a lot easier than carrying them individually. This also keeps them free from drafts, easier to carry and keeps them from sudden fright. Be sure to bring extra seed, water tubes, and extra water. I bring a whole kit of things I just might need. A large and a small net. I have had birds get

out in our room when transferring them to the show cages. Magnifying glasses, sand paper, tweezers, paper towel, Q tips, first aid kit that contains surgical glue, nail clippers, liquid vitamin B₁₂, Qwik stop, scissors, eye medication, and last but not least a pen and pencil. You do not have to bring all of this, but you would be surprised how many times I have saved someone else's bird or even my own. Accidents will happen, so be prepared.

What are the Judges Looking for:

The judges will be looking for size, shape, conformation, presentation and color, also the general condition plays a part as well as perfect, fully developed plumage. Damaged or missing feathers are considered faults, also are signs of an incomplete molt, no matter how small they are.

Birds must perch in a confident and proud manner. They must also give every impression of being lively and active without fluttering nervously around the cage. Pairs must be chosen so that they complement each other and must be of the same variety. Make sure the bands of all show birds are sparkling clean.

The Night Before the Show

I like to get everything set up the night before the show. Usually there is a room set up so you can pay for the bird registration and get the tags for the cages plus all of the

paper work. The paper work is not very bad, it just depends on the number of birds you intend to show. I bring a reference book on finches, so I have correct spelling, etc. Each bird goes into a category. You are given a booklet of the categories and you just look up your bird and fill in the blanks. Fill out the tag that is pre-numbered with tag numbers. Fill out the type of bird in the cage you are working with, put your name on the bottom of the tag and tie it to the cage. Your name will be concealed so the judges and the galley have no idea whose bird they are looking at. By doing all the paper work the night before the show saves time for everyone and also gives more time for someone who needs help. If there is a question on a bird species or anything else, there is always another club member you can ask.

The Day of the Show:

When you arrive at the show you unload your birds and line them up on a table, return the water bottles to the cages, check over the birds one last time. Any broken feathers, all feathers in place, any seed stuck where it should not? Okay, now the stewards (the handlers for the judge) look over your paper work and make sure the cages and birds match up, and they are correctly labeled. Making sure, for instance, what you called a Shaft-tail is just that and not a Parson's Finch and so on. If everything is correct, you will be given the copy of the

form that is usually yellow. Be sure to hold on to this copy. It will be the only way for you to claim and pick up your birds at the end of the show. After they are all checked in (this procedure is repeated for everyone), the judge takes what is called an over view just to see that each bird is in the right category. After that is completed the show and the judging begins. Hopefully, at the end of the show, all your hard work will have paid off and you will have **BEST IN SHOW**. But if not, please do not be discouraged. There are

other awards equally as important. But best of all, we all love getting together and seeing our friends who in some way have become an extended part of our families. We all come away with a good feeling of accomplishment, and perhaps learning something that can help us in our future shows. You always come away with new friends and a good time is had by one and all. The best of luck to everyone. Please do not be afraid to show your birds. Come be involved with other club members and see you at the show!



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European Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*)

by Tim Roche
Tewksbury, MA



"A little bit of bread and no C-H-E-E-S-E". it is said is what the Yellowhammer is saying as he utters his short song in late spring or early summer. Although not a finch, but a bunting, the Yellowhammer is another of Europe's commonly kept species.

Measuring a slim 6 1/2 inches, the overall initial appearance of the male is of a yellow-suffused chestnut colored bird with white outer tail feathers, which become very conspicuous in flight. The female lacks much of the yellow of the male and it appears to be more streaked.

Being a bird of open farmland and moorland, the Yellowhammer tends to be much too vigorous for cage dwelling, unless you are dealing with a hand-reared specimen. A minimum enclosure of about eight feet long by six feet high by about four feet deep will just about suffice for a pair of birds, but a longer aviary will prove invaluable in breeding these birds.

Before establishing a pair in their quarters, great care should be given to the planting of the area as

Natural Range of the Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*) from *Birds of the World* by Harrison, C. and Greensmith, A.

this will be 50% of the way toward breeding this bird. As many low growing bushes (2-3 ft high), heathers and rough cover should be provided at each end of the aviary. Grass seeds should be scattered underneath the bushes. This will provide a number of natural sites for the birds to choose from, as they generally build in a low gorse covered ditch in the wild.

Yellowhammers, during the resting season, will do well on a seed mixture with a further dish of insectivorous food. They tend to show an affinity for white seeds, so plain canary, millets, wheat, oatmeal and peanut hearts should all be offered.

As they approach breeding condition much high speed chasing of the hen by the cock will be involved. After she has accepted him an untidy nest, of dried grasses and moss leaves and lined with animal hairs will be built amongst the tall grasses at the base of the bushes. The

above is a general rule, but nest sites should be fixed at higher levels, as some birds tend to be skittish about nesting on an aviary floor. Upon completion of the nest, a typical clutch of four eggs will hatch after an incubation period of twelve days.

Vast quantities of livefood will be consumed during this period and large mealworms, waxworms and crickets should be available in abundance if disappointment is to be avoided. Any further insect life retrieved from the wild and fed to the birds will be greatly appreciated. The young leave the nest at a little over two weeks of

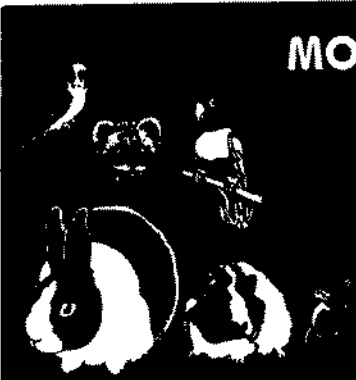
age and are completely self-supporting about 3 weeks later.

Yellowhammers are generally double brooders, unless the second nest is removed for fostering or hand-rearing in which case a further

nest maybe attempted. Until now these birds have been as common in US Aviculture as rainy days in the Sahara. Fortunately they, and other European species, are now

being made available through Penguin International. whose advertisement appears in the classified section at the rear of this journal.

...large mealworms, waxworms, and crickets should be available in abundance if disappointment is to be avoided.



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by *Kenneth S. Karsten, PH.D.*
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As a hobbyist breeder of Gouldian finches the varying behavior of my birds often puzzles me. Their productivity changes from one season to the next. Friends often make the same observations about their birds. Some veterinarians will say that it's the weather. Recently, the veterinarians I know say it's the barometric pressure and one said, "We have had such cold weather this winter and that means high barometric pressure."

I keep my birds indoors and the temperature varies only a few degrees each day year around. Air conditioning system cools their room in hot weather and it is heated in cold weather. Humidity probably varies little, with perhaps drier air during the heating season. Lighting changes little with daylight type fluorescent lighting provided about 12 hours per day. What factors are not controllable by the bird owner? Barometric pressure has to be one of them.

Alex L. A. Middleton of the University of Guelph, Department of

Zoology recently published an article on the sensitivity of birds to environmental factors that influence their behaviors. This article appeared on the Internet as a service by The Canadian Medical Meteorological Network. The factors he list follow.

Light - Daylength stimulates breeding cycles, schedules molt and initiates migration.

Sun and Stars - Help birds in their migration. Birds can tell the difference between spring and autumn skies.

Polarized and Ultra Violet Light - Birds use these for navigation and sight.

Sound - Avian hearing may include ranges different from that of humans.

Magnetism - Awareness of minute changes in earth's magnetic fields is important in bird migration.

Barometric Pressure - Sensitivity by birds to changes in barometric pressure may be important in migration and stimulation to feed before storms.

Olfaction - Avian sense of smell may be important in some bird navigation and in finding food.

Rainfall - Daylength and other factors in the tropics may be relatively constant during the year. Wet and dry seasons tend to control the life cycles of birds there.

Breeders can control the indoor environment for cage birds reasonably well. That may be why Mr. Middleton did not mention temperature as a factor. Indoors, the temperature can remain relatively constant within a range of a few degrees. Birds may also be sensitive to changes in feed and feeding schedules. I supply food and water on a routine schedule.

My bird room has one window facing south and I feel certain that my birds sense time of day and seasons to some extent by seeing out. They may also sense the quality of light throughout the year, even though most of my birds are not in direct sunlight.

One obvious factor of the indoor environment over which we have no control is barometric pressure, the pressure of the atmosphere. The pressure is higher in clear weather and this winter in Florida we have had more clear cold weather than in many previous years. This appears to be one of the main

uncontrolled factors in aviculture. We know that it is highly variable but we do not know how or why it may influence the breeding cycle. One thing is certain and that is that weather including barometric pressure is a factor. We can control nearly everything about the weather in the indoor environment of aviculture except barometric pressure.

Meteorologists measure atmospheric pressure by use of a barometer and thus call it barometric pressure. It measures the pressure of the atmosphere. When you suck liquid up through a straw you create a lowered pressure in your mouth and the atmospheric pressure pushes the liquid up through the straw. When you push a rubber suction

We can control everything about the weather in the indoor environment of aviculture except barometric pressure.

cup onto a smooth surface you push the air and you release the cup atmospheric pressure holds it in place.

Atmospheric pressure is measured in terms of millimeters of mercury. Air pressure pushes the mercury up a vacuum tube about 760 mm (29.2 inches). If you used water instead of mercury you would need a tube about 34 feet tall. The force of gravity holds the atmosphere to the surface of the earth. A column of air 5 miles high would exert a pressure

of about 14.7 pounds per square inch.

Weather maps usually list barometric pressure in millibars (mb). $1013.25 \text{ m} = 29.92 \text{ in. mercury}$. The letter "H" on weather maps indicates a high pressure area. This only shows high pressure areas compared to adjacent lower pressure areas on the surface of the earth.

There is a pattern in the weather. Low pressure areas pass

over followed by high pressure. What factors affect Birds? Could it be that continuous high pressure inhibits reproduction? Or is it the lack of frequent change from high pressure to low and back to high pressure again? Consider the bird and its relationship with the air. With all its air sacs birds are more sensitive to air quality than humans. So, is it barometric pressure or some other factor in reproduction?

Did You Know?

A Peacock is a male Peafowl. The female is called a Peahen and a chick a Peachick. The males long tail feathers are his back feathers, not his tail feathers. His tail feathers are short strong feathers used to hold his long back feathers up, during his courtship dance.

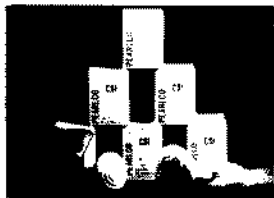
There are three species of Peafowl. The Indian Blue Peafowl is the well known species and originates in India. The Green Peafowl looks similar to the Indian Blue and it can be found in the forest of Southeast Asia. The third species exist in the rainforest of Africa and is called the Congo Peafowl.

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The African Fire Finch

(*Lagonosticta senegala*)

By Jim Pearson

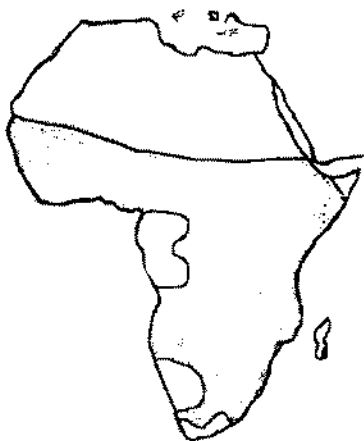
This article appeared in "Finch News" the official publication of The Queensland Finch Society Inc. February 1996.

