

National
Finch and
Softbill
Society

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LABELING, PROTEIN CONTENT, AND WATER**By Robert G. Black**

In a private discussion, Ian Hinze of Manchester, England, and I were discussing the protein values of nestling foods and how much was necessary for raising the exotic finches. As the recommended protein content of the diet for nestling finches is usually estimated to be from 20% to 25% of the diet, Ian was wondering how his nestling food, which contained only 4.3% protein content was still apparently adequate and successful for raising all of his finches. From my own nutritional study and writing, the answer was immediately obvious to me. However, I realized that most breeders would not find the answer obvious, and the idea for this article was born at that moment.

Most of our prepared feeds come with a label that lists the nutritional contents of the food. These labels usually list as a minimum, the protein, fat, carbohydrate and water content of the food item. Many labels also list the major minerals and vitamins present in the food. In addition, detailed nutritional analyses for the whole seeds, vegetables, fruits and other items that we feed are also available from a number of sources.

The basic fact to remember when looking at this subject is this: *Water content is the key to understanding the labeling and nutritional content of all food items.* All foods contain some percentage of water. Even the driest powdered items still have a small remaining water content. The commercial crumbles that I use may seem completely dry, but the label notifies me that the water content of the product is still 16%. Analysis of fruits and vegetables shows that some have a water content of 95%, meaning that only 5% of their contents are the actual nutrients.

Obviously, water is necessary for life. Some life forms can exist without air and others can exist without oxygen, but none that we have yet discovered can exist without water. Water serves at least three primary purposes in the living body. First, water keeps all of the cells of the body healthy, flexible and operating properly. Second, water is the carrier for the blood cells and nutrients within

the body, distributing these to every cell and within each cell to maintain that cell in perfect health. Third, water dissolves the waste products of the cells' metabolism and carries those waste products to the lungs, kidneys and intestines for excretion. There are no calories in water and water has no nutrient value. Of course, the substances which are dissolved in the water, such as sugars, vitamins and minerals, are true nutrients, but water itself is not a nutrient.

When you look at a label, look first at the water content of the item. The higher the water content, the lower will be the percentage of the nutrients in the food. In lettuce with a 95% water content, only 5% of the lettuce can be actual nutrients, and most of that will be carbohydrates. By contrast, a shelled sunflower seed has less than 5% water content, so the actual nutrient value in a sunflower seed is over 95%. If each of these two items costs \$1.50 per pound, you are paying the equivalent of only \$1.58 per pound for the nutrient value of sunflower seeds, but \$30.00 per pound for the nutrient value of lettuce. This vast difference in price and value results from the percentage of water in the contents of these two food items.

Let's look at a commonly used food for nestlings and calculate its actual nutrient value. The majority of bird breeders use egg in one form or another as a nestling food for their breeding birds. For simplicity, I have rounded the available nutrient contents of an egg to the nearest half of one percent.

Protein	12.5%
Fats & Oils	10%
Carbohydrates	1%
Ash*	1%
Water	<u>75.5%</u>
Total Contents**	100%

*Ash is the residual content of minerals and other basic elements when the organic parts of the egg are removed.

**Though the vitamins are a measurable part of the dry contents of an egg, they total less than .5%, and so do not show up in this rounded calculation.

From experience, we know that eggs are excellent nestling foods. Yet, the liquid nature of a raw egg is enough to convince us of its high water content. 12.5% protein content seems at first glance to be far too low for raising any nestling bird. However, the percentages listed can be deceptive -- once we deduct the water content, we find that only 24.5% of an egg is actual nutrient value. Now let's recalculate the percentages, based on that 24.5% that is the food value. Remember that the water has no nutrient value and no calories, though the body uses water in other important ways that were already mentioned.

After deducting the water content, we find that the percentages of the actual nutrients in the egg look quite different. Again, vitamins do not reflect in this calculation, because they form less than .5% of the nutritional contents.

51% of the nutrient value of an egg is protein
41% of the nutrient value of an egg is fats and oils
4% of the nutrient value of an egg is carbohydrates
4% of the nutrient value of an egg is minerals and other elements.

This 51% protein content in the nutrient value of an egg is what gives a baby bird such a fast start and such a tremendous rate of growth. My own experience feeding egg to Diamond Doves as a nestling food shows that the babies fed on this egg will leave the nest fully feathered and flying in only eleven days after hatching. Though a few of the softbills can equal this growth rate on their diet of insects, none seem to surpass this rapid growth rate that is such a notable characteristic of the Diamond Dove.

Insects are extremely high in protein content, of course, and the dry weight of many insects is over 70% protein. This is why the young of the insect-eating softbills can develop so rapidly on a diet of insects.

Frozen bloodworms are available in England and Europe for feeding the more delicate finches and softbills, and though this is an expensive food, it is adequate in complete protein for raising the

nestlings of any finch or softbill species. This surprises many breeders, because the label on this food clearly states that the product is over 93% water. However, that remaining 7% is predominantly protein, and once the water is discounted, the dry weight is over 61% pure, complete protein. *Never forget that the nutritional value of a food is based on the dry weight, not the total weight.* 'Dry weight' excludes the water content. 'Total weight' includes the water content.

With this background, you can now look at the label on any food item or product and determine how adequate it will be for raising young finches and softbills. The dry weight of the best foods will correspond closely to the nutrient value of an egg. Protein should be the largest percentage of the contents. Fats and oils should be second, and minerals and carbohydrates should be a very low percentage of the total contents of any food item that is meant to be a nestling food for finches and softbills.

Any product that lists carbohydrates as the largest percentage of the contents is a very poor nestling food for any species. Carbohydrates in the form of sugars and starches are the cheapest nutrients available. They are digestible, absorbable and can be easily utilized by the body for energy. Indeed, they should be the main nutrient for adult birds on a maintenance diet. But carbohydrates are not required for adequate nutrition, and they can be a disaster when fed to nestlings whose bodies are geared to the utilization of a vast predominance of proteins and lipids (fats and oils).

Breeding and feeding nestlings requires the predominance of proteins, fats and oils in the diet. Any food that has more than 20% of the sugars and starches will be a poor diet for nestlings. Any food that has carbohydrates as its primary ingredient will be a disaster for growing nestlings -- if they do not die in the nest, they will leave the nest late, poorly feathered, and in poor health. They are likely to die before they reach the adult stage in their development. Proteins and lipids (fats and oils) are required for growing nestlings. Carbohydrates are not required, and in excess they will do positive harm to the health and development of growing nestlings.

