

Louise Bauck, DVM

Dr. Bauck completed a postgraduate degree and residency in exotic pet medicine after completing her DVM at the University of Saskatchewan. She currently works as the Director of Veterinary Services for the Hagen Avicultural Research Institute. Dr. Bauck is on the review board for two international veterinary journals and has authored chapters in all three current major avian texts. She has also written the new AAHA manual on avian medicine, and has authored the avian chapter in the current Merck manual. She is a consultant for the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council in both the US and Canada. A frequent lecturer to both the pet industry and to the veterinary community, her current research interest is in diseases of the Lady Gouldian Finch.

James M. Harris, DVM

Dr. Harris, who is originally from England, started keeping birds at the early age of four. Dr. Harris is a graduate of the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He started the Montclair Veterinary Clinic and Hospital in 1961, which is located in Oakland, California. He breeds macaws and finches, and is well known in the veterinary community for his interest and endeavors with the human-animal bond. Dr. Harris is the father of four children and the proud grandfather of four grandchildren.

Darrel K. Styles, DVM

Dr. Styles is a research veterinarian who has worked within the avicultural community for the past 10 years. He earned his DVM at North Carolina State University. His studies have taken him to work with noted research veterinarians and bird collection throughout the country. His work experience includes such facilities as Avicultural Institute and Pet Farm, Inc., as well as the Avian and Exotic Bird Medicine Department at NC State University. He is currently an owner of Hill Country Aviaries in Dripping Springs, Texas. Dr. Styles is also attending classes at the University of Texas where he is working on his Masters Degree in Medicinal Chemistry.

Amy B. Worell, DVM, ABVP-Avian

Dr. Worell has a BS in Zoology from the University of Kentucky and a DVM from Auburn University. She is a diplomat of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, where she was among the first group of veterinarians to be certified as an avian specialist. She is the owner of All Pets Medical Centre, in West Hills, California. Dr. Worell is an avid aviculturist, raising cockatoos, pionus, Greys and Eclectus Parrots. In the past, Dr. Worell was the AFA State Coordinator Chairman and chairman of the AFA veterinary program.

She served as the Association of Avian Veterinarians Chairperson for both the research and client education committees for several years, as well as being on the board of directors. She is on the editorial staff of several major avian and exotic veterinary publications as well as a contributor to major avian textbooks. She is known internationally for her research on hemachromatosis in toucans. 

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Book Review

by Rae V. Anderson
Sierra Madre, CA

HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD

Principal Editors: Josep del Hoyo, Andrew Elliot, and Jordi Sargatal, LYNX EDICIONS, \$185 per volume. (Note: the 5th volume alone, or all five of the available volumes purchased at once, can be gotten at a prepublication price of \$145 each if ordered by 31 July 1999.)

Through my approximately 68 years of aviculture I have never found a "Birds Of The World" type of book or series with which I was even partially satisfied. Such titles have always been far from complete, relating in generalities only to orders and families and quite cursorily at that. There has been little or no data on most of the particular species in which I have been interested and

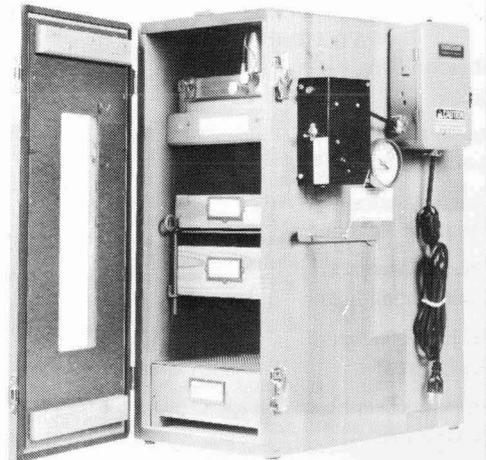
precious little even at genera level.

To be sure, species which are particularly spectacular in plumage colors and/or form or which have strange or unusual (from the human perspective) habits are usually illustrated and discussed but most often in ultra elementary and incomplete style. My library is quite void of such titles and I normally do not give them more than a brief first glance. Such was my speculation of the *HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD* until Volume 3 was published and American wildlife artist Albert Earl Gilbert convinced me that it would be worth my time to look over those first volumes in some detail. The more I looked and read, the greater my surprise at the comprehensiveness and quality of the text and illustrations as well as its very fine organization.

HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD, edited by Josep del Hoyo, Andrew Elliott, and Jordi

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Sargatal is a whole different story.

When completed, this set will comprise 12 volumes, to be published at 18 month intervals. The first four volumes are now in print (published from 1992 to 1997) and the series is on schedule, an almost unheard of accomplishment for any publisher. It is being published in conjunction with Bird Life International (formerly ICBP) and a percentage of the price of every volume sold is given to that institution toward their conservation projects.

The volume size is Quarto (4to), 3.10 mm (12 1/4 in.) X 240 mm (9 1/4 in.),

Volume 1:

Avian Families from Ostrich to Ducks, 696 pages, 50 color plates, a few hundred color photographs, and distribution maps.

Volume 2:

New World Vultures to Guinea fowl, 638 pages, 60 color plates, 302 color photographs, and 590 distribution maps.

Volume 3:

Hoatzin to Auks, 821 pages, 60 color plates 38e color photographs and 577 distribution maps.

Volume 4:

Sandgrouse to Cuckoos, 670 pages, 70 color plates, 250 color photographs, and 850 distribution maps.

Volume 5:

Barn Owls to Hummingbirds.

Volume 6:

Mousebirds to Woodpeckers.

Volume 7:

Broadbills to Pittas.

Volume 8:

New Zealand Wrens to Accentors.

Volume 9:

Thrushes to Old World Warblers.

Volume 10:

Old World Flycatchers to White-eyes.

Volume 11:

Honeyeaters to New World Blackbirds.

Volume 12:

Finches to Crows.

The first four volumes have selections by 66 highly regarded ornithologists. The authors include leading experts in the many disciplines (facets and groups) from universities, museums, research institutions, conservation groups, professional societies, agencies, etc., throughout the world. The consul-

tant for Systematics and Nomenclature is Walter J. Bock, Research Fellow, International Council for Bird Preservation, and for Status and Conservation is Nigel Collar, Research Fellow, Bird Life International.

The first segment of Volume 1 introduces the Class AVES (birds) and deals with the factors which are common to all birds. This includes sections on General Characteristics, Integument (skin), Feather Formation and Renovation, Color, Plumage Care, Skeleton, Musculature, Aerial Locomotion, Terrestrial Locomotion, Aquatic Locomotion, Feeding and Digestion, the Excretory System, Respiration, Circulation, Metabolism and Thermoregulation, the Nervous System and Senses, Brain, the Reproductive System, Breeding Behavior, Territory and Colony, Colonial Breeding, Mating Systems, Nests, Eggs, Incubation, Hatching, Chicks, Growth, Demographic and Ecological Aspects of Reproduction, Migration, Evolution of Birds, Speciation, Phylogeny and Classification.

Each Order is divided (where appropriate) into suborders, families, genera, species and subspecies.

The Systematics are diagrammed in the manner of an "organization chart" divided into Family, Subfamily, Tribe, Genus, and Species.

As an example of this, the Order Psittaciformes is divided into the two families, Cacatuidae (Cockatoos) and Psittacidae (Parrots). The Cacatuidae is further divided into three subfamilies, the Black Cockatoos with two genera and six species, the White/Grey Cockatoos with three genera and 14 species and the Cockatiel – one genus and one species.

The Family Psittacidae (Parrots) is divided into two subfamilies, Loriinae with 12 genera and 53 species, and the Psittacinae which is further divided into nine tribes. – Psittichadini (Pesquet's Parrot) with one genus and one species; Nestorini (Kea and Kaka) with one genus and two species; Micropsittini (pigmy parrots) with one genus and six species; Cyclopsittacini (Fig-parrots) with three genera and six species; Platycercini (Platycercine Parrots) with 14 genera and 37 species. Psittaculini (Psittaculine Parrots) with 12

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genera and 66 species; Psittacini, (Afrotropical Parrots) with three genera and 12 species, Arini (Neotropical Parrots) with 30 genera and 148 species.