The African Fire Finch (*Lagonosticta senegala*) is one of the smaller finches, being about 10cm in length and weighing approximately 8.5 grams. It is quite widespread on the African continent south of the Sahara desert, living in a natural habitat of bushy savanna or Acacia scrub. It does not inhabit the wetter or more densely vegetated areas, but is apparently never far from surface water.

There are nine sub-species that, as the name suggests, originate from West Africa, in or around the country of Senegal. The birds that we in South Australia call the African Fire Finch or just plain Fire Finch, are known in some parts of Australia as Ruddy, Little Ruddy Waxbill, Red-billed Fire Finch, Common Fire Finch or Senegal Fire Finch.

Description

Fire Finches are sexually dimorphic. That is, the male and female are differently coloured, thus making them very easy to sex. The



Natural Range of the African Fire Finch (*Lagonosticta senegala*). taken from *Finches & Sparrows: An Identification Guide*, by Clement, P., Harris, A., and Davis, J.

male is a very handsome little bird. His head, breast and upper belly are red with small white spots on each side of the body. The under belly is a light brown colour. The back and wings are brown with darker shades extending into the flight feathers. The tail is dark brown to black with tinges of red on the outer feathers. The rump and upper tail coverts are also red. Legs and beak are light coloured with the fore part of the beak and feet showing red. A very definite yellow eye ring surrounds a dark brown eye.

The female is an attractive light brown colour with dark brown in the flight feathers and brown to black in the tail. She has a lighter coloured under belly with a few tinges of red around the head (mainly above the eyes) and on the rump and tail.

more obvious white spots than on the male decorate both sides of her body. Legs and beak are a light colour, with red on the fore part of the beak. The female also has a yellow eye ring, but this is not as obvious against her light brown head as the male's eye ring.

Newly fledged juveniles are very small with a stumpy tail and often with down feathers protruding from the head and back. In colour they are similar to the adult female without the red colours or white side spots. Young grow quickly and colour up at an early age. Both sexes, but possibly more so the females, begin to show white side spots within six to eight weeks of fledging. At about this age the males begin to show patches of red around the head and breast. Full adult colours are attained by the female at about three to four months of age.

At this age the male is almost fully coloured, but the red on his head and breast usually has small patches of brown that persist for another couple of months.

Housing and Compatibility

Fires can be housed in just about any size cage or aviary. However, I feel they are best housed in a reasonable sized aviary with some cover in the form of shrubs, grass and dry brush. A couple of cleared floor areas (preferably earth) are also beneficial, especially if one or more of these receives sunshine during

winter. Fires spend quite a bit of time on the ground. They seem to enjoy picking over freshly turned earth or eating dry seeds or green seed heads scattered on the aviary floor. They also seem to enjoy congregating in a sunny, sheltered spot on the ground, particularly during cooler weather.

I have had good success with Fires in planted aviaries with earth floors measuring 5.4 x 3 metres of which 1.8 metres is covered (insulated) shelter, the remainder being open flight. I have also had success in an aviary with a sand covered cement floor measuring 3.6 x 2.1 metres. This aviary has shrubs and grasses planted in tubs and dry brush in shelter area.

Fires are very docile birds. They can be housed as pairs or colonies with almost any other finches in a mixed aviary. I once tried them briefly with Crimsons (*Neochmia phaeon*) but the Crimsons began to show aggression toward the Fires so I separated them. Although a single pair of Fires in a mixed aviary will breed, small colonies of three to five pairs seem to enjoy each others presence, they have the opportunity to choose their own mates and stimulate each other to breed. An unrelated male and female, preferably about the same age, put together as a pair will generally be compatible and breed if conditions are suitable. Single birds are probably best removed from mixed breeding aviaries, because Fires have been known to

hybridize with other species of finch if a mate of their own kind was not present.

Although they are docile, Fires will chase other birds away from their nest, especially after young have hatched.

Breeding

Unfortunately Fire Finches are not long lived. Their life expectancy in captivity is generally about 4 years, although some survive longer. They will breed from six months of age up to about four years of age. However, their most productive breeding is from about twelve months up to three years old. They breed at any time during the year when conditions are suitable i.e., if nesting facilities and materials are available and a nutritious diet is provided.

The male's courtship display usually involves the carrying of a white feather whilst he approaches his mate with a few bobs and bows. It is not an elaborate courtship display, nor does it include a courtship song like some other finches.

Fires build nest in dry brush, shrubs or grasses from close to ground level (e.g., 20 cm from the ground in Johnson grass or low dense bushes) up to about 1.5 metres from the ground. They will also build in small receptacles such as wicker basket, cardboard roll nest (from carpet rolls), wire mesh

cylinders or wooden nest boxes. They often choose a secluded site for their nest and will re-use nest for a subsequent brood. This should be discouraged by removing used nests because these may harbor mites or other little beasts that may be detrimental to a subsequent clutch. Young Fires do not return to their nest after fledging, so used nests can be removed immediately after fledging.

Their preferred nest construction material is fine grass (e.g. swamp grass or fine couch), but they will also use coconut fibre and shredded hessian. They line their small dome shaped nest with white feathers and usually have a feather across the entrance which prevents viewing into the nest. This means the only way to know what is going on is to poke a finger into the nest, but this not advised. Fires do not construct a roosting nest, so nest building is a sign that breeding is about to commence.

Three or four small white oval shaped eggs are normally laid. These are incubated by both parents for about 12-13 days. Both parents feed the young who fledge at around 18 days of age. As previously stated, young develop quickly and become independent of their parents at about 10-12 days out of the nest. The young do not interfere with subsequent breeding by their parents, so it is not necessary to remove them from the breeding aviary for this reason. In fact, leaving the birds in the

aviary to observe their parents raise a subsequent clutch may even form part of a young bird's education and contribute to it being a better breeder as an adult.

There is often an imbalance in the ratio of male/female Fire Finches bred. In some years there are considerably more males than females bred, whilst in others the ratio is reversed and in some years, the ratio is more balanced. I know no explanation for this, but have certainly experienced it. During 1994, from three pairs of Fires in a colony, I bred about 10 pairs of young (20 birds) and a further 20 or so males! When this imbalance became obvious I put the three breeding pairs into a holding aviary to stop them from producing any more sons. Apparently some breeders had a surplus of females from their 1994 breeding, because I was able to dispose of several of my surplus males to a dealer who had purchased surplus of females from one of his customers. For some unknown reason my Gouldians also produced a surplus of young males during the 1994 season.

Feeding

I feel that feeding is probably the single most important aspect of breeding birds- even more so than providing suitable accommodation and nesting facilities.

I feed the birds in my mixed finch aviaries a basic diet of dry seed. This consists of a good quality

commercial finch mix with extra red pannicum and extra plain canary seed. Over the past several months, perhaps due to the drought, the commercial finch mix used very little canary seed in it, so the amount of extra canary seed I use has increased.

Until recently I used to mix the finch mix, red Pannicum and canary seed together, but now feed them separately in divided dishes. I use four 2 litre plastic milk bottles with a thin rope loosely looped through the handles to carry the different seeds into each aviary. During the winter months a little rape, maw, niger and hulled oats are also supplied. The Fires (and other small finches such as Jacarinis and Orange Breass tend to favour the smaller seeds in particular red pannicum.

In addition to dry seed, I feed a small amount of soaked seed in each aviary every day (this includes holding aviaries where young birds are maturing- these birds need good nutrition too!). I soak about half a cup of seed for 24 hours in just enough water to cover the seed. Most of this water is absorbed by the seed. This seed is then suspended in the kitchen strainer for a further 24 hours (over the next lot that is in the water, in a 2 litre ice-cream container). It is rinsed off in a 1% bleach solution (10ml bleach per litre of water). This is rinsed off under running water before feeding the well drained seed to the birds.

Another item on the daily menu for all of my birds is seeding plants (not just grasses) and other greens. I grow silverbeet, lucerne (alfalfa), pannicum, white millet, canary seed and palm grass for this purpose, as well as collecting a wide variety of seeding grasses and other plants from my local area (or anywhere else I happen to be). A small scythe and ba are always carried in the car boot, for collecting both seeding plants (mostly grasses) and nesting materials whenever the opportunity arises.

Fires do not appear to eat a lot of leafy greens or fruit (I provide slices of apple for the parrot finches). However, they do like the smaller seeds in green seed heads such as pannicum and palm grass, especially when they have young in the nest. These they will take from the aviary floor. However, being docile birds they usually do not go down to the seed heads until these have been well picked over by other birds such as parrot finches, Gouldians, Cubans and the like. It is therefore necessary to supply green seed heads in sufficient quantity that there will still be some left by the time the Fires get to them.

Fire Finches like live foods, especially when rearing young and live food is important for good breeding success of these birds (they provide high quality protein with plenty of moisture). Without live food, some breeding success maybe achieved if a protein supplement in

the form of cake or egg and biscuit is used, but they definitely breed better with a daily supply of live food. According to QFS (Queensland Finch Society) Finch Breeders Handbook (Vol 2) and Russel Kingston (*A Complete Manual for the Keeping and Breeding of Finches*) Fires eagerly take termites when breeding and do very well on them. I have never fed termites, but have achieved good breeding success with mealworms and vinegar fly cultures.

I breeding most of the mealworms used (but still occasionally have to buy some). Obviously, small mealworms are more easily handled by small birds than big ones. Over the years I have tried various containers for breeding vinegar flies in aviaries. Some of these resulted in the birds eating most of the flies before they had a chance to reproduce in sufficient numbers to be of any benefit, or the culture was invaded and decimated by black ants.

My present (quite successful) vinegar fly cultures are in 46 litre plastic rubbish bins (available from supermarkets for about \$7.00 each). These have about 30 one centimetre holes drilled around the top 10-15 cm of the bin. Inside the bin is a cheap plastic bucket with about 5 cm of bran in the bottom. This sits on a brick which adds a bit of weight to the whole thing (stops it from blowing over) and lifts the buckets so that a little water can be put into the bottom of the bin to prevent ants from getting into the bucket. Nice

ripe (or even rotten) fruit is regularly added to the bucket. Peaches, plums, oranges, tomatoes, grapes, apples, watermelon or any other fruit is suitable. Vegetable peelings can also be added occasionally. To start a vinegar fly culture, set up the bin/bucket/fruit and don't worry about the flies. They will soon find your offerings and take up residence. Vinegar flies are more numerous and breed more in warm weather than during the colder months.

The bins are kept in the aviaries (in a shaded area) with the lid on. Vinegar flies (species *Drosophila*, some people call them fruit flies) breed quite well in this set-up, and the birds can very often be seen picking off the flies that stray out through the holes in the bin. Because birds cannot get inside the bin, quite a few of the flies are always present inside the bins to reproduce and keep the culture going. Every couple of months, the fruit bucket needs cleaning out. Fires do not seem to hawk for flying insects, but forage for them on the ground or in the foliage of the shrubs and grasses. A planted aviary therefore attracts other insects and provides landing places for vinegar flies.

Also supplied daily to my birds is a protein and vitamin rich "bird cake". Among others, the Fires Finches eat some of this cake, especially when they are feeding young. For several years now I have been making a cake for my birds to supplement their protein and vitamin

needs and breeding results do seem to justify the effort. However, I will not go into recipes or the reasoning behind them now. I will make "bird cake" the subject of a future article.

Birds need calcium in their diet and seeds, greens, live food, etc.. do not have enough calcium in them to satisfy the requirements of aviary birds, especially breeding birds. See last month's issue of *Bird Keeping in Australia* for a detailed discussion on this topic.