END

BUTTON QUAIL BASICS

From a presentation by Sally Huntington and Alan Blanchard

HISTORY

- . Coturnix chinensis
- . AKA, King Quail (in Australia) and/or Chinese Painted Quail
- . Life span 3 to 7 years, cocks out living hens
- . Name Obutton¹ probably because chicks are size of a Obutton¹
- . Can be found throughout the world
- . Have been kept for hundreds of years, once even used in Asia for cock fighting¹

BEHAVIOR

- . Terrestrial birds, ground dwelling, feet can not perch
- . Flight limited to quick bursts (straight up, with wings flapping) when frightened. Runs for cover upon landing. In small cages, they can seriously hurt their head. Best transported in paper bags or padded ceiling in cages.
- . Lays on side to sunbathe
- . Baths in dirt (or seed) not water, can easily drown in deep water dishes. Chicks especially drown easily
- . Are generally territorial, but need one companion
- . Cocks will emit a low growl sound, 5-7 seconds in length at about 40 decibels, followed by 5 to 10 crows at about 70 decibels
- . Buttons do not like to be alone. Cocks will do non- stop crowing when alone
- . Hen makes a soft peep peep sound used to call chicks
- . Cocks sometimes carry a worm (or piece of food), peeping to call hen and hen will take worm (emulating parent feeding chick behavior)
- . Birds pace endlessly when anxious or bored

DIET

- . Scavengers: seed, small insects, egg food, grit, cuttle bone, millet, hard-boiled egg including shell
- . Fresh water; very shallow dishes, (so chicks won't drown) or drinker bottles

HOUSING

- . Usually one pair per aviary flight
- . Introduce both birds into flight at same time, to reduce fighting
- . Dry ground, sand, hay (wire cage bottoms are too hard on their feet and can not be tolerated)
- . Use 1/4 wire (or netting) around bottom 4 inches of cage/flight to prevent new chicks from escaping
- . In Southern areas, can be outside (without heat) all year as long as they are kept dry, have shelter from rain and wind. (i.e. In S. Cal live where coldest temp is about 28F)

BREEDING

- . Can breed year round
- . Females can lay an egg nearly every day of year
- . Egg laying is stimulated by sunlight (photo period) and high protein diet
- . Cocks may copulate many times with hen, sometimes pulling feathers off her back
- . Hen will make nest in corner using small amount of hay, straw. (Make use of finch nest box turned on side, closed end windward, works well)
- . Incubation is 16 days, hen will sit fairly tight
- . Chicks signal each other (peep peep) when ready to hatch; hence they coordinate hatching nearly all at once.
- . Chicks are much like baby chickens. They walk upon hatching and follow both parents which is encouraged by peep peep sounds by parents
- . If parents were parent raised usually will not harm their chicks. However, incubated parents (especially cocks) not having the experience of "babies" will often kill chicks. Some never stop this behavior
- . Chicks continually peep back to parents, getting louder if chick is separated or lost from parent
- . Chicks hide in and under parents feathers to stay warm and for security
- . Parents will feed chicks and teach chicks to eat and peck ground

ARTIFICIAL INCUBATION

- . Collect eggs for seven days, store pointy side down, covered in bird seed

(continued on page 23)

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Aviculture's Wild Zebra-The Timor Zebra Finch
(*Taeniopygia guttata guttata*)
By Roy Beckham

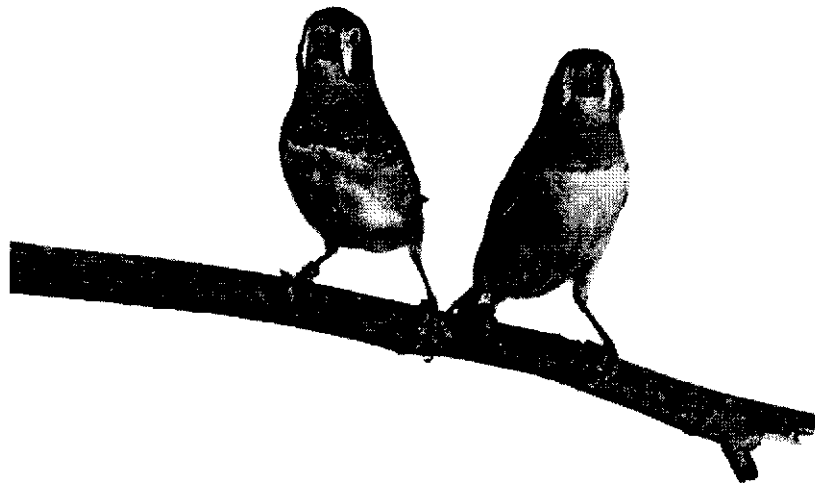
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There has certainly been a variety of Zebra finches of many different colors, so it may be surprising to see a small, skinny gray Zebra finch on the show bench. That has happened recently with the arrival of the Timor Zebra finch. The Timor is the only subspecies of the Australian Zebra finch that we are all so familiar with, yet for many years has been unavailable to U.S. aviculturists. Nearly two years ago a small number of Timor Zebra finches were included in a shipment of Timor Sparrows and other birds from the region as "filler" birds. They are now being established in the U.S. through the efforts of a few dedicated Zebra finch fanciers.

Description

Male: Timor Zebra males have a smaller breast bar compared to Australian Zebras (*T. guttata castanotis*). Between the beak and throat, the stripes are completely missing. The voice of the Timor is also much higher in pitch and the song is more rapid than the Australian Zebra. They are much smaller than their Australian cousins, but since the Australian Zebra is so variable in size due to selective breeding for the show bench, it is difficult to use this as a form of comparison. Some Australian Zebras from the pet trade are nearly as small as a Timor Zebra while others bred for the show bench will seem like giants next to a Timor. The Timor Zebra is approximately 10.5 grams (about 10% smaller than the wild Australian race).

Female: In coloration, female Timors are nearly indistinguishable from gray Australian Zebra finches. The voice of the female Timor Zebra finch is also higher in pitch like the male and can be used to determine Timor hens from Australian hens. The gray of the Timor is said to be darker than the Australian race, but with so much variation in our Australian stock, this cannot reliably be used as a way to distinguish between the two subspecies. They are approximately the same weight as the males.



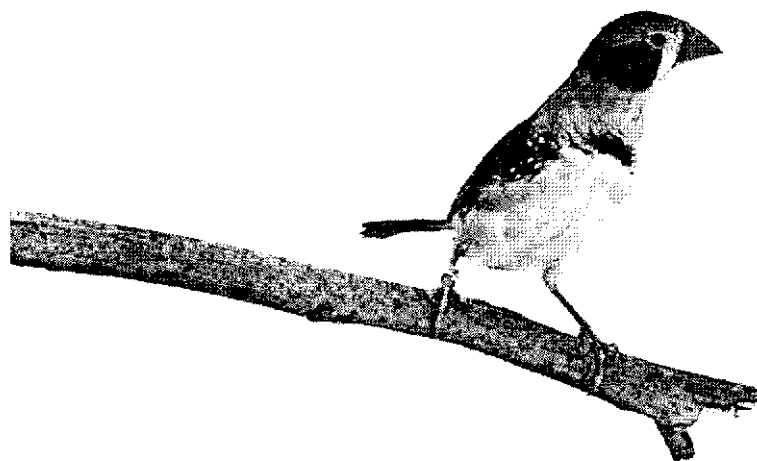
Diet

A standard finch mix will be fine with Timor Zebra finches. They do not have a trend in America for larger more robust birds to have a preference for the smaller seeds in the mix and may push aside the large white millet, returning to them only after the other seeds are eaten. They eagerly take egg food, greens and soaked seed, although I rarely feed them the soaked seeds. Grit and calcium in the form of crushed egg shells, oyster shells and cuttlebone should always be available to them. I supplement vitamins and minerals in my prepared egg food.