For each family within an order of birds such as Psittacidae (Parrots), Cracidae (Chachalacas, Guans, and Curassows), etc., this set provides a significant amount of general information which is common to each specific family. This very interesting and informative material includes sections on Systematics, Morphological Aspects, Habitat, General Habits, Voice, Food and Feeding, Breeding, Movements, Relationship with Man, and Status and Conservation.

Briefly, these sections can be described as:

Systematics

Evidence and theories about the origins and evolution of the family and views as to the most closely related groups.

Morphological Aspects

General physical characteristics and those of particular interest of the family.

General tendencies of plumage and bare skin color and variations occurring with sex, age and season.

Locomotion (flight, ground, water).
Molt.

Habitat

Typical habitat used including feeding, roosting and breeding (courtship and nest site) habitats and, where applicable, migrational habits.

General Habits

This section is necessarily a sort of "catch-all" for all of the miscellaneous data which does not gracefully fit into any other section.

Voice

The different ways in which a bird's voice can be important in its daily activities, i.e., part of displays /courtship, territorial, contact between adult and young, etc.

Food and Feeding

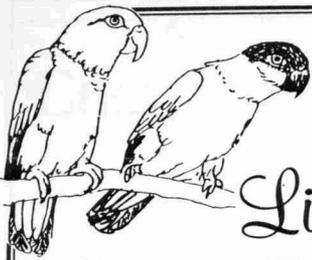
Food requirements of adults and nestlings, seasonal variations in diet, size of food items, etc. Commonest foraging techniques.

Breeding

General breeding strategy (colonial, solitary, etc.), polygamy, monogamy, roles taken by the sexes, chick care,

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Cagemasters, Inc., Loxahatchee, FL
Calderin, Victor O., Coral Gables, FL
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age of sexual maturity, nest-site, length of incubation stints, breeding seasons, and factors determining timing. Brief description of eggs. Generalities of the down color of chicks. Descriptions of display postures.

Movements

Dispersive, nomadic, erratic and "true" migration.

Migration - day or night, high or low altitudes, moving in flocks or singly, and in some cases, making regular stops at known "staging" points.

Type of route - inland, coast line, river valleys, over open sea.

Migration distance (length).

Relationship with man.

Legends and popular traditions involving birds.

Popular names.

Human exploitation of birds.

Possible negative effects of some birds on human enterprises.

Man's use of live birds, i.e., trained cormorants for fishing.

Domestication.

Status and Conservation.

This subject is extensively dealt with for every family.

Details about typical threats.

Comments on species currently classified as threatened at the global level. Methods adopted to try to secure their survival or to slow declines.

Factors responsible for population trends, i.e., forest destruction, water pollution, marine oil spills, salinization of fresh water lakes, wet land drainage, competition from introduced species, competition with human commercial enterprises, etc.

Positive actions, i.e., artificial nest-sites, captive breeding programs, active protection of nest-sites and colonies, declaration of reserves and sanctuaries, legal protection, etc.

Bibliography

Works which offer additional reading material about the family other than that used to compose the text.

In addition, for each genus and species within the Family or Subfamily, much detailed information is provided. This includes Common Names in four languages, Taxonomy, Subspecies and Distribution, Descriptive notes, Habitat, Food and Feeding, Breeding, Movements, Status and Conservation, and a Bibliography.

In the detailed species accounts, vernacular English names follow the official list proposed for and adopted by the 1994 International Ornithological Congress. Common names are also given in French, German, and Spanish, these being considered the most widely spoken, after English in ornithological circles.

Each species account is accompanied by a small distribution map to give a rough idea of the range. These maps are in three colors: Yellow to show zones habitually occupied for breeding but where the species is not normally found other than in the breeding season; Blue indicates zones occupied by the species but where it does not normally breed; Green indicates areas where the species tends to be present all year.

Each species account closes with a bibliography intended to list the most important literature about the species.

At the end of each volume is a two part section of "references." The first, titled References of Scientific Descriptions, contains the bibliograph-

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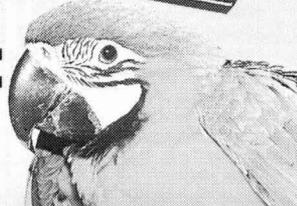