A good quality calcium food (I consider it part of their diet, not a supplement!) should be available to all birds, including Fires, all the time. By the far the best calcium food for finches is Calcium Grit Mix (fine). Needless to say, this is constantly available in my aviaries.

The most important points about feeding Fires are good quality protein (particularly live food, but also bird cake) and adequate calcium. Without enough of either of these two dietary components, a couple of nests per year of two or three eggs/young per nest can be expected.

However, the survival rate of young on an inadequate diet may not be good. With adequate protein and calcium, four or five nests per year can be expected, often with four (sometimes more) young per nest and the survival rate increases dramatically.

Finally on the subject of feeding, please re-read "Drink it! Lick it! Taste it! Clean it!" by the Clean Water Freaks in BKIA May 1996., page 75. To quote their final words... "the only water they get is what you supply and if you will not drink it, the birds should not have to." My sentiments exactly! Fires drink and bathe regularly. Their clean water (in a shallow bowl) should be covered - i.e. kept out of the sun and away from overhead perches.

Health Problems

I have never experienced any health problems with Fires Finches. All of the Fires that have died in my aviaries over the years either suffered accidents or were old enough that they probably died of old age. As a preventative measure, I do worm my birds once or twice a year with Synanthic (available from Service Items Officer). I have never had an obvious worm problem in my

aviaries, but with birds that spend a lot of time on the ground like Fires, it is perhaps better to be safe than sorry.

Birds kept in good condition and on nutritious diet very rarely suffer health problems. Some avian veterinarians attribute 90% of bird health problems to inadequate diet. In my opinion, dirty water and/or dirty water containers (especially if exposed to sun or overhead perches) probably account for about half of this 90%!

Conclusion

If you have never kept Fire Finches, I would certainly recommend them. They are an interesting little bird, suited to our climate, easy to cater for, reasonably priced, readily available and they add colour to a mixed aviary. As a breeder, they give moderate amount of attention, but very good results with a bit of effort on the owner's part.

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Aracaris

by Robert Petrie
Kansas City, MO

The time between the last issue of the *Bulletin* and this one, has been a really learning experience for me. I recently had a son borned and he came two months early. He is fine and healthy, but it made me think of how of some unfortunate mishaps can turn it some of the most memorable times in our lives. This months "softbill" article is less a natural history lesson and more of story of a fond memory of mine. The story is about some birds called Aracaris.

"Aracari", like so many other bird names, has quite a few different variations of how its name is pronounced. Some people pronounce the ARA as an "R", while others, sound it out as "air". The other part of the name that is pronounced in different ways is the C. Some people say the C as an S, the other people say it as a K, like in "car". These different pronunciations are combined to give four different ways to say the name, Aracari. On a nature program once, I heard a native in South America, which is where the name is derived from, say Aracari as R-a-sorry. So I pronounce it that way.

For those unfamiliar with Aracaris, they are small Toucans. All Aracaris are in the Genus

Pteroglossus. There are eleven species in the genus and they range from Southern Mexico to Argentina (Grzimek 1973). They are medium sized Toucans, about the size of small conures.

A more detailed discussion of the Toucan family will hopefully follow in future *Bulletins* in articles on the Toucans and Toucanettes. For this months softbill article I am going to talk about a pair of Green Aracaris and a chick we hand-raised at the Zoo.

The pair was originally obtained from a another zoo. Both were domestic. The male was parent-raised and the female was hand-raised. The birds were obtained at about one year of age. For the first four years, the birds were housed in a small aviary (20' long, 12' high and 4' wide) inside a bird building. They were supplied with several different natural hollow logs to nest in. They frequently used the hollow logs to roost in at night and to escape perceived danger. The pair seemed tightly bonded but no breeding behavior was ever observed. Although the female was hand-fed, she was tame but not imprinted. The closest she came to her keepers was to jump on the food pan when brought to her in the morning.

Their diet was chopped oranges, bananas, apples, shredded carrot, and several balls of ground horse meat (called bird of prey diet).

Grapes were offered as a treat every-now-and -then.

Then one early summer, we transferred the Aracaris to an outside exhibit that measured 24' wide, 36' long, and 10' high. There was an attached barn that was heated with a stall that was a 10' cube. The great thing about the Aracaris was they could easily be taught to go in the barn when you wanted them to. So we allowed them outside when the temperature was above 50 degrees, and ran them inside below that.

The same nest logs were moved to their outside quarters with them. They used the narrowest log the most, so all others were removed. Midway through that summer the pair laid an egg. After about two weeks the egg disappeared. Nothing more that summer. The next summer the pair laid two eggs. Incubation went great with the female doing most and the male helping during the day. After the expectant incubation period, one egg hatched. The parents were very attentive and appeared to be feeding the chick. Several days after hatching; though, the chick was found limp and lifeless in the bottom of the log. The parents had still been brooding the chick. Extremely quickly the chick was rushed to the Animal Health center where the staff veterinarian worked some kind of magic (fluids and some other things in a shot and put the chick in a brooder).

The chick recovered enough that we could tube feed it, but not enough to put back with the parents. So from scratch we attempted to hand-feed this tiny undeveloped chick. The Toucans hatch a couple of weeks earlier than other types of birds there size. They in turn have weaning ages that are a couples of weeks longer than those other birds. Because of this appear to me to be premature.

The diet was derived from an old article from the hand-raising of a Toucan species at another zoo. The diet was two pinkies (newborn mice), one egg, mixed vegetables and various types of fruits (including some more rarer tropical ones). The fruits and vegetables comprised about 60% of the diet. A vitamin and mineral supplement was also added. Just enough water was added to blend the mixture into a thick, consistent fluid. This concoction was made fresh twice a day. The amount for one feeding was heated to 105 F. degrees just prior to the feeding.

Because he was so small and weak and had no begging behavior we fed him with a special syringe that would go directly into his crop, or at least where the crop should have been. Aracaris do not have large storage crops like parrots. It was impossible to tell if he was full or not. So we fed him every two hours around the clock. He was fed enough at each feeding that he would gain 10% of his body weight each day. As I stated, he was fed every

two hours around the clock, even through the night, for about six weeks.

During that six week period we did have several bumps in the road. At one period we increased his feeding amounts too much and he became over-fed. His stomach became enlarged and his abdomen was very distended. His other organs were getting scrunched. Thanks to the zoo vet., the weight charts and behavior records, the problem was corrected before any damage was done. Another time the chick got an infection throughout his entire body. He became very subdued during this time. But again, with the zoo vet. so close the problem was noticed and in o time he was back to his normal self.

We named the chick Ari. He grew into a wonder adult hird. Having never raised a Toucan type bird, it was very interesting and rewarding. The development and mentality of Aracaris is very reminiscent of parrots. Ari was a very curious and affectionate bird. Had he been parent raised like we had planned, I never would have fully appreciated the intelligence of these birds.

Upon becoming fully feathered and attaining adult weight, Ari was moved from the Animal Health Center to the barn near his parents. There he was weaned and introduced into the exhibit. I remember his first flights, he was like a bomber plane that took off and only stopped when it collided with something. Although

their bills look heavy and powerful, they are extremely light and they use them like a human hand to feel the world.

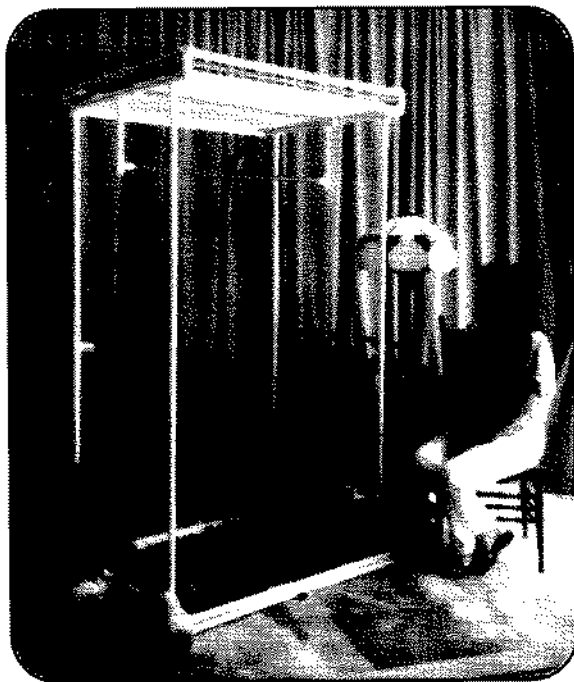
Today, Ari lives in a part of the zoo, with other animals, where they are brought out during talks and demonstrations to zoo visitors. People are allowed to get close to him and he helps teach people about birds and other wild animals.

Our original intent was not to hand-raise an Aracari. We only did so to save his life. If it would have been possible, we would have returned Ari to his parents for them to raise him. Its not that I'mt against hand-raising. A lot of consideration is needed about the type of life the offspring is going to have when it becomes an adult. Our original vision for the Aracari pair's offspring was for them to be with other Aracaris, and therefore they would not have been handled much by humans. Because Ari was raised by humans, we found he was much happier where he got constant attention by the animals that raised him. So whenever you reproduce any animal, especially intelligent ones like Toucans, please consider where they will be as adults. A bird that is going to be in close contact with humans, will be much happier if it was raised by humans. The reverse is also true. There will of always be those times when you have to do whatever is necessary to save a life, and sometimes, some of those: times can turn out to be the best of times!

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Lessons from fellow Aviculturists

An Unfortunate Learning Experience

*by Denise Ackley
Walton, IN*

The reason I am writing this is because I hope I may spare someone from a similar experience. One day, while I was servicing a cage, I had a bird escape. Occasionally, I have birds escape and they usually fly to another cage and land on the outside of the cage, and I catch them easily. This particular bird, who happened to be my only pied, crested Zebra Finch hen (naturally, a bird I really wanted to get progeny from!) chose instead to fly across the room and down underneath the tops of my planters. I have a large number of plants in the birdroom, and because mice invade in the wintertime, I also have glue-type mousetraps between the planters and the wall. I thought the birds would not be able to get down behind the planters to land in the traps (which is why I had the plants placed as they were!) Although I am still not quite sure how this bird in flight managed to squeeze herself through or between the planters to land in the glue trap unfortunately, she did.

I took the bird in the trap downstairs and applied vegetable oil to the trap to help free the bird. Freeing a bird has to be done extremely gently, as that glue is tough stuff. She lost quite a few feathers including most of her wing feathers, her tail feathers and a lot of belly feathers. Other than that, she seemed unharmed (as far as I could see.) Then I was faced with the problem of getting the oil off the bird. I used warm water with mild dish-washing soap, but was unable to get all the oil off of her. I put the bird in the hospital cage (which is quite warm- as I have found the major factor in dealing with ill, injured, or eggbound birds is to provide extra warmth.) I never could get the bird to eat well, despite a large selection of appetizing food choices, and four days later, I lost her.

The problem I faced after this incident occurred was how to hopefully prevent it from happening again. do not allow the cats into the birdroom. Because of the risks involved, I will not use poisons either. The humane live mouse traps can only catch one mouse at a time (and in the glue traps, I had as many as 5 mice in one trap in one day's time, although the total number of mice in the birdroom that I caught this winter was only fourteen - 2 adults and the rest juveniles.) I came up with the idea of covering the glue traps.