Breeder's Notes

The Timor Zebra is probably best compared to the Australian Zebra as a point of reference. Timors are very active birds. With their small size and active nature, they have been described as Owl finches in Zebra finch clothing. Still, they are nearly as eager to breed as their Australian cousins. They will take a standard nest box and will fill it with just about anything they can get their beaks on. Coco fiber and feathers will allow them to use their weaving skills to construct some rather elaborate nests. Like Australian Zebras, they

will build the nest right up to the entrance hole so that they can keep an eye on things. With most pairs, you will not catch them on the nest as they are quick to dart out. The average clutch will usually consist of 5-6 eggs and incubation is about 12 days. The young will remain in the nest for approximately 18 days before fledging and look just like the young of Australian Zebras, gray with black beaks. Many of the fledgling males will already show some faint barring in the chest and even an occasional streak of orange in the cheek. They are independent after 14-21 days. They will breed readily in cages or aviaries, as individual pairs and in a colony. My preference is to breed them in colonics whether in cages or in aviaries. It is interesting to see the interaction of the birds in this situation. I started breeding them in a 3' flight cage and would use bamboo branches tied to the cage to offer them some cover. I placed 3 pairs together in this setting with very good results. I also had very good results with a larger colony in an outside aviary. They are peaceful little birds that should be fine in most mixed colonies (avoiding colonies that include Australian Zebras). I have them in a large flight with a few White-rumped mannikins and have had no problems from either species. Another breeder has placed single pairs in large flights with





© Roy Beckham

various other species with no problems reported.

While I treat them very much like my Australian Zebras, the Timors cannot be considered as "indestructible". They are a bit more fragile and one may do better to treat them like a small waxbill rather than just another Zebra finch. This is not to say that they are not hardy birds. Only when compared to the Australian Zebra can they be considered more fragile. They do not seem to be able to take the lower temperatures that the Australian Zebra can as I suffered some losses as the temperature reached the freezing mark and other breeders and the importer reported similar problems. They may also be more susceptible to other diseases as well. Overcrowding of the Timors will also bring diminishing returns as the young are abandoned more readily.

The Timor should not be housed with the Australian Zebra while breeding. They will readily hybridize and you will lose the unique characteristics of the Timor Zebra finch, including the small size and voice not to mention the marking differences. I do not house the two together at any time as young males that are housed with Australian Zebras may also lose some of the unique characteristics of their song. The Timor's song is more rapid and is higher in pitch than the

Australian's. The late Dr. Luis Baptista described those Timors that were fostered to Australians as having learned a "lazy" song since it was not as complex as the original Timor song.

There are no known mutations of the Timor Zebra and while it might be possible to transfer mutations from the Australian race to the Timor through hybridization, I frown upon this idea. I have produced a limited number of hybrid crosses to show other aviculturists what the hybrids will look like and thus far the results show that the physical appearance is more like the Australian race than the Timor race. (The late Dr. Baptista was going to produce these hybrids for further study and I was going to photograph them. With his passing I have produced some hybrids and am giving them to a graduate student for study. All hybrids produced have been close banded with an aluminum band stamped with the word "HYBRID". You can see my results on the internet at www.efinch.com/zebrahybrid.htm)

I have heard from others that the Timor Zebra did exist in some aviaries in the U.S. sometime in the 1970's, but later died out or were mixed with regular Australian Zebras and lost in that way. They are still relatively rare in European collections and are certainly rare here in the U.S. with only a few aviculturists now working to establish this unique species.

The Australian subspecies has probably been bred for more than 90 to 100 generations without any introduction of wild stock and through selection and the development of mutations, has been altered dramatically from the wild Zebra. Most of the Timor Zebra finches in the U.S. today are in the first or second generation from the imported stock and thus far still resemble the wild birds in physical appearance and behavior. This is certainly part of the charm of these birds and it is a pleasure to have some 'wild' Zebra finches in my flights.

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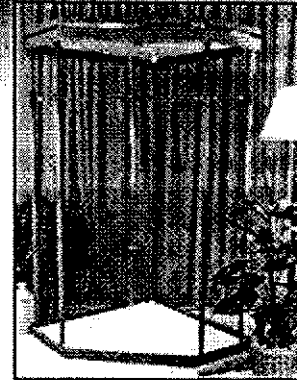
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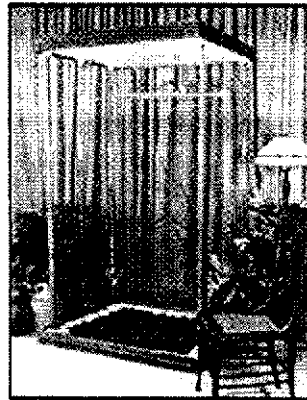
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AVIAN CONVERSATIONS—A SERIES
by Tom Riggs and Ross Bishop

SEED & GRAIN

Tom: I think that the main problem with finches is that people keep them on a dry seed diet. To me this is equivalent to slow starvation. There are a lot of finches that are very sturdy and can survive this kind of treatment. But that's not my style of bird keeping and fortunately these days many other people agree with me.

Ross: Let's begin with the area of dry seed and then move into the other ways to feed seed. Seeds are primarily sources of carbohydrates and some fat and a little protein. They have little calcium, few vitamins and a good deal of phosphorous. That changes a good bit, however when the seed is sprouted. The experts tell us that seed should comprise somewhere between 20% and no more than 50% of a bird's diet. And, like anything else in the diet, seed, if fed to excess, will lead to problems. Although rarely a problem in nature, excess fat can be a problem for caged birds with rich diets and limited exercise.

As was mentioned before, birds eat primarily to satisfy their caloric requirements. So if they stuff themselves full of fatty seeds and fatty foods they will get the calories they need but not necessarily the nutrition, and that is why we should be careful regarding seed-heavy diets. Here are the most commonly used finch seeds and their basic dietary components by percentage. You can see that the carbohydrate to fat ratio varies considerably. (We are indebted to Ian Hinze of The Estrildian for these figures):

SEED	% Fats	% Carbohydrates	% Protein	% Minerals
Canary	6	55	14	2
White Millet	4	60	11	3
Yellow Millet	4	63	11	3
Oats	5	56	11	2
Maw	40	12	17	6
Niger	32	15	17	7
Rapeseed	40	10	19	4

Seeds are high in phosphorous. For good nutrition you want your birds to take in about 2 1/2 times as much calcium as phosphorous. This means that the fresh greens, cuttlebone and supplements you feed are very important for proper nutrition. Corn, incidentally has a ratio of one part calcium to 13 parts of phosphorous. Although corn does provide some good nutrients, these can easily come from other sources without creating an excess phosphorous problem. Stated simply, a good deal of corn is not ideal for birds. The freshness of seed is important. Grains are often stored a long time and then sold when the market price is favorable. Unfortunately, the longer seeds sit, the more of their fats turn rancid. We do not have product dating on seeds, but it is something to keep in mind. I bag and freeze my seed so that it will remain fresh longer.

Tom, what is the basic dry seed mix that you feed your birds?
Tom: I have always used mixes, and there are endless formulas available. 20% of this, 10% of that. I simply don't have time to do that and I do not have a source that will mix seed. I presently use Kellogg's Exotic Finch Mix and the normal Parakeet mix. I sprinkle thistle seed on top of the finch mix.

And that's it. During the late fall and summer I also pick seedling grasses from the wild grasses that grow near my home. The birds relish them especially at the half ripe stage.

