

WYNNUM REDLANDS BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY INC.



Newsletter, SEPTEMBER 2017

The Club's Web Page is: www.wrbsinc.com

The Newsletter Editor email

Wynnum Redlands Budgerigar Society Inc. would like to state, that its objective in reporting various articles & advice in our Newsletter & communication, both verbal and written, is merely to disseminate information, and not to make recommendations or directives. Wynnum Redlands Budgerigar Society Inc, would like to state, that the views expressed therein are not necessarily those of Wynnum Redlands Budgerigar Society Inc

Next GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 7.30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly General Meeting. 3rd TUESDAY of the month @ 7.30 pm @ Cleveland Hall.

Varieties for the Tableshow are:

Class 1 Cinnamonwing
Class 2 Double Factor Spangle
Class 3 Any Other Standard Variety

9-10 SEPTEMBER REDFEST (Strawberry Festival). This is an Any Aged two day show with benching on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Collection of birds from 4pm Sunday. Entries close Wednesday 6 September with Pat Sedgwick (Ph. 33968732)

10 September Fraser Coast Budgerigar Soc YB & NF
1 October Bundaberg AS
9 October Ipswich and District AA, YB & NF
15 October SQBBA Spring Show (Toowoomba)
22 October ABS YB & NF
29 OCTOBER Wynnum Redlands Annual Show

RESULTS OF AUGUST TABLESHOW

(13 entries)

Clearwing

Old 1st & 2nd Cedric D'Costa
Young 1st to 3rd Cedric D'Costa
Nestfeather 1st & 2nd Cedric D'Costa

Greywing Nil

Dominant Pied Nil

Any Other Standard Variety

Nestfeathers 1st to 3rd Cedric D'Costa
4th & 5th Trevor Broadbent

TABLESHOW PROGRESSIVE POINTS TALLY

219 Cedric D'Costa (O)
146 David Pendergast (N)
44 Ray Saunders
12 Terry Procter
10 Trevor Broadbent
10 Kerri Potts

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION OF 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Carol and Keith Gough provided a very informative presentation of the 2017 National Championships held in Mackay with photographs of all the winning birds, seconds and third placings, judges' comments and photographic comparisons with previous years' winners. Although the audience was only small the presentation was brilliant and demonstrated to the exhibition budgerigar enthusiasts the standard required to win at the highest level.

The Pendergast family spoilt us again with another scrumptious supper.

PARASITIC DISEASES by David Madill (Chapter 4 of *Everybird: A Guide to Bird Health*)

In the wild state all species of birds are subject to infestation by parasite, both internal and external. The host and the parasite often co-exist with only minor ill effects or discomfort to the host. Parasites do not necessarily cause serious problems.

However, when birds are artificially confined to small areas, such as aviaries, the balance is tipped in favour of the parasite. This is for two main reasons.

Firstly, there is an increased exposure to the parasite. In the wild the birds roam over large areas. This reduces their chance of reinfection as the parasite eggs that pass out in the bird's droppings are scattered. When birds are confined in an aviary the build up of these eggs can be enormous.

Secondly, stress lowers a bird's resistance to parasitic attack. Stress may be caused by factors such as predators, overcrowding, incompatible species being housed together, poor quality or incorrect feeding or competition for nest boxes or perch space.

If you can control or eliminate parasites within your aviary, you will be regarded with a dramatic improvement in the health and fertility of your birds. Heavily parasitised birds cannot thrive.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO AVOID INTRODUCING PARASITES

Preventing parasitism is far better than waiting for trouble and then treating. The most successful way of preventing parasitism in an aviary situation is by careful quarantine.

If only "parasite free" birds enter a clean, properly constructed and maintained aviary, then no major problems should arise in keeping your aviary parasite free.

Ideally, the quarantine cage should be at least 10m from the main aviary and constructed from the same materials as the main aviary. The cage need not be large but should be covered at night to reduce stress. Seed and water containers should be kept separate from the main aviary.

Seed, greens, fruit and other food offered to birds in quarantine should parallel those fed in the main aviary to avoid any digestive disturbances when transferring the new birds when quarantine is over.

When the bird leaves the quarantine cage, thoroughly clean the cage and feeding utensils. Replace perches using similar material to those in the main aviary. Scrub the whole cage and wire with a solution of hypochlorite (White King) or chloramine (Halamid) and, if possible, spell the cage for about two weeks.

QUARANTINE PROCEDURE

A recommended procedure to prevent parasites includes the following steps. **Never** put newly acquired birds straight into the main aviary. This is a recipe for disaster.

- Examine each new bird for external parasites such as lice, feather mite and parrot fly. These parasites can be seen with the naked eye and can cause anaemia and irritation. They will spread rapidly and colonise the aviary. If they are seen, dust the bird with a carbaryl-based powder (such as "Troy Insecta Screen"). If you are uncertain, dust the bird anyway and repeat in 14 days. Follow the directions on the container carefully.
- Internal parasites (worms) lay eggs. Bird droppings can be examined by your veterinarian for the presence of these eggs. If the result is positive, treatment will be needed. If the sample is negative, a second sample should be tested in 6 weeks time. The reason you need to check twice is because the life cycle of the round worm is about six weeks and tests done in the early part of the cycle could be negative because there are no mature egg-laying worms in the intestine at that time. Two negative tests, 6 weeks apart, are needed to declare a bird "worm free".
- For pigeons and budgerigars routine canker treatment is recommended.
- Check the bird for scaly mite. If suspected, a dichlorvos (Shelltox) pest strip may be placed near (not in) the cage.

A 6 week quarantine period with two negative faecal samples tests is best. This may be difficult to achieve. The minimum acceptable time for quarantine is 3 weeks. If you have any suspicions that a bird is not absolutely fit, do not put into the main aviary, even if its quarantine period has been completed.

2017 WRBS Committee

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