I cut the ends from cardboard cat food boxes, as they were the closest to the size of the traps that I had at that time. Then I slid the traps into the boxes, and then made sure the traps were right up against the side of the box closest to the run perimeter, right up against the wall, and the best way to place the trap is against the wall where the mouse is most likely to run right into it. I then placed the planters up against the covered traps. The main disadvantage to doing this is that you have to either get down and look in the ends of the traps to see if there are any mice, or pickup the box and trap and check it. However, there is no way a bird can get into the trap from the open ends (and I hope a bird never tries that one!) With the boxes I used, there is plenty of room for a mouse to get in from the ends- you would not want to use a box too small. You also do not want a box that is so short that the trap sticks out the ends- leaving a potential

place for a bird to land. Hopefully I will never have an incident like this one occur again and the idea for covering the traps may save someone from a similar mishap. I never dreamed a bird would go down and squeeze between or behind planters and land in a trap - I had arranged the planters to prevent that very thing from happening!

Now I am searching for another pied, crested Zebra hen for the pied male who now is without his mate. This was the only pair of pied Zebras I had, and the only crested Zebra that I had- and I had hoped for progeny from them. Hopefully, I will be able to find another mate for the male, although I have had little success so far. Why is it that when something happens it happens to one of the birds you value the most, cost the most money or is a bird that you really need the most in a breeding program?

THE ESTRILDIAN

The Estrildian is an ornithological journal 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



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ENGLAND

1995 Annual Census Report

Census compiled and reported by Steve Hoppin
NFSS Census Chairman

Unfortunately, the status of avian importation has had a detrimental effect on NFSS breeders trying to obtain diversified bloodlines or mates for single birds for breeding. Fortunately, the annual NFSS Census continues to be a valuable tool and beneficial service to finch and softbill breeders by providing the communication link between it's members; it has done so for the past ten years. Through this voluntary census NFSS is able to identify and recognize the important NFSS breeders and the finch and/or softbill species being kept and/or bred in this country. Census results, published annually in the NFSS Bulletin, provides the necessary information to assist various breeders to make contact with other interested parties, share knowledge, and locate needed avian stock to continue with their preservation efforts.

The '95 Census form published in the Jan-Feb '95 NFSS Bulletin may have appeared somewhat different to what you have been accustomed to. Considering this was my first attempt collecting and reporting this information I decided to create a form that would gather necessary information to publish the Census results, collect important information for future membership use, and also allow me to get to know you better.

Although the number of participants in the '95 Census has dropped as compared to the 1994 Census Report, the numbers of species and mutations reported for 1995 have increased significantly. 93 NFSS members contributed to these published Census results. **In all, 220 various species and/or mutations are included** in this report. And yes, after many years of inquiry, NFSS is pleased to report that the '95 Census includes a dramatic **increase in softbill species** recorded. *Softbill enthusiasts... Check it out!*

Thanks to all the participating NFSS members and a special thank you for all the terrific notes that accompanied the completed forms. This includes the notice of area code changes for many members in late '95 and early '96. Should your Census listing reflect an incorrect area code or telephone number, please drop me a note to correct the original paperwork and I will request publication of changes in the next NFSS Bulletin.

Remember, NFSS was founded on the concept of mutual sharing in all aspects of aviculture and the NFSS Census can only be as good as the participation of the membership will allow.

I would appreciate hearing your suggestions for the next Census. You will find my phone number listed on the inside of the front cover of the NFSS Bulletin or my address and phone number is published with the NFSS Panel Judges listing.

Thanks Tom Rood for the note of encouragement.... it really was a treat!

| KEY | LAST | FIRST | MI | PHONE |
|---------|-------------------|----------------|----|---------------|
| AK-2646 | Skidmore | Donna | | (907)457-3785 |
| AR-3000 | Malysa | Lani | | (501)336-9162 |
| AZ-1980 | Cox | Terry | L | (602)296-4949 |
| AZ-2355 | Gross | Walter | H | (520)886-4805 |
| AZ-2054 | Hinojosa | Lori | | (602)899-1123 |
| AZ-2147 | Lowe | Robert | A | (602)838-7963 |
| CA-2402 | Burge | Dylan | | (916)345-6878 |
| CA-2979 | Davenport | Yael | | (415)285-1850 |
| CA-1902 | Mamou | Jawad | | (510)796-7085 |
| CA-779 | Payne | Steve | | (510)449-1252 |
| CO-2186 | Garcia | Luis & Andria | | (719)630-3785 |
| CO-2721 | Norman | Jim & Pamela | | (303)423-4915 |
| CT-475 | Niznik/Vinett | Anthony/Paul | | (203)853-8361 |
| CT-2453 | Tantongo/Schwartz | Jerwin/Brian | | (203)661-9521 |
| DC-2896 | Springwater | Ronald & Kay | | (202)364-3068 |
| FL-2829 | Abernathy | Hazel | | (904)343-8248 |
| FL-1876 | Almaguer | Daniel | | (407)648-5927 |
| FL-1681 | Bastien | Cynthia | | (904)262-5429 |
| FL-484 | Bonilla Jr | Felipe | | (407)967-1032 |
| FL-2052 | Castaner | Ron & Linda | | (407)641-8185 |
| FL-3020 | De Meillac | Roger & Teresa | | (305)443-4042 |
| FL-2901 | Derasmo | Vito | D | (407)388-9762 |
| FL-2913 | Floyd | John | | (941)677-7679 |
| FL-316 | Gianferrara | Rose | | (941)992-6331 |
| FL-2946 | Hopper | John | R | (904)388-2323 |

| KEY | LAST | FIRST | MI | PHONE |
|---------|---------------------|----------------|----|---------------|
| FL-42 | Hoppin | Stephen | L | (941)997-2237 |
| FL-2505 | Jones | Jon | | (407)724-9498 |
| FL-2285 | Karsten | Kenneth | S | (352)686-6583 |
| FL-490 | Laird | Dale & Eileen | | (407)657-7989 |
| FL-2925 | Long | Rich | | (941)644-0086 |
| FL-2997 | Mather | Hal | | (904)261-6420 |
| FL-3069 | Nowicki | Edward | M | (941)693-5601 |
| FL-1406 | Piccola | Judy | | (941)939-3680 |
| FL-2638 | Scott | Lynda | | (941)353-1073 |
| FL-1502 | Trincado | Robert & Nora | | (305)255-2661 |
| GA-2653 | Brenner | Doug | | (706)745-3424 |
| IL-2171 | Cassidy | Brad | | (217)563-7218 |
| IL-2184 | Cybulski | Susan | | (708)652-0463 |
| IL-1932 | Hopman | Steve | | (815)469-8455 |
| IL-2706 | Laugherty | Rochelle | | (708)354-8868 |
| IL-1868 | Meyers | Karen | J | (847)699-0442 |
| IL-2485 | Paulman | April | | (217)355-1375 |
| IL-43 | Rood | Tom | | (217)774-5265 |
| IN-2539 | Ackley | Denise | | (219)626-2010 |
| KS-1832 | Cowan | Jim | M | (316)263-8835 |
| LA-1579 | Smith | Gwen | | (318)837-1028 |
| MA-661 | Smith | Dianna | | (508)540-3214 |
| MD-2094 | Levi | Pat | | (410)569-8328 |
| MD-1027 | Sparzak | Miki | | (410)282-9233 |
| MI-354 | Clark | Janis | | (517)486-3921 |
| MI-442 | Shaner | John & Mary R. | | (517)394-1047 |
| MI-2878 | Wiley | Karl & Jean | | (313)326-2424 |
| MN-2924 | Murphy | Jeanne | | (612)459-5787 |
| MN-688 | Gregorich/Peter-son | Sandra | L | (612)521-4133 |
| MN-2417 | Wiley | David | A | (612)884-1517 |

| KEY | LAST | FIRST | MI | PHONE |
|---------|---------------|------------------|----|---------------|
| MO-2281 | Dickman | Richard & Rose | | (314)928-3444 |
| MO-1668 | Haas | Nita | | (816)331-5285 |
| MO-1830 | Patterson | Yvonne | | (816)353-9964 |
| MO-2159 | Petrie | Robert | S | (816)459-9800 |
| MT-2572 | Joubert | Paul | | (406)284-6045 |
| NJ-3019 | Wiatroski Sr | Robert | L | (908)273-4639 |
| NM-1596 | Galusha | Charles | F | (505)434-6296 |
| NM-2900 | McKinney | Cindy | | (505)524-2590 |
| NY-2004 | Contreras Jr. | Fernando | | (718)231-6729 |
| NY-1517 | Goonan | Patrick | F | (716)288-5653 |
| NY-2151 | Holden | Russel | | (516)938-3610 |
| NY-1864 | Masters | Mary | V | (716)227-5043 |
| NY-2301 | Zygmunt | Andrea | | (315)894-7328 |
| OH-2391 | Baum | Larry | | (513)892-7806 |
| OH-2045 | Cryberg | Dawn | M | (216)285-2172 |
| OH-2570 | Endsley | Larry & Beatrice | | (419)263-2795 |
| OH-2043 | Lamp | Michael | | (614)749-3451 |
| OH-2969 | May | Richard | A | (216)221-3059 |
| OK-3001 | Freeman | Glenn | | (405)879-0014 |
| OR-2379 | Combs | Brenda | | (503)388-3089 |
| OR-2233 | Duimstra | Julie | R | (541)757-3117 |
| OR-2599 | Perkins | Shirley | | (503)659-0229 |
| OR-1620 | Sears | Ursula | L | (541)997-3607 |
| PA-408 | Fino | Gary | M | (717)868-1057 |
| PA-1845 | Reba/Goodling | Gene/Gary | | (717)545-8141 |
| PA-1826 | Trout | Ned | E | (717)786-7820 |
| SC-795 | Georgi | Laura | | (864)654-8388 |
| TX-2447 | Hardman | Diane | | (214)328-7563 |
| TX-2785 | Johnson | Noma | | (713)930-9393 |
| TX-2569 | Kern | Valarie | E | (817)599-9349 |

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|---------|----------|-----------------|----|---------------|
| TX-1028 | McBrayer | Harold & Margie | | (713)338-2814 |
| VA-2905 | Black | Lyn | D | (703)369-9278 |
| VA-1660 | Hartle | Dorothy | M | (703)347-5192 |
| VA-550 | Oja | Linda | | (804)874-8581 |
| VA-2232 | Mills | Thomas | W | (804)721-5459 |
| WA-2595 | Nelson | Bill & Marylin | | (206)687-0706 |
| WA-2581 | Spencer | Kristine | | (360)253-4572 |
| WI-2819 | Boeck | Laura | K | (414)871-4956 |

National Finch and Softbill Society

1995 Annual Census

Common Name Key

- Amethyst (Plumcoloured) Starling CT-475
Aurora (Crimson Wing) Waxbill KS-1832, OH-2043
Bamboo Parrot Finch (Green-tailed Parrot Finch) NJ-3019
Black Cheeked Waxbill IL-1932, VA-2232, MO-2159, IL-1868, VA-550
Black Chinned Quail Finch MO-2159
Black Crested Finch FL-42, FL-490
Black Crowned (Capped) Waxbill OR-2379
Black Headed Siskin FL-42
Black Hooded Nun OR-2233
Black Hooded (Red) Siskin FL-490, FL-2925, MO-1830
Black Masked Weaver MO-1830
Black Necked Aracari CT-475
Blue Breasted (Angolan) Waxbill IL-2184, FL-42
Blue Capped Waxbill WI-2819, GA-2653, FL-2052, OR-2379, NY-2004,
AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OR-2233, NM-1596, CO-2186,
FL-316, NY-1517, AZ-2355, AZ-2054, NY-2151, IL-1932,
FL-2505, FL-490, OH-2043, AZ-2147, NY-1864, VA-2232,
FL-3069, MO-1830, WA-2581, DC-2896, FL-1502, PA-1826
Blue Faced Parrot Finch FL-1876, AZ-1980, MO-2281, OH-2570,
AZ-2355, CA-1902, NY-1864, MN-688, MO-2159, WA-2581,
NJ-3019
Blue Faced Parrot Finch, Pied NY-1864
Blue Ground Dove CA-1902
Brazilian (Red Crested) Cardinal MI-354
Bronze Wing Mannikin OR-2233, FL-2913, CA-779