Ross: I like to be able to mix my own blend. It is more economical and I feel that I can control the quality and freshness of the seed better. I buy organically grown seed in bulk whenever I can. I use a mix of 30% white millet, 40% yellow millet, 20% canary seed and 10% Japanese millet for all my birds. This is in addition to spray millet which the birds get occasionally (dry and soaked). I offer a thistle seed, oat groat, hemp seed mix separately in small amounts. I have a canary who absolutely loves sunflower seeds, so he gets those. I have located a natural foods wholesaler that will sell organic bulk millet. It's human grade so it's a little more expensive, but millet is pretty cheap in the first place so the additional cost is not significant.

SOAKED AND SPROUTED SEED

Ross: One of the best ways to gain even more nutrition from seed is to present it to birds in soaked and sprouted forms. I think birds should get all three forms - dry, soaked and sprouted. When a seed begins to sprout it's chemistry and nutritional content change. Sprouted seeds are a powerful source of good nutrition. The amount of Vitamins A, B, C, E and K all increase significantly. Riboflavin and folic acid increase up to 13 times the amount present in dry seed. Two of the most important amino acids, lysine and tryptophan increase significantly during sprouting. Also, a sprouted seed's oil content drops, reducing fat intake. A recent study at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine found that ³Large quantities of inducers of en-

zymes that protect against carcinogens can be delivered in the diet by small quantities of young crucifer sprouts, that is, three day old broccoli sprouts, that contain as much inducer activity as ten to a hundred times larger quantities of mature vegetables.² There's a message there for both us and our birds. Most of us sprout only millet because that is what we have on hand, but there are a great many other seeds available that provide excellent nutritional alternatives. Just a few are: amaranth, barley (unhulled), buckwheat, wheat, cabbage, kale, mustard, radish, sunflower, rice, quinoa and clover. Most health food stores sell untreated sprouting seeds and as a rule, if they are edible by humans they will work fine for birds. After doing the research for these articles I really gained an appreciation for the nutritional value of sprouts and have begun to regularly grow and serve them daily to our birds (they are great for humans too!). My favorites so far are: white millet, broccoli, wheat, radish and clover. My efforts to sprout quinoa and amaranth have not been very successful. These seeds turn sour on me before they sprout, so I am going to have to refine my technique. Rice sprouts well for me, but I have to watch the sprouts as they have a tendency to go ³off² quickly. But the birds really like them. (Carolyn Swicegood has written a good article entitled ³Sprouting For Healthier Birds² which can be found at (<http://www.birdsnways.com/wisdom/ww32e.htm>). See also,² Sprouted Seeds: The Living Treasures² by Alicia McWatters <http://www.parrothouse.com/sprouts.html>. Tom: I agree that birds need all three seed forms. Ross: We sprout only one seed variety to a container. I found that in trying to sprout a mix I ran into seeds⁴ differing timetables and needs. Two other thoughts I would add: There is a risk of bacterial growth in sprouting. When I soak my seed I put a few drops of either Vanodine or Oxyfresh Dent-A-Gene in the water to minimize pathogen growth. I have been told that grapefruit seed extract sold under the trade names Citricidal or Agriscpt are good natural alternatives for this. I haven't tried those, however. I found some sprouting trays at a health food store that really work well. I soak millet 24 hours, then thoroughly rinse and drain it. Then I put the tray on top of the hot water heater as you do. The seed is rinsed a couple times each day and in short order we've got sprouts. Rinsing the seed a number of times is important because as seeds sprout, toxins are produced by the process. Those toxins must be rinsed away for the seed to be safe. This is true for both soaked and sprouted seed. (Incidentally, don't let your sprouts grow too far. The best nutrition is when the sprout is about 1/8 to 1/4² long. When finished, the sprouts are thoroughly rinsed and soaked in dilute bleach water (a couple of drops in water) for about 10 minutes and then rinsed. Dr. McWatters maintains that if seeds are properly sprouted, a disinfectant is not necessary. The only thing to watch once your seeds have sprouted is that they don't go ³off² after a couple of days in the fridge. So long as they have a nutty smell, they're fine. If they start to smell even a little off, toss them. It's not worth the risk. We only make a few days sup-

ply at a time. For soaked seed we just drop a measure of seed into water and a few drops of disinfectant for 24 hours, rinse very thoroughly and serve. Tom: I no longer feed either one any more. I had a breeding break and I think sprouted seed is good for your birds even when they are not breeding, but I think it is particularly important for feeding nestlings. Since I had no one breeding at that time I thought I would stop sprouting seed until breeding picked up again. Then I offered only dry seed, but I soak millet spray over night and offer that generously to the birds. I had a pair of Gouldians that I had removed the nest box (I had more Gouldians that I knew what to do with at the time) but lo and behold, they nested anyway, and I didn't realize it until they had chicks. Since I hadn't been looking, the chicks were 8-9 days old before I realized what was going on. I thought, 'Well, whatever's done is done' and thought I'd start soaking seed again. This was a most remarkable breeding. The male became ill shortly after I found the chicks, and I had to remove him. The female continued to feed. When the male recovered, I put him back, but by then he had lost interest in the chicks. Out of that nest came 8 babies and the female continued to feed them all. One chick did not make it. The birds were as good as any I had produced, so I said to myself, 'What is going on here?' 'What's this thing about soaked and sprouted seed?' And then it suddenly dawned on me that the parents had been feeding their chicks soaked spray millet, which Gouldians love. That is fine with me. It is very high in protein and . . . So I just don't any more.

I watched and found that all my Australian birds fed soaked spray millet to their babies the first few days. The Africans, of course, consume large quantities of live food during those first critical days. I watched carefully and feel that the quality of birds I now produce is identical to those got when I offered both soaked and sprouted seed.

I think that something soaked is essential if you have young birds.

Ross: We have noticed that with soaked spray millet the birds (particularly the Gouldians) will all go to that instead of their regular food. On the days we serve soaked sprays we'll always have more regular food left over. Since they are not getting complete nutrition from the seed, we only serve it as an occasional treat and we do it in the afternoon so as not to interfere with regular nutrition.

GREENFOOD

Ross: Green food is one of the most important sources of essential vitamins and minerals for birds. Let's talk a bit about the fresh food that you provide for your birds.

Tom: Well as I said all of my finch flights contain softbills and so in addition to the seed mix that I mentioned before there's nectar available, greens, of course which are available for all of my birds I use.

Ross: What about the greens?

Tom: Greens, I use green leaf lettuce, I use Romaine lettuce, and I use the name of that lettuce I can't think of. I occasionally use red leaf and sometimes I will use three or four if I just happen to have them. Again it is soaked, even the organic when I use it, it is soaked in vinegar water rinsed three times, layed out on a towel and patted out pretty dry.

Ross: We've had extremely good success feeding a mix of chopped greens and sprouts to our birds. We'll do carrot tops or kale or whatever greens are nutritious and in season. But what has really been a hit in the aviary is to bring dandelion greens in from the yard and chop those with sunflower sprouts. The birds just love them, and they are about the most nutritious greens you can feed (Vitamins E & A, Iron, calcium, potassium, and Thiamin). I am told that chickweed is even a little better nutritionally, but I wouldn't know a chickweed if I saw one. I guess they don't grow in New Mexico. Anyway, we have plenty of dandelions so this solves two problems for me. I feed my birds well and get the dandelions out of the yard! We also have a good farmer's market, so during the summer I get lots of good organic greens and sprouts there, too. During the winter our health food stores carry wonderful dandelion greens, and they aren't terribly expensive. Before serving, all greens are all sprayed with Oxyfresh Cleansing Gele¹ and then carefully rinsed and spun dry. I bought a small \$30 Quis-inart that we use for our bird food preparation and we coarse chop the greens with sunflower sprouts in it. The birds love it.

Tom: Easy to pick up.

Ross: I know that you and I agree that it is pointless to feed iceberg lettuce because it has nothing in it.

Tom: It's totally nutritionally worthless. I like to make my birds work as much as possible and by that I mean they don't really have to do anything, the food is there, the water is there and I think it is good for them to work. I attach all of my greens with clothes pins to branches and they have to pick at it and work at it and you know get it.

Ross: So you'll just take a leaf and use a clothespin to put it on a branch.

Tom: Yes. although there is a theory that one should not feed greens in the winter because winter greens are nutritionally worthless, all of my birds relish greens even in winter and I always make them available.

Tom: You mention chard and things. I've used chard, I find most of the time it's very difficult for little Waxbills and things to get it because its a little bit too tough but I see your point of chopping it up.

Ross: I think the only thing you have to watch there is not to chop it up too finely because you end up with a pulp and they won't eat it. The list of things you can feed your birds is almost infinite and I would encourage people to both try and experiment to see what their birds like because often what works for somebody in one place doesn't work in another place. Also, like us, it seems that birds enjoy some variety in their diet.

NFSS Spring/Summer Raffle

NFSS members have the exciting opportunity to win the following by participating in the NFSS Fundraising Raffle:

Pair of Owl Finches

Donated by Harry Bryant

Japanese Society Finches

(two pearl mutation birds)

Donated by Michael Marcotrigiano

Pair of Mystery Birds

Donated by To Be Announced

How it works:

#1 Cut out the attached raffle tickets on the following page.

#2 Fill in your name, phone #, NFSS #, and signature.

#3 Include a check in US Funds in the amount due
made out to NFSS.

#4 **Cost per ticket is \$1**

#5 Mail completed raffle tickets and check to Fundraising
Coordinator:

Kerri McCoy

NFSS Fundraising Coordinator

4780 Settles Point Road

Suwanee, GA 30024

Questions?: kerrimccoy@mindspring.com

or phone (678) 546-3353

Fundraising Raffle Rules and Regulations:

- Raffle is open to **NFSS members ONLY**. Your membership must be current for you to be eligible to win.
- You may enter as many times as you would like. Photocopies of tickets attached may be made, or for convenience additional tickets are available for printing at the NFSS Website (<http://www.NFSS.org>).
- Make sure to write name, phone #, NFSS number and signature under disclaimer on **EACH** raffle ticket. Tickets mailed in without above information will not be included in raffle.
- First name drawn will have first choice of birds offered for raffle; 2nd and 3rd will follow suit.
- Winner is responsible for any and all costs associated with shipping birds if that is deemed necessary. Particulars regarding shipping will be worked out with donator and raffle winner.
- Due to the generosity of the donators, losses that may or may not be incurred during shipping and upon receipt will be at the winner's risk.
- NFSS assumes no liability whatsoever in the event casualty or illness in raffle items occurs.

Raffle will run during Jan/Feb, March/April, and May/June issues of NFSS Bulletin. Drawing date will be on July 1.

Button Quail Basics (continued from page 9)

- ◆ Incubate for 16 days at 99.5 degrees (Fahrenheit) (99 to 101 OK)
 - lower: poor hatching, higher: kills chicks.
 - . Ideal humidity 65%, especially crucial during last 24 hours
 - . Leave newly hatched chicks in incubator for first 24 hours (they do not need to eat during the first 24 hours)
 - . Move to solid wall box (with screen cover)
 - . Add overhead heat source (25-40 watt light bulb) keep temp at 95, 24 hour a day for the first week, reducing temp 5 degrees every week
 - . Water (not more than 1/4 inch deep) should be very shallow (i.e. lids to jars)
 - . Food first week, food such as hard boiled egg, chick starter, CEDE egg food
 - . **DO NOT FEED MINI MEAL WORMS** for the first 6 weeks, chicks confuse meal worms with their own toes, and **OFTEN** eat their own toes in error

(continued on page 30)

NFSS Fundraising Raffle

Name: _____

Phone # _____ **NFSS #** _____

I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

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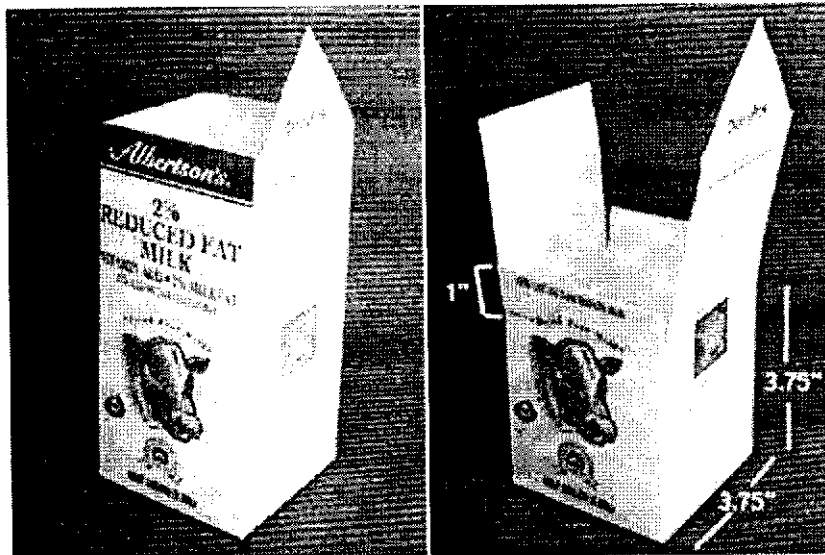
NFSS Fundraising Raffle

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Phone # _____ **NFSS #** _____

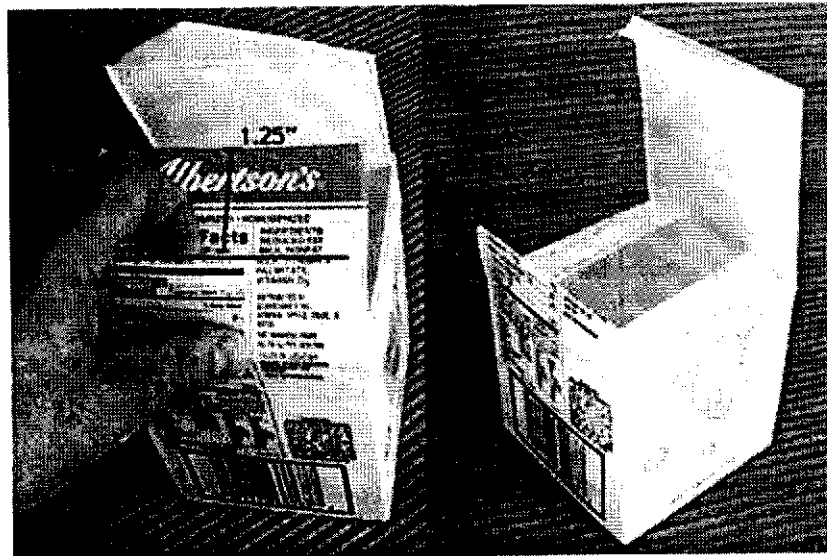
I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

Signed: _____



Start by cutting off the top of the milk carton right at the seam for the folds and spout. Leave one of the triangular sections from the spout on.