- Button Quail CO-2186, FL-2505, MO-1830
Button Quail, Fawn CO-2186, FL-2638, MO-1830
Button Quail, Pearl FL-2638
Button Quail, Pied CO-2186
Button Quail, Red breasted CO-2186, FL-42, FL-2638
Button Quail, Red breasted/Silver CO-2186
Button Quail, Silver CO-2186
Button Quail, Silver Pied CO-2186
Button Quail, White CO-2186
Button Quail, White Pied CO-2186
Chestnut Breasted Mannikin OR-2233
Chestnut Munia FL-2052
Chestnut Throated Seedeater FL-42
Cherry (Plumhead) Finch GA-2653, OR-2233, WA-2595, MO-2159
Chinese Laughing Thrush (Hoami) CT-475
Cinnamon Breasted Bunting FL-490
Collared Warbling Finch MI-354
Combassou Wydah MD-2094, FL-490, MO-1668, VA-550
Cordon Bleu (Red Cheeked) Waxbill FL-2829, FL-1681, WI-2819,
FL-2052, AZ-1980, IL-2184, AZ-2355, AZ-2054, FL-42, MD-2094,
CA-779, MO-2159, PA-1845, FL-2997, IL-1868
Crested Mynah (Chinese Crested Mynah) MI-442
Crimson Pileated (Red Crested) TX-1028, FL-490
Crimson Seedcracker CO-2721
Cuban Melodious Finch (Cuban Grassquit) AZ-1980, MN-688, MO-2159,
OR-1620
Cuban Olive Finch (Yellow-faced Grassquit) GA-2653, FL-3020
Cutthroat (Ribbon) Finch AZ-1980, FL-2913, NY-1517, AZ-2355, IL-43,
NY-2301
Dark Firefinch (Blue-billed Firefinch) IL-2184, FL-3069
Diamond Dove, Blue CO-2186
Diamond Dove, Blue/White rump CO-2186
Diamond Dove, Brilliant/White tail CO-2186
Diamond Dove, Fawn CO-2186
Diamond Dove, Normal CO-2186, NY-1517, FL-2505, CA-1902, NY-1864,
OR-1620, AL-2646, MA-661
Diamond Dove, Silver CO-2186
Diamond Dove, Silver/White rump CO-2186
Diamond Sparrow (Firetail) Finch FL-2829, GA-2653, CA-2402, AZ-1980,
NM-1596, NY-1517, TX-2447, FL-490, OH-2043, CA-1902,
FL-3069, CA-779, FL-1502
Diamond Sparrow (Firetail) Finch, Fawn OR-2233, TX-2447, OH-2043
Dumont Mynah CT-475

- Emerald Starling CT-475
Emerald Toucanette CT-475
European Goldfinch GA-2653, OH-2045, FL-3020, MO-2, VA-550281,
CO-2186, FL-2505
Firefinch** WI-2819, NY-1517, MD-2094, VA-2232
Gold Breasted Waxbill FL-1681, GA-2653, KS-1832, AZ-1980, IL-2184,
FL-316, NY-1517, TX-2447, AZ-2054, FL-42, FL-2505, FL-490,
OH-2043, MD-2094, VA-2232, CO-2721, FL-3069, MO-1830,
CA-779, MO-2159, PA-1845, IL-1868
Golden Song Sparrow CA-779, MA-661
Gouldian Finch** IN-2539, WI-2819, GA-2653, NY-1517, TX-2785,
TX-2569, MD-2094, FL-2925, CA-1902, TX-1028, NM-2900,
WA-2595, FL-3069, CA-779, MO-2159, PA-1845, AL-2646,
LA-1579, FL-1502, PA-1826, MO-1668
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Blue breast CT-2453
Gouldian Finch, Black-head/Purple breast FL-2829, OH-2391, OR-2379,
NY-2004, KS-1832, AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OR-2233,
OH-2570, PA-408, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-316, AZ-2355,
VA-1660, AZ-2054, IL-1932, FL-42, MT-2572, FL-2285, OH-2045,
IL-2706, NY-1864, OH-2969, VA-2232, CO-2721, CA-779
OR-2599, WA-2581, DC-2896, PA-1826, MN-2417, NY-2301,
MO-1830, MO-2159, FL-1406
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Purple breast - Dilute OH-2570, NY-1864
Gouldian Finch, Black head/White breast NY-2004, AZ-1980, MO-2281,
OH-2570, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-316, VA-1660, AZ-2054, FL-42,
OH-2045, NY-1864, OH-2969, VA-2232, CO-2721, OR-2599,
WAQ-2581, CT-2453, PA-1826, MN-2417, MO-2159, FL-2997,
FL-1406
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Purple breast/Yellow bodied AZ-1980,
MO-2281, CO-2186, OH-2043, NY-1864, VA-2232, CO-2721,
OR-1620
Gouldian Finch, Black head/White breast/Yellow bodied AZ-1980,
MO-2281, CO-2186, FL-42
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Blue breast/Blue bodied CT-2453
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Purple breast/Blue bodied AZ-1980, MO-2281,
OH-2570, CO-2186, AZ-2054, FL-2285, FL-490, OH-2969,
VA-2232, OR-2599
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Purple breast/Blue bodied - Dilute OH-2570,
NY-1864
Gouldian Finch, Black head/White breast/Blue bodied OH-2391, AZ-1980,
OH-2570, NM-1596, CO-2186, MT-2572, FL-2285, NY-1864,
OH-2969, VA-2232, OR-2599, WA-2581
Gouldian Finch, Black head/Purple chest/Silver bodied CO-2186

- Gouldian Finch, Black head/White chest/Silver bodied CO-2186, CT-2453
- Gouldian Finch, Black head/Lavender breast/Silver bodied CT-2453
- Gouldian Finch, Black head/White breast/Silver bodied OH-2570
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Blue breast CT-2453
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head, Lavender breast CT-2453
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Purple breast FL-2829, FL-1681, VA-2905, KS-1832, AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OH-2570, PA-408, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-316, AZ-2355, MT-2572, FL-2285, OH-2043, NY-1864, OH-2969, CO-2721, OR-2599, WA-2581, MO-1830, MO-2159, FL-1406
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Purple breast - Dilute KS-1832, OR-2233, OH-2570, NM-1596, NY-1864, CO-2721
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/White breast AZ-1980, MO-2281, OR-2233, OH-2570, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-316, FL-42, FL-2285, NY-1864, OH-2969, OR-2599, WA-2581, CT-2453, MN-2417, MO-2159
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/White breast - Dilute OH-2391
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Lavender breast/Yellow bodied FL-42
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Purple breast/Yellow bodied KS-1832, MO-2281, OH-2570, CO-2186, FL-42, NY-1864, CO-2721
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/White Breast/Yellow bodied KS-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OH-2570, CO-2186, IL-2706, CO-2721, OR-2599, DC-2896, FL-1406
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Purple breast/Blue bodied CO-2186
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/White breast/Blue bodied CO-2186, PA-1826
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/Purple breast/Silver bodied OH-2570, CO-2186
- Gouldian Finch, Orange head/White breast/Silver bodied OH-2186
- Gouldian Finch, Red head/Blue breast CT-2453
- Gouldian Finch, Red head/Lavender breast NM-1596, CT-2453
- Gouldian Finch, Red head/Purple breast FL-2829, FL-1681, OH-2391, VA-2905, OR-2379, NY-2004, KS-1832, AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OR-2233, OH-2570, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-316, AZ-2355, VA-1660, AZ-2054, IL-1932, FL-42, MT-2572, FL-2285, OH-2043, IL-2706, AZ-2147, NY-1864, OH-2969, VA-2232, CO-2721, IL-2485, CA-779, OR-2599, WA-2581, DC-2896, PA-1826, MN-2417, MO-1830, MO-2159, FL-2997, FL-1406, VA-550
- Gouldian Finch, Red head/Purple breast - Dilute FL-1681, OH-2391, KS-1832, OR-2233, OH-2570, NM-1596, VA-2232, CO-2721, MN-2417, MN-2417, MO-2159, FL-1406
- Gouldian Finch, Red head/White breast OH-2391, OR-2379, NY-2004, AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OH-2570, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-316, VA-1660, AZ-2054, FL-42, FL-2285, FL-490, OH-2043.

NY-1864, VA-2232, CO-2721, IL-2485, OR-2599, WA-2581,
CT-2453, PA-1826, MO-1830, FL-1406

Gouldian Finch, Red head/White breast - Dilute OH-2391

Gouldian Finch, Red head/Purple breast/Yellow bodied NY-2004, KS-1832
AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OR-2233, OH-2570, CO-2186,
FL-2285, OH-2043, AZ-2147, NY-1864, VA-2232, CO-2721,
OR-1620, MN-2417, NY-2301, MO-2159

Gouldian Finch, Red head/Rose breast/Yellow bodied VA-2232

Gouldian Finch, Red head/White breast/Yellow bodied FL-1681, NY-2004,
KS-1832, AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, OR-2233, OH-2570,
CO-2186, IL-2706, VA-2232, CO-2721, OR-2599, PA-1826,
MN-2417, MO-2159, FL-1406

Gouldian Finch, Red head/Blue breast/Blue bodied Ct-2453

Gouldian Finch, Red head/Lavender breast/Blue bodied CT-2453

Gouldian Finch, Red Head/Purple breast/Blue bodied OH-2391, AZ-1980,
MO-2281, OH-2570, CO-2186, FL-2285, NY-1864, OR-2599,
MN-2417

Gouldian Finch, Red head/White breast/Blue bodied AZ-1980, OH-2570,
CO-2186, FL-2285, NY-1864, OR-2599

Gouldian Finch, Red head, Purple breast/Silver Bodied CO-2186, OR-2599

Gouldian Finch, Red head/White breast/Silver Bodied CO-2186

Greater Indian Hill Mynah CT-475, FL-2638, MD-1027, MI-442

Green Backed Twinspot IL-1868

Green Glossy Starling FL-490

Green Singing Finch FL-2829, OR-2379, OH-2045, IL-2184, CA-2979,
PA-408, NM-1596, CO-2186, SC-795, NY-1517, NY-2151,
FL-2505, OH-2043, IL-2706, MD-2094, IL-2485, PA-1845,
OR-1620, AL-2646

Green Wing Dove CA-1902

Grey Plantain-Eater MI-354

Jameson's Firefinch AZ-1980, IL-2184

Java Hill Mynah FL-2638

Java Sparrow (Rice Bird), Cinnamon (or Fawn) OR-1620

Java Sparrow (Rice Bird), Normal AZ-1980, FL-2913, FL-490, AK-3000,
OH-2969, MI-442, MO-1668

Java Sparrow (Rice Bird), White OR-1620

Lavender Waxbill OR-2379, IL-2184, AZ-2054, NY-1864, VA-2232,
MO-2159, FL-490, FL-2997

Lined Seedeater (Black and White Lined Seedeater) FL-3020

Longtailed (Glossy) Starling CT-475

Masked Grass Finch AZ-2355, NY-1864, WA-2595

Melba Waxbill (Green Winged Pytilia) FL-1876, TX-1028, MO-2159

Moluccan (Munia) Mannikin OR-2233

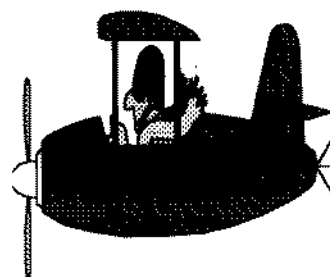
- Mountain Witch Dove CA-1902
Napolean Weaver FL-1876
Orange Bishop (Red) Weaver FL-2946, IL-2706, MO-1830, FL-490,
MD-1027
Orange Cheek Waxbill FL-1681, FL-2052, OR-2379, KS-1832, AZ-1980,
FL-3020, FL-42, FL-2505, IL-2706, AK-3000, VA-2232, IL-2485,
CA-779, MO-2159, PA-1845, FL-490, VA-550
Owl (Bicheno) Finch OH-2391, VA-2905, CA-2402, OR-2379, NY-2004,
KS-1832, AZ-1980, OH-2045, MO-2281, MO-2233, OH-2570,
CO-2186, FL-316, NY-1517, AZ-2355, AZ-2054, IL-1932,
OH-2043, IL-2706, MD-2094, AZ-2147, AK-3000, CA-1902,
OH-2969, VA-2232, WA-2595, CO-2721, FL-3069, MO-1830,
IL-2485, OR-2599, MN-688, MO-2159, PA-1845, FL-490,
WA-2581, CT-2453, PA-1826, FL-2997
Pagoda Mynah FL-490
Painted Finch CO-2721
Paradise Wydah NM-1596, CO-2186, TX-1028
Parson (Black throated) Finch FL-2052, IL-2184, OR-2233, AZ-2355,
NY-2151, WA-2595, MA-661, PA-1826
Peale's Parrot Finch FL-2052, NJ-3019
Pearl Headed Amadine FL-2052, IL-2184, OR-2233, FL-490
Pekin Robin (Nightingale) MI-354, OK-3001, FL-2946, MO-1830
Persa (Green Crested) Touraco FL-490, CT-475
Peter's Twinspot MO-2281, OR-2233, FL-3069, FL-490
Pictorella (Pectoral) Mannikin FL-2052, FL-42
Pintailed (Nonpariel) Parrot Finch FL-2052, AZ-2355, CA-1902, FL-3069
Pintailed Wydah MN-2924, CA-779
Plush Crested (Capped) Jay FL-42, MD-1027
Purple Grenadier NY-2004, IL-2045, AZ-2054, IL-1932, FL-42, CO-2721,
FL-3069, MO-2159, CT-2453
Quail Finch MO-2159
Queen Wydah FL-490
Red Crested Touraco FL-490, MD-1027
Red Ear (Black Rumped) Waxbill IL-2045, VA-1660, FL-2505, IL-2485,
CA-779, MO-2159, PA-1845, FL-490, AL-2646
Red Faced (Red Eyed) Crimson Wing MO-2281
Red Headed Finch NM-1596, MO-2159
Red Headed Parrot Finch FL-1876, GA-2653, CA-2402, FL-316, AZ-2355,
NY-2151, FL-42, FL-490, OH-2043, CA-1902, NY-1864,
WA-2595, FL-3069, MO-1830, TX-1028, OR-2599, WA-2581,
FL-1502, NJ-3019, FL-2997
Red Headed Parrot Finch, Pied NY-1864
Ringneck Dove MO-1668

- Rosey Rumped Waxbill FL-2829, IL-2045, MO-1830, CA-779
- Rothschild's (Bali) Mynah CT-475, MD-1027
- Royal Starling CT-475, MD-1027
- Rufous Back (Blue Billed) Mannikin MA-661
- Rufous Naped Weaver MD-1027
- Scaley Crowned Weaver NY-1864
- Senegal (Red-billed) Firefinch GA-2653, IL-2184, AZ-2054, IL-1932,
FL-42, FL-490, OH-2043, AZ-2147, MO-2159, VA-550
- Shafttail (Red Beak) Finch, Cream OH-2391
- Shafttail (Red Beak) Finch, Fawn FL-484, NM-1596
- Shafttail (Red Beak) Finch, Normal FL-2829, OH-2391, FL-484, AZ-1980,
OH-2045, OR-2233, OH-2570, NM-1596, NY-1517, AZ-2355,
AZ-2147, NY-1864, FL-3069, CA-779, MO-2159, PA-1845,
MA-661, FL-1502, FL-2997
- Shafttail (Red Beak) Finch, White FL-484, NM-1596
- Shama Thrush CT-475, TX-1028
- Shelley's Seedeater (Brimstone Canary) CA-779
- Siberian Goldfinch FL-2829, VA-550
- Silverbill, African WI-2819, FL-484, CA-2402, KS-1832, OH-2570,
SC-795, NY-1517, AZ-2355, CA-779
- Silverbill, Indian MO-2281, OR-2233, OH-2570, PA-408, PA-1845
- Society (Bengalese) Finch** IN-2539, WI-2819, GA-2653, MO-2281,
FL-2913, NY-1517, TX-2785, MD-2094, FL-2925, CA-1902,
VA-2232, WA-2595, CA-779, PA-1845, AL-2646, CT-2453,
VA-550
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Chestnut and White FL-1876, OR-2233,
OH-2570, CO-2186, MT-2572, OH-2969, OR-1620, WA-2581,
MO-1668
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Chestnut and White - Dilute OR-1620
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Chestnut Self FL-484, IL-2171, OR-2233,
FL-42, OH-2969, WA-2581,
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Chocolate and White FL-2829, FL-1876,
OH-2391, IL-2171, MI-354, NY-2004, FL-3020, OR-2233,
OH-2570, PA-408, NM-1596, CO-2186, MT-2572, FL-2285,
IL-2706, CO-2721, IL-2485, OR-1620, MA-661, WA-2581,
PA-1826, MO-1668
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Chocolate Self IL-2171, OH-2045, IL-2184,
MO-2233, OH-2570, PA-408, FL-42, CO-2721, IL-2485, MN-688,
OR-1620, WA-2581
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Chocolate Self - Dilute OR-1620
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Crested FL-1876, MI-354, NY-2004, IL-2045,
OR-2233, PA-408, PA-408, CO-2186, IL-2706, OR-1620, MA-661,
WA-2581

- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Fawn and White FL-2829, FL-1876, OH-2391, FL-484, IL-2171, MI-354, NY-2004, FL-3020, OR-2233, OH-2570, PA-408, NM-1596, CO-2186, FL-2285, IL-2706, OH-2969, MN-2924, CO-2721, FL-490, OR-1620, MA-661, WA-2581, PA-1826, MO-1668
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Fawn and White - Dilute KS-1832, OH-2570, FL-42, OR-1620, MO-1668
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Fawn Self FL-2829, OH-2045, IL-2045, FL-42, OH-2969, CO-2721, IL-2485, MN-688, OR-1620
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Fawn Self - Dilute FL-484, NM-1596, IL-43
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, Tri-color OR-2233, OR-1620, MA-661
- Society (Bengalese) Finch, White Self FL-1876, KS-1832, OH-2045, OR-2233, CO-2186, OR-1620, WA-2581, MO-1668
- Spice Finch IN-2539, WI-2819, CA-2402, IL-2045, OR-2233, OH-2570, FL-2913, AK-3000, IL-2485, CA-779, MA-661, MD-1027
- St. Helena (Common) Waxbill AZ-1980, FL-42, OH-2043, VA-2232, FL-409
- Star Finch, Red Faced FL-2829, FL-1681, GA-2653, CA-2402, FL-2052, AZ-1980, MO-2159, MO-2281, NM-1596, CO-2186, NY-1517, AZ-2355, AZ-2054, NY-2151, FL-42, OH-2043, NY-1864, OH-2969, VA-2232, CO-2721, FL-3069, MN-688, MO-2159, FL-409, FL-1502, FL-2997
- Star Finch, Yellow Faced FL-1681, FL-2052, AZ-1980, NM-1596, AZ-2054, FL-42, MO-2159, FL-1502
- Star Finch, Pied FL-2052
- Strawberry Waxbill FL-2829, WI-2819, OR-2379, AZ-1980, OH-2045, IL-2045, CO-2186, SC-795, NY-1517, AZ-2054, IL-1932, FL-2505, FL-490, MD-2094, AK-3000, VA-2232, WA-2595, CO-2721, FL-3069, CA-779, MO-2159, WA-2581
- Strawberry Waxbill, Chinese VA-2232
- Superb (Spreo) Starling FL-490
- Swee Waxbill IL-2184, AZ-2054
- Timor Sparrow CA-779
- Tri-colored Nun CA-2402, OR-2233, PA-408, AK-3000, CA-779, FL-409
- Tri-coloured (Blue breasted) Parrot Finch CA-1902, FL-3069, NJ-3019
- Troupial FL-490
- Violet Eared Waxbill NY-2004, NY-1518, IL-1932, MO-2159, CT-2453
- White Cheeked Touraco MD-1027
- White Collared Mynah CT-475
- White Eye (Zosterop) FL-490
- White Hooded Nun OR-2233, CA-779, MN-688
- Yellow Legged (Shining) Honey Creeper CT-475
- Yellow Rumped Serin (Gray Singing Finch) OH-2570, VA-1660, OR-1620

- Yellow Winged Pytilia FL-490, MO-2159
- Zebra Finch** IN-2539, NY-2151, FL-2505, TX-2569, CA-779, PA-1845,
MI-2878
- Zebra Finch, Black Breasted FL-484, OR-2233, MA-661, WA-2581
- Zebra Finch, Black Cheeked FL-484
- Zebra Finch, Black Faced FL-484
- Zebra Finch, Black Cheeked/Black Faced FL-484
- Zebra Finch, Chestnut Flanked White FL-2829, FL-484, IL-2171, OR-2233,
PA-408, CO-2186, TX-2447, OR-1620, MA-661, PA-1826,
MO-1668
- Zebra Finch, Chestnut Flanked White/Black breast CO-2186
- Zebra Finch, Chestnut Flanked White/Red breast CO-2186
- Zebra Finch, Cream FL-484, CO-2186, MA-661
- Zebra Finch, Crested PA-408, WA-2581
- Zebra Finch, Fawn FL-2829, FL-484, IL-2171, FL-2913, CO-2186,
TX-2447, MN-688, IL-43, OR-1620, MA-661, MO-1668
- Zebra Finch, Florida Fancy FL-484, FL-2901, OR-2233, CO-2721,
MA-661, WA-2581, MO-1668
- Zebra Finch, Lightback FL-484, OR-2233, TX-2447, MA-661, MO-1668
- Zebra Finch, Normal (Grey) FL-484, IL-2171, IL-2045, FL-3020, PA-408,
FL-2913, CO-2186, IL-2706, CO-2721, MN-688, IL-43, OR-1620,
AL-2646, MA-661, PA-1826, MO-1668
- Zebra Finch, Orange Breasted FL-484, OR-2233, WA-2581
- Zebra Finch, Orange Fronted FL-484
- Zebra Finch, Pastel FL-484
- Zebra Finch, Penguin FL-484, OR-2233, CO-2721, MA-661, WA-2581
- Zebra Finch, Pied IL-2045, PA-408, FL-2913, MT-2572, IL-2706,
MA-661, WA-2581
- Zebra Finch, Silver OR-2233, MA-661, WA-2581
- Zebra Finch, White FL-2829, PA-408, FL-2913, CO-2186, MT-2572