Measure up 3 3/4" from the bottom. Mark a line all around the container. Then, cutting down along the edges, cut from the top to the line. Do this for all four corners. Cut two sides down to 1" above the line.

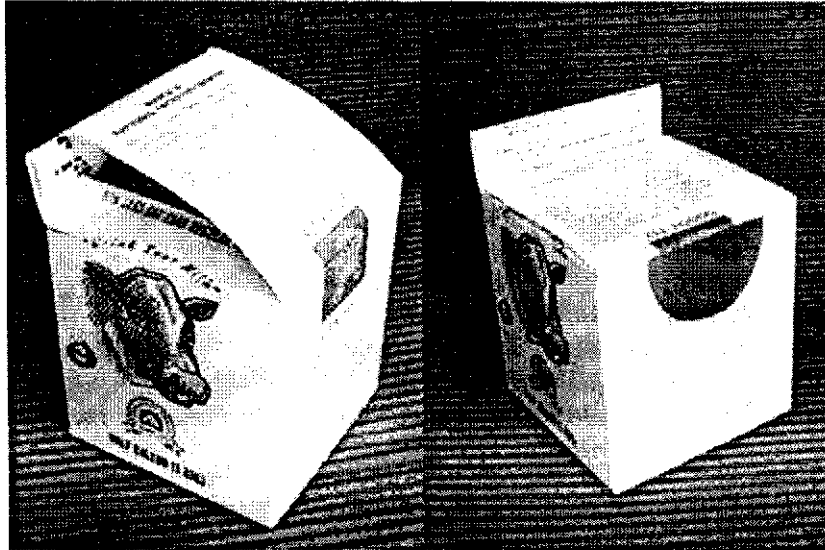


Fold over the back side 1" up from the line. This will form the back of the nest and provide a flap for you to hang the nest from. Cut a slot across the back 1 1/4" from the top edge.

Fold down the two short sides at the lines.

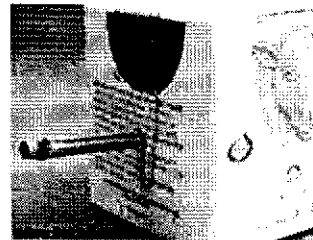
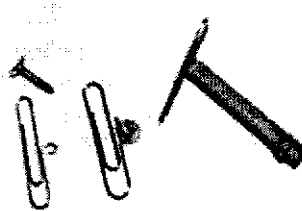
Constructing Milk Carton Nest Boxes

By Roy Beckham © 2001



Tuck the triangular tab of the top into the slot cut into the back.

For an opening, I usually use a half moon shape at the top of the box. Punch a hole in the back tab and use some wire to hang the nest.



Add a Perch—Take a large paper clip and bend a loop into the end. Stick a thumb tack or nail through the loop. Jab a stick onto the nail. Clip this on the opening of the nest box. The perch assembly is reusable after you throw the nest away.

This and other ideas can be found on the internet at www.eFinch.com

LEFTY, THE ONE-LEGGED ZEBRA FINCH

by Lisa Miller

About four years ago, I bought a pair of zebra finches. Like many of you, this led to the acquisition of many more types of finches – the usual hobby gone mad! Within months, I was hooked on raising finches. I soon bought more zebras, and began to breed them. I'd read that they were among the easiest finches to breed, and I'd hoped to learn about breeding from them before I attempted to breed some of the more exotic and difficult species.

I had great success. With about five breeding pairs of zebras, I soon had many baby birds, and needed to find homes for them. I placed ads in the local area, separated the babies into their own cage, and soon the phone was ringing with people interested in buying the babies. Many of these people were first-time bird owners, and knew very little about zebras. Although most of the males had started to color out, these people often couldn't tell a male from a female. To alleviate this confusion, I placed blue plastic split rings on the males' legs so potential buyers could tell the males from the females without me having to spend hours answering the question, "Is that a male? Is that one? How about that one?" Thus began the saga of Lefty.

After a few weeks, only two babies remained unsold – Lefty and his sister. The cage they were in was spacious, and I had checked to make sure it didn't have anything the babies could catch their leg rings on. (All were also NFSS closed banded.) Nonetheless, I came home from work one afternoon to find blood all over the babies' cage! I was horrified. There sat Lefty on a perch, with his leg hanging by a small piece of skin, and the plastic split ring pulled down around the toes on that foot. Yet he seemed rather unperurbed by it all. I couldn't believe he was even still alive, considering his sorry state and blood loss.

I rushed him to my vet, who told me that the leg couldn't be saved, since the damage was too great. It would have to be amputated. The vet cut off what was left of the leg, cauterized the stump, and I picked Lefty up a few hours later. The amputation had caused a small amount of blood loss, but, overall, he seemed none the worse for wear. I didn't think he'd survive long, but I brought him home anyway, thinking at least he could pass away in a comfortable cage,

not in the vet's office. In a surprising show of compassion, the vet refused to charge me for the procedure. I think he took pity on me and Lefty. What a nice guy!

Much to my surprise, Lefty quickly overcame the most difficult aspects of his handicap. He figured out how to perch on one foot, and he could fly, although a bit awkwardly. I made sure he could get to the food and water, and left him to heal quietly. Not only did he survive, but he actually recovered, so I released him into my aviary with all my other birds. It's an outdoor 15x30-foot screened porch, and I figured the natural sunlight and rainfall would do him good, now that the worst was past. I doubted anyone would ever want to buy him, so I figured it was my responsibility to let him live out his natural life. I felt guilty about his condition. After all, I was the one who bred him, and although I could never figure out what he caught his band on, it was ultimately my fault since I put him in that cage in the first place.

Lefty settled well in the aviary, although I noticed he seemed to be picked on a bit by the other, "healthy" birds. They seemed to sense he was handicapped, and gave him no small measure of grief over it. They drove him from the food, wouldn't let him sit near them on perches, and refused to socialize with him or groom him. He did manage to get enough to eat when no one else was around the feeder, but I feared that this constant bullying would eventually weaken him until he succumbed.

After a few weeks, I was just to the point of removing him from the aviary, when an amazing thing happened. Lefty finally fought back! One day, I saw him drive another bird from the feeder when it pecked at him. When challenged for food or a perch, he started standing his ground, and soon, the other birds stopped molesting him. I was thrilled with this turn of events, and very relieved for Lefty. It looked like he'd make it after all. Aside from his injury, he'd grown up to be a very handsome little male zebra. What happened next was completely unexpected, and exceeded all my hopes for Lefty.

Of all my breeding zebra hens, the one I call Mae is my favorite. She's pretty, lively, and friendly – coming quite close to me at times. Also, she's my most dedicated and reliable breeder. Her babies are well-formed and healthy. She is a very attentive mother, never tossing babies or losing a single chick from her clutches. She had been paired (her choice, not mine) to one of my best-looking

males, and they never failed to produce outstanding chicks.

So imagine my surprise when I found her being courted by Lefty! I didn't think he had any chance at all, considering his handicap. Well, apparently, Mae thought otherwise. She left her previous mate, and promptly started a nest with Lefty. They produced several clutches of beautiful babies that season. How Lefty manages to actually accomplish mating with only one leg is beyond me (I've never witnessed it yet), but the results speak for themselves.