** not enough specific information reported for species and/or mutations,



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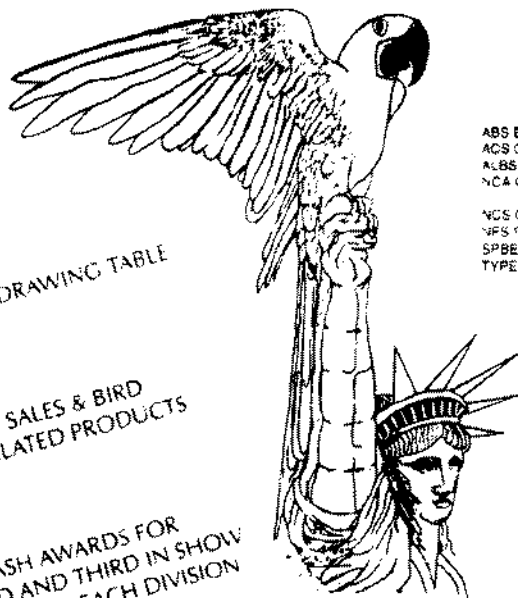
11TH ANNUAL

Great American Bird Show, Inc.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY OCTOBER 5 & 6, 1996

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Bird Mart - Sunday 9:00 AM - 5 PM



DRAWING TABLE

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| | LIPOCHROME AND MELANIN |
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Local Show, Hotel, Bird Mart, etc

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NFSS Affiliates, Delegates & Shows

(Listing as of March 1, 1996)

ALABAMA

Central Alabama Avicultural Society

Ginny Allen (334) 749-7168

Show August 31, 1996

Montgomery, AL

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Rocket City Cage Bird Club

Ron Clifton (205) 852-7155

CALIFORNIA

Aviary Assn. of Kern County

Willis & Velva Baker (805) 765-6110

Show December 7, 1996

Taft, CA

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld

Capitol City Bird Society

Dare B. Cagle (916) 944-2437

Show October 19&20, 1996

Placer County Fairgrounds

20th Anniversary Show

Roseville, CA

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld

Finch Society of San Diego County

Sharon Russell (619) 273-2005

Show November 7, 1996

San Diego, CA

Fresno Canary and Finch Society

Dixie Lea (209) 584-3764

Golden Gate Avian Society

Claudia Salo (510) 455-9909

Show November 9, 1996

Livermore, CA

Panel Judge: Clayton Jones

Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club

Neil Crowley (408) 258-4601

Show November 30, 1996

Santa Clara, CA

Panel Judge Marty Von Raesfeld

COLORADO

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture

Julie Kern (303) 753-6145

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture

Chris Voronovitch (203) 649-8220

Show October 26, 1996

Manchester, CT

Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

New England Finch Fanciers

Russell Annitage, Jr. (203) 756-1753

FLORIDA

Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South Florida

Phil Barth (305) 426-5340

Show August 24, 1996

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

Central Florida Bird Breeders

Eugene F. Goss, Jr. (407) 957-1274

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami

Armando J. Lee (305) 270-1000

Show November 30, 1996

25th Anniversary Show

Hialeah, FL

Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Exotic Bird Club of Florida

Jonathan Jones (407) 724-9498

Florida West Coast Avian Society

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show

Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

Double Show

February 15, 1997 Saturday

February 16, 1997 Sunday

for info 1-800-345-3247

Tampa, FL

* not NFSS affiliate, but points
carnable under NFSS Panel Judge.

Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.

John Floyd (813) 677-7679

Sun Coast Avian Society

Joe Ventimiglia (813) 392-9391

Show October 19, 1996

St. Petersburg, FL

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Sunshine State Cage Bird Society

Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

Show October 12, 1996

Orlando, FL

Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

GEORGIA**Georgia Cage Bird Society**

Candy Wright (404) 633-4364

Show November 2, 1996

Marietta, GA

40th Annual Show & Fair

Panel Judge: Earl Courts

HAWAII**Honolulu Canary and Finch Club**

Kathy Perreira (808) 839-2269

ILLINOIS**Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club**

Jane Muscato (708) 305-9043

Show November 2, 1996

Rolling Meadows, IL

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Illini Bird Fanciers

Jan Marcott (217) 347-9690

Show June 1, 1996

Panel Judge Clarence Culwell

Shelbyville, IL

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

Stephan V. Hopman (815) 469-8455

Show November 30, 1996

Elk Grove Village, IL

Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

Springfield Pet Bird Club**INDIANA****Indiana Bird Fanciers**

Conrad Meinert (219) 269-2873

Show October 12, 1996

E. Wayne, IN

Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

IOWA**Mid-America Cage Bird Society**

Rhoda Shirley (515) 243-1511

Show October 5, 1996

Des Moines, IA

Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

KANSAS**Kansas Avicultural Society**

Jim Cowan (316) 263-8835

Show October 11 & 12, 1996

Wichita, KS

Panel Judge: Laura Bewiey

KENTUCKY**Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society**

Patricia Wilkins (606) 271-0273

LOUISIANA**Capital Area Avicultural Society**

Tim Schexnaydre (504) 562-3579

Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.

Jeanné Murphy (504) 833-4241

MARYLAND**Baltimore Bird Fanciers****Maryland Cage Bird Society**

Theresa Brown (301) 735-7662

MASSACHUSETTS**Massachusetts Cage Bird Assoc.**

Dianna Smith (508) 540-3214

Show October 19, 1996

Hanover, MA

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

MICHIGAN**Great Lakes Avicultural Society**

Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163

Show October 19, 1996

Rockford, MI

Panel Judge: Miki Sparzak

Mid-Michigan Bird Club

Mary Lou Tewilliger (517) 463-5695

Mid-West Cage-Bird Club, Inc.

Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643

Show September 21, 1996

Roumuis, MI

Panel Judge: Bill Parlee

**NFSS
INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATES**

CANADA

**Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society
of Ontario**
Jim Marks (416) 292-3852

Cage Bird Society of Hamilton

**Durham Avicultural Society of
Ontario**
Vincent Moase (905) 723-1978
Show September 27, 28, & 29, 1996
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
Judge: Sam Crabbe

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society
Alfred Mion (519) 948-6398
Show October 18, 19, & 20, 1996
Windsor, Ontario, Canada
Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Motor City Bird Breeders, Inc.
Robert Zalewski (313) 356-5942
Show October 26, 1996
Warren, MI
Panel Judge Harold Bowles

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders
Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643

MISSOURI

Greater Kansas City Avic. Society
Nita Haas (816) 331-5285
Show October 19, 1996
Raymore, MO
Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

**NFSS
INTERNATIONAL
CORRESPONDENTS**

AUSTRALIA

Queensland Finch Society
Gavin Dietz, P.O. Box 1600,
Coorparoo DC 4151
Queensland, Australia

GREAT BRITAIN

The Estrildian
Ian Hinze, Coetref, Tyn Lon,
Holyhead, Gwynedd LL65 3LJ,
Wales, United Kingdom

The Waxbill Finch Society
Mr. Buzz Hope-Ingles,
10 Litchfield Close, Plympton,
Plymouth PL7 3UU, England

Zebra Finch Society, England
Margaret Binns, 97 Bent Lanes,
Davyhulme, Nr. Urmston, Manchester,
M31 8WZ, England

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Finch Breeders Assn.

**Heart of America Hookbill & Finch
Society**
Moses Linn (816) 523-4661
Show June 8 & 9, 1996
Grandview, MO
Panel Judge: Miki Spzrak &
Harold Bowles

Missouri Cage Bird Association
Richard & Rose Dickman
(314) 928-3444
Show November 1 & 2, 1996
Eureka, MO
Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

NEW HAMPSHIRE**Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society**NEW MEXICO**New Mexico Bird Club, Inc.**

Gail Ranshaw (505) 822-1483

Show September 28, 1996

Albuquerque, NM

Panel Judge: Harold Bowles

NEW YORK**Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association**

Rena Rouse (315) 252-7673

New York Finch & Type Canary Club

Marie Grein (718) 468-0881

Rochester Cage Bird Club

Patrick Goonan (716) 288-5653

Exhibition August 10, 1996

Rochester, NY

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

April Blazich (919) 851-8079

Smokey Mtn. Cage Bird Society

Jim Cody (704) 686-5157

OHIO**Cleveland Cage Bird Society**

Arnette Howard (216) 337-7654

Show October 12, 1996

Parma, OH

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Fort Defiance Bird Club

Larry Endsley (419) 263-2795

Show September 28, 1996

Defiance, OH

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

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

Rick Yunker (419) 691-9432

Show September 28, 1996

Toledo, OH

OKLAHOMA**Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma**

Gene and June Miller (405) 382-7066

Show September 28, 1996

Oklahoma City, OK

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld

Oklahoma Cage Bird Society

Doug Paris (918) 446-2447

Show October 26, 1996

Tulsa, OK

Panel Judge: Ray Johnson

OREGON**The Finch Connection**

Kristine Spencer (206) 253-4572

Rose City Exotic Bird ClubPENNSYLVANIA**Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird
Society**

Donald Strause (610) 926-5210

Show September 28, 1996

Grantville, PA

Panel Judge Hal Koontz

Chester County Bird Breeders

Lorraine LaBoyne (610) 269-6003

Show September 14, 1996

Kimberton, PA

Delaware Valley Bird Club

Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society

Dr. Lindsay Clack (412) 363-6438

Northeastern Penn. Cage Bird Club

Gary Fino (717) 829-3891

PUERTO RICO**Organización Puertorriqueña de Aves**

Jacky Civitarese (787) 752-4433

Show December 7, 1996

Carolina, PR

Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

Exoticas, Inc.

Rafael Echevarria (809) 795-5718

SOUTH CAROLINA**Palmetto Cage Bird Club**

Melvin Yoder (803) 459-5319

Show September 21 & 22, 1996

Anderson, SC

Panel Judge: Harold Bowles
& Conrad Meinert

TENNESSEE**Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club**

Eva Duffey (615) 361-5939

Show October 5, 1996

Nashville, TN

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

TEXAS**Bay Area Cage Bird Club**

Linda Beeman (713) 485-0291

Capital City Cage Bird Club

Fenton R. Mereness (512) 310-1802

Fort Worth Bird Club

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Show October 6, 1996

Arlington, TX

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Show October 26, 1996

Temple, TX

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Texas Canary Club

Chris Davis (713) 361-3364

Show November 2, 1996

Panel Judge: Laura Bewley

VIRGINIA**Peninsula Cage Bird Society**

Linda Oja (804) 874-8581

WISCONSIN**Badger Canary Fanciers Ltd.**

Evon Van Ornum (414) 233-4362

Show October 12, 1996

Milwaukee, WI

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Changing Your Address?