Lefty and Mae are still together. He continues to overcome his handicap, and has learned to rest on his stump while perching, and he even walks on it while foraging on the ground. And to think I considered having the vet put him to sleep, thinking he would never survive, much less thrive. It just proves that you should never underestimate a creature's ability to adapt, and its will to live. Go Lefty!

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

Button Quail Basics (continued from page 23)

. They must have textured surface to walk on, like sand to avoid splay legs

COLORS

. Dominant

-Normal, Blue, Golden Pearl

. Recessive

-Silver & White

. Some of Mutations Available

-Cinnamon, Fawn, White, Red Breasted, Golden Pearl, Silver Pearl, Cinnamon Pearl, Ivory, Ivory Pearl, Silver Red Breasted, Blue faced, Blue Faced Cinnamon, Golden Red Breasted, Slate, Smokey, Cinnamon Breasted Blue Faced and Tuxedo

Special thanks to Garrie Landry for his researched help. He can be reached by phone; 337-828-5957 or visit his web site; www.zebrafinch.com.

NFSS FinchSave Application

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

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

Name: _____ NFSS# _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Email: _____

The National Finch and Softbill Society Membership Application

Mail application and check or money order payable to NFSS: Eileen Laird,
 Membership Secretary, P.O. Box 2459, Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459

Annual dues are \$25 for single memberships, \$30 for dual, and \$17.50 for junior (under 16). U.S. & Puerto Rico 1st Class mailing add \$5.00, Canadian add \$5.00, Foreign add \$10.00 (Please send US funds). Canadian and foreign subscriptions mailed 1st Class.

Name: _____ NFSS# _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____
 New Member? _____ Renew NFSS# _____
 Second name if dual membership _____

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Aviary and Cage Bird Society (ACBS) of South Florida

Carrie Efstathion
954-432-3349
marbilld@earthlink.net
www.feathers.org

Badger Canary and Finch Club

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

Baltimore Bird Fanciers (Region 1 Show Host)

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

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

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

Cajun Canary Club

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

Canary and Finch Society

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

Capitol City Bird Society (Region 6 Show Host)

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

Central Alabama Avicultural Society (Region 2 Show Host)

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

Central California Cage Bird Club

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

Central Savannah River Area Exotic Bird Assoc.

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

Connecticut Canary & Finch Club

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

Durham Avicultural Society of Ontario

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

Finch Connection Bird Club

Paula Hanscn
503-581-8208
bobeh911@aol.com

Finch Society of San Diego County

Sally Huntington
858-452-9423
sallych@san.rr.com

First Internet Bird Club

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

Florida State Fair

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

Fort Worth Bird Club

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

Friends of the Aviary

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

Georgia Caged Bird Society

Pat Miller
770-971-8080
jandpmiller@mindspring.com

<p>Great Lakes Avicultural Society Diana Hugo 616-842-0163 hugo@iscrv.net www.i2k.com/~glas/</p>	<p>International Canary Society Marie Gleason 716-282-2944 frankruthsalvini@aol.com www.upatsix.com/ics</p>	<p>New York Finch and Type Canary Club Stan Kulak 718-967-6899 barstand@erols.com www.nyfinchtypccanary.homestead.com</p>
<p>Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club Pam Thompson 708-489-5051 acs64t@aol.com www.GCCBC.org</p>	<p>MidAmerica Cage Bird Society Great American Bird Show (GABS) Host Rhoda Shirley 515-243-1511 zaco@ticon.net</p>	<p>Peninsula Caged Bird Society Marian "Bea" Rogers 757-484-6001 dickivy@two-rivers.com www.freeyellow.com/members9/clubpage/index.html</p>
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<p>Greater Rochester Avian Society Patrick F. Goonan 716-288-5653 patrick_goonan@hotmail.com www.angelfire.com/zine/GRAS</p>	<p>Midwest Zebra and Society Finch Club Nita Haas 816-331-5285 timjhaas@home.com</p>	<p>Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club Richard Pizzurro 408-927-0734 Dorcen Waugh doreen123@mindspring.com</p>
<p>Gulf South Bird Club, Inc. Danny Chauvin 985-876-7966 tBirds@mobiletel.com</p>	<p>Missouri Cage Bird Association Rich Dickman 636-928-3444 skdatl@accessus.net</p>	<p>Society of Canary & Finch Breeders Patrick Vance 248-443-0643 www.SCFB.net</p>
<p>Honolulu Canary and Finch Club Kathy Perreira 808-844-3629 ala1884@aol.com</p>	<p>Motor City Bird Breeders (Region 3 Show Host) Pat Piekarz 810-296-2957 P3495@aol.com</p>	<p>Southeast Bird Fanciers Ginny Allen 334-749-7168 gndallen@earthlink.net http://members.tripod.com/scbfg/SEBF.htm</p>
<p>Illini Bird Fanciers Tom Rood 217-774-5265 tjrood@bnmhnet.com</p>	<p>National Institute of Red Orange Canaries Stephan V. Hopman 815-469-8455 birdhop@aol.com</p>	<p>Continued on Page 34</p>

2001 SHOWS & EVENTS

JUN 2 Show
Illini Bird Fanciers
4-H Building
Shelbyville, IL
Judge: Clarence Culwell

JUN 2 Fair
West Suburban CB Club
DuPage Cnty Fairgrounds
Wheaton, IL

JUN 3 Fair
Capitol City Bird Society
Lodi Pet Fair
Roseville, CA

JUN 3 Fair
Suncoast Avian Society
Minnreg Bldg.
Largo, FL

JUN 10 Event
New York Finch and Type
Canary Club
Feather Show
Averill Blvd.
Park Meeting Room
Elmont, Long Island, NY

JUN 16 Bird Mart
Birds of a Feather
Avicultural Society
Manchester, NH

AUG 4 Show
Suncoast Avian Society
St. Petersburg Coliseum
St. Petersburg, FL
Judge: Dennis Lewis

AUG 4-5 Show
Midwest Zebra & Society
Finch Club
American Inn
North KCMO

Judge: Clarence Culwell
Aug 4...Seminars 12-6 pm
Aug 5... Show

AUG 17—SEP 3
California State Fair
Capitol City Bird Society

SEP 1-2 Shows
Central Alabama
Avicultural Society
(Region 2 Show Host)
Governor's House Hotel
and Conference Center
Montgomery, AL
Judge: Clarence Culwell
(Day 1), Sally Huntington
(Day 2)

SEP 8 Fair
National Institute of Red
Orange Canaries, Baby
Feathers Show and Fair
Elk Grove Township Hall
2400 Arlington Ht. Road
Elk Grove, IL 60005

SEP 9 Event
Society of Canary and
Finch Breeders
Livonia, MI

SEP 21-23 Show
Durham Avicultural Soci-
ety 24th Annual Show
Jubilee Pavilion
55 Lakeview Park Ave.
Oshawa, ONT L1H 8S7

SEP 22 Fair/Sale
Greater Chicago Cage Bird
Club
Hattendorf Center
Elk Grove, IL

SEP 23 Fall Fair
Missouri Cage Bird Assoc.
Stratford Inn
Fenton, MO

SEP 29 Show
Connecticut Canary &
Finch Club
Fatima Square Church
Kane Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Judge: Al Decoteau