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

Please send this form
or this information to

Lynda Bakula
NFSS Membership Chairman
P.O. Box 3232

Ballwin, MO 63022
Club delegates should also send
their change of address
separately to
Jerry McCawley
NFSS Liaison Officer
506 Candlewye Rd

Membership

Name _____ # _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

1996 Chronological Show List

February

- 2/17 FL (161 entries)
Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show
Day 1
(Daren Decoteau)

- 2/18 FL (150 entries)
Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show
Day 2
(Harold Bowles)

April

- 4/18 WA
Pacific NW Spring Bird
Expo
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

- 4/19 WA
Pacific NW Spring Bird
Expo
(Conrad Meinert)

- 4/19 WA
Pacific NW Spring
Bird
(Harold Bowles)

June

- 6/1 IL
Illini Bird Fanciers
(Clarence Culwell)

- 6/8 MO
Heart of America
Day 1
(Miki Spazaki)

- 6/9 MO
Heart of America
Day 2
(Harold Bowles)

August

- 8/24 FL
Aviary & Cage Bird of
South Florida
(Charles Anchor)

- 8/31 AL
Central Alabama
Avicultural Society
(Conrad Meinert)

- 8/31 TX
Bay Area Bird Show
(Ray Johnson)

September

- 9/1 TX
Canary & Finch Soc.
(Ray Johnson)

- 9/14 PA
Chester County Bird
Breeders

- 9/21
Palmetto Cage Bird
Day 1
(Harold Bowles)

- MI
Mid-west Cage Bird
Club
(Bill Parlee)

- NH
Birds of a Feather
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

- 9/22 SC
Palmetto Cage Bird
Day 2
(Conrad Meinert)

- NM
New Mexico Bird Club
(Charles Anchor)

9/28 OH

Ft Defiance Bird Club
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

- PA
Central Pennsylvania
Cage Bird Club
(Hal Koontz)

- OK
Bird Fanciers of
Oklahoma
(Marty von Raesfeld)

October

- 10/5 FL
Kaytee Great American
Bird Show
(Stephen Hoppin)

- IA
Mid-America Cage Bird
Society
(Martha Wigmore)

- TN
Middle Tennessee
Cage Bird Club
(Conrad Meinert)

- TX
Fort Worth Bird Club
(Paul Williams)

- 10/12 FL
Sunshine State Cage
Bird Society
(Clarence Culwell)

- IN
Indiana Bird Fanciers
(Charles Anchor)

- KS
Kansas Avicultural
Society
(Laura Bewley)

- OH
Cleveland Cage Bird
Society
(Tom Rood)

- WI
Badger Canary & Finch
Club
(Paul Williams)

10/19 Ontario
Essex-Kent Cage Bird
Society
(Paul Williams)

■ CA
Capitol City Bird Soci-
ety Inc
Day 1
Region #6 Show
(Marty von Raesfeld)

■ FL
Sun Coast Avian
Soc.
(Tom Rood)

■ MA
Massachusetts Cage
Bird Show
(Conrad Meinert)

■ MI
Great Lakes Avicultural
Society
(Miki Spartzak)

■ MO
Greater Kansas City
Avicultural Society
(Patrick Vance)

■ NY
New York Finch & Ca-
nary Type Club
(Laura Bewley)

10/20 CA
Capitol City Bird Soci-
ety Inc.
Day 2
Region #6 Show
(Marty von Raesfeld)

10/26 CT
Connecticut
association
for Aviculture
(Daren Decoteau)

■ MI
Motor City Bird
breeders
(Harold Bowles)

■ OK
Oklahoma Cage Bird
Society
(Ray Johnson)

■ TX
Texas Bird Breeders &
Fanciers Association
(Tom Rood)

November

11/1 MO
Missouri Cage Bird
Day 1
(Martha Wigmore)

11/2 CA
San Diego Bird Show
Day 1

■ CO
Rocky Mountain Soci-
ety of Aviculture
(Hal Kaontz)

■ IL
Greater Chicago Bird
Club
(Paul Williams)

■ GA
Georgia Cage bird
Society
(Earl Courts)

■ LA
Baton Rouge
(Miki Spartzak)

■ MO
Missouri Cage Bird
Day 2
(Martha Wigmore)

■ PA Greater Pitts-
burgh
(Conrad Meinert)

■ TX
Texas Canary Club
(Laura Bewley)

11/9 CA
Golden Gate Avian
Society
(Clayton Jones)

■ FL
Exotic Bird Club of
South Florida
(Martha Wigmore)

11/14, 11/15, & 11/16 MI
National Cage Bird
Show
(Stephen Hoppin)

11/30 CA
Santa Clara Valley Ca-
nary & Exotic Bird Club
(Marty von Raesfeld)

■ FL
Colorbred Canary Club
of Miami
(Stephen Hoppin)

■ IL
National Institute of
Red/Orange Canaries
Day 1
(Clarence Culwell)

December

12/1 IL
National Institute of
Red/Orange Canaries
Day 2
(Clarence Culwell)

12/7 PR
Organizacion Society of
Puerto Rico
(Daren Decoteau)

12/7 CA
Aviary Association of
Kern
(Marty von Raesfeld)

FINCHSHOP

the National Finch and Softbill Society store

| ITEM | QTY | SIZE/ STYLE | PRICE EACH | TOTAL AMT |
|---|-----|---|--------------------|--------------|
| NEW T-Shirt for 1995! 10 Colorful Finches in Stalks of Grass w/NFSS | | M/L/XL/XXL (circle size) All 50/50 White | \$18.00 | |
| Video "The Wonderful World of Finches and Soft- bills: An Introduction" | | Members & Affiliates: Non-Members: | \$17.00 \$22.00 | |
| Show Cage Plans (see sizes below) | | | \$4.00 | |
| All 3 Show Cage Plans | | | \$10.00 | |
| NFSS Plastic Water Bottle | | | \$6.00 | |
| NFSS Zebra Pin | | | \$5.00 | |
| NFSS Gouldian Pin | | | \$6.00 | |
| Eric Peake Lithograph The Diamond Firetails Signed by the artist | | | \$35.00 | |
| Name Badge (members only) | | Print name at bottom of form. | \$5.00 | |
| Past Bulletin Issues-1994 and later issues | | | \$4.00 | |
| -1993 and earlier issues | | | \$3.00 | |
| 1995 NFSS Handbook (Membership Yearbook) | | Includes Census, Index & much more (Jul/Aug '95 issue) | \$4.00 | |
| NFSS Judges Handbook and Official Standards '95 | | In handsome small 3-ring binder. Updated in 1995! | \$10.00 | |

NFSS SHOW CAGE PLANS

1 Cage Finches up to and including Zebras

2 Cage Finches larger than Zebras

3 Cage Softbills

TOTAL \$ _____

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City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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(payable to **NFSS**) to

FINCHSHOP

c/o Julie Duimstra
4400 NW Walnut Blvd. #68
Corvallis, OR 97330

For more information call
(541) 757-3117

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-cheeked Waxbill
Bicheno (Owl) Finch
Quail Finch
Red-eared Waxbill
Strawberry Finch

size "B"

Black-cheeked 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 Shafftail
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 Nonparcil
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 NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

BAND ORDER FORM

NO RUSH ORDERS!

Allow 30 days from receipt of your order for delivery.

Cashier's Check or Money Order will expedite your order.

Anticipate your needs to avoid frequent re-orders.

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 *NFSS*, 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.

| 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 - \$2.50

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

SUBTOTAL _____

INSURANCE _____

TOTAL _____

Name _____

Membership # _____

Mail form and payment payable to NFSS to:

Address _____

City _____

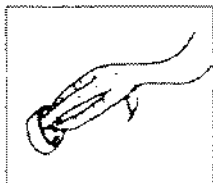
State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

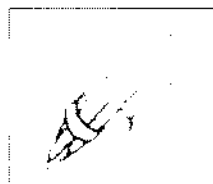
Ms. Eileen Laird
NFSS Band Secretary
1166 Village Forest Pl.
Winter Park, FL 32792
(407) 657-7989

LEG BANDING PROCEDURE

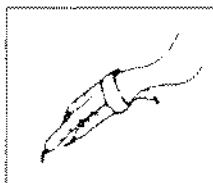
courtesy of
The National Finch and Softbill Society



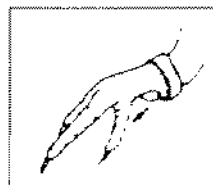
The most important thing to remember when banding chicks is to do it over a counter or table so if the chick is dropped it doesn't fall to the floor. The age to band varies between species but is generally between 5 and 10 days. You can tell by looking at the ankle joint (the joint where the toes come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



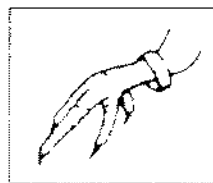
Have the bands, a toothpick (or other small blunt instrument) and some lubricant ready. Be sure you have the bands "right side up" for easier reading.



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.

NFSS Classified Ads

Classified ads (except *FINCHSAVE* ads) are \$.15 per word, per issue.

FOR SALE

Gouldians- Normals, White-breasted. Dilute/Yellow. Shafttails-Normal. Fawn & Cream. Stars- Normal. Yellow-faced & Pied. Owls. Plumheads (Cherries)- Normal & Fawn, Strawberries. Most NFSS Banded. Societies. Send SASE to: Ken's Exotic Finches
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Cincinnati, OH 45223
or (513) 541-6411 early evenings

ja96

European Zebras/ Mutations Larger, Deep-chested. Cobbie Birds. Parsons. Red-headed Parrots/ split pied. Fawn Yellow-tailed Diamonds and Gouldian/Mutations '95' & '96' Birds Bob Vargo eves (908) 233-4453 (NJ)

ja96

Gouldians, Owls, Fires, Parrot Finches. Pekin Robins, Silver Button Quail. Diamond Doves and more... Send stamped envelope for list. Feather Cail. 120 Scotts Chute. El Sobrante, CA 94803 or call phone (510) 758-8884 fax. (510) 223-0928 nd96

Button Quail: Red-breasted, Fawn, Pearl & Black. \$2.50 @ Can Ship Express Mail.
Lynda Scott (941) 353-1073 (FL) ja96

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(713)323-3933 nd96

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WANTED

Wanted: Scaly Crowned Weavers. Singles or pairs. Call Marie (NY) (718) 468-0881. ja96

FINCHSAVE classifieds run *FREE* of charge to *FINCHSAVE* participants. All readers are welcome to respond to *FINCHSAVE* ads.

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Display (camera ready) Ads:

Full page \$50/issue; \$200/year
Half page \$30/issue: \$120/year
Qtr. page \$20/issue: \$80/year
Inside cover \$70/issue: \$300/year

Classified Advertisements

FINCHSAVE: free to participants
Others: \$.15 per word, per issue

Deadlines

12/1, 2:1, 4/1, 6/1, 8/1, 10/1
for next bi-monthly issue.

Send ad and payment (payable to NFSS) to

Robert Petrie
NFSS Bulletin Editor
4325 NE 53rd St.
Kansas City, MO 64119
(816) 459-9800



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Softbill
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Ballwin, MO 63022

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NFSS # _____

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Addison, IL 60101
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(941) 997-2237

William G. Parlee
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Vernon, CT 06066
(203) 569-0200

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Atlanta, TX 75551-2524
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Harold Bowles
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Cedartown, GA 30125
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Clayton Jones
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Baltimore, MD 21224
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(408) 985-2712

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Panel Chairman
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Fax (603) 672-3120

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1212 E. Cr. 300 S.
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(219) 269-2873

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Papillion, NE 68046
(402) 592-5488

FOR INFORMATION ON
THE NFSS JUDGES PANEL
CONTACT
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PANEL CHAIRMAN