OCT 6 Fair
CSRA Exotic Bird Assoc.
Julian Smith Casino
Augusta, GA

OCT 6 Show
Middle Tennessee Cage
Bird Club
TN State Fairgrounds
Nashville, TN
Judge: Paul Williams

OCT 6-7 Shows
Aviary and Cage Bird
Society of South Florida
War Memorial Auditorium
800 NE 8th Street
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Judge: Dale Laird (Day 1),
pending (Day 2)

OCT 6-7 Shows
**Great American Bird
Show**
Hosted by MidAmerica
Cage Bird Society
Hotel Ft. Des Moines
Des Moines, IA
Judge: Paul Williams
(Day 1), Miki Spartzak
(Day 2)

<p>OCT 7 Fair Suncoast Avian Society Minnreg Bldg. Ft. Lauderdale, FL</p>	<p>OCT 20 Show New York Finch and Type Canary Club St. Judes Church Coyne Hall 9401 Seaview Ave. Brooklyn, NY Judge: Bill Parlee</p>	<p>NOV 3 Show Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club Tinley Park Holiday Inn Tinley Park, IL Judge: Patrick Vance</p>
<p>OCT 12-13 Shows The Finch Connection Bird Show and Exhibit Oregon St Fairgrounds Salem, OR Judge: Julie Duimstra (Day 1), Clarence Culwell (Day 2)</p>	<p>OCT 20 Fair West Suburban CB Club DuPage Cnty Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL</p>	<p>NOV 3 Show Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society, Inc. Monroeville, PA Judge: Al Decoteau</p>
<p>OCT 19-21 Show Int'l Canary Society Lockport Best Western Lockport, NY Judge: pending</p>	<p>OCT 20-21 Shows Capitol City Cage Bird Club (Region 6 Show Host) Placer County Fairgrounds Roseville, CA Judge: pending</p>	<p>NOV 3 Show Missouri Cage Bird Assoc. Days Inn Eureka, MO Judge: Martha Wigmore</p>
<p>OCT 20 Show Baltimore Bird Fanciers (Region 1 Show Host) 61st Annual Show Tall Cedars of Lebanon Hall Old Harford Road and Putty Hill Avenue Parkville, Maryland 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Judge: Jackie Civitarce</p>	<p>OCT 27 Show Canary & Finch Society League City Civic Center 400 West Walker League City, TX Judge: Steve Hoppin</p>	<p>NOV 3 Show Texas Bird Breeders (Region 4 Show Host) Mayborn Conv. Center Temple, TX Judge: Armando Lee</p>
<p>OCT 20 Show Fort Worth Bird Club Grapevine Conv. Center Grapevine, TX Judge: Tom Rood</p>	<p>OCT 27 Show Central California Cage Bird Club SOS Club Modesto, CA Judge: pending</p>	<p>NOV 3-4 Show Georgia Caged Bird Soci- ety Jim Miller Park Marietta, GA Judge: Dale Laird</p>
<p>OCT 20 Show Great Lakes Avicultural Society Rockford North Middle School Rockford, MI Judge: Paul Williams</p>	<p>OCT 27 Show Motor City Bird Breeders Italian-American Commu- nity Cultural Center 28111 Imperial Drive Warren, MI 48092 Judge: Conrad Meinert</p>	<p>NOV 15-17 NCBS Hosted by Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society Holiday Inn—The Center Manchester, NH Judge: Martha Wigmore</p>
	<p>OCT 27-28 Show Society of Canary and Finch Breeders Livonia, MI Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau</p>	<p>NOV 23-25 Show Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club Wilcox HS Santa Clara, CA Judge: Bill Parlee</p>
		<p>(Continued on next page)</p>

**An Introduction
from the New
Region 5 VP**

My name is Waltraud Anna Sinclair, but Americans find it easier to call me Anna, so I took my middle name as my first name. I was bred and handed in Trier, Germany, but live very happily with my husband of 33 years in America. God gave us 2 sons and one daughter. All of them are grown now. 23 years ago, I started raising Finches and Canaries. And still do so very successfully with the Lord's help. I enjoy partaking in any shows that I possibly can. And there too, the Lord helped me to be successful. I enjoy beyond words to be and to work with people, to raise my beautiful birds, and I enjoy immensely life itself. I currently raise Engl. Zebras, Societies, Cordon Blues, Strawberry Finches, and Gouldian Finches. In the field of Canaries, I work with German Rollers, American Singers, and Mosaic Melanen Agates. I am delighted to serve as Vice President of Region 5.

Sincerely,
Anna Sinclair

**Affiliated Clubs -
Continued from page 31**

Southeast Tennessee Avicultural Society
Janet Burrell
423-472-1306
jbjg2202@aol.com

Suncoast Avian Society, Inc
Joseph Ventimiglia
727-392-9391
www.suncoastavian
society.org

Tennessee Valley Exotic Bird Club
Kim Strong
3411 Longhollow Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37938
Leading24@aol.com

Texas Bird Breeders
(Region 4 Show Host)
Clarence Culwell
817-220-5568
culwell5@flash.net

Texas Canary Club
Tina Dalecki
281-370-7422
tdakecki@ltw.net

Tri-State Avian Society
Barry Laster
850-668-0908
barryL@polaris.net
www.tristateavian
society.org

Virginia Society of Exotic Finches
Peggy Duvall
757-623-4786
peggyc@macs.net

West Suburban Caged Bird Club
Therese Baker
630-879-9476
tmb@concentric.com
www.wscbc.org

END

**2001 Show and Events -
Continued from page 33**

NOV 24 Show
National Institute of Red Orange Canaries
Holiday Inn
1000 Busse Road
Elk Grove, IL
Judge: Charlie Anchor

DEC 1 Show
Cajun Canary Club
Quality Hotel and Conference Center
Metairie, LA
Judge: pending

END

2001 NFSS AWARDS

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

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

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

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

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

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| _____ Basic Rosette Package (1-10 plus Best Unflighted) | \$45.00 |
| _____ Unflighted (2d and 3d place rosettes for unflighted) | \$10.00 |
| _____ Novice | \$ 7.00 |

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Send awards to: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Show/Event Information

Date of Show/Event _____ Judge _____

Show/Event Location _____

Club Delegate _____

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Can this information be published in the NFSS Bulletin? Yes _____ No _____

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Email: huntingtoncenter

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Calle 6F-10

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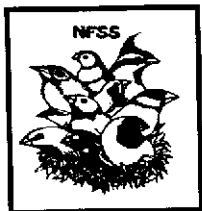
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 Eileen Laird
 P.O. Box 2459
 Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459

NFSS Liaison Officer
 Dianna Rubly
 525 Pottsville Street, PO Box 52
 Wiconisco, PA 17097-0052.

Name: _____
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2001 AFFILIATION AGREEMENT



The basic affiliation fee is \$25.00. Make check payable to NFSS.

Mail to: Ginny Allen, Liaison Officer
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Opelika, AL 36801
Email: gndallen@earthlink.net
Phone/Fax: (334) 749-7168

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Delegate's Signature: _____

Club Officer: _____

Address: _____

*Phone: _____ *Email: _____

Club Email Contact (Important): _____

Club Web Site _____

Show/Event Date: _____ Panel Judge: _____

Show Location: _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Band Order Form

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Carol Heesen
NFSS Band Secretary
P.O. Box 752
Riverbank, CA 95367

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NFSS Zebra Pin		\$6
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All 3 Show Cage Plans		\$10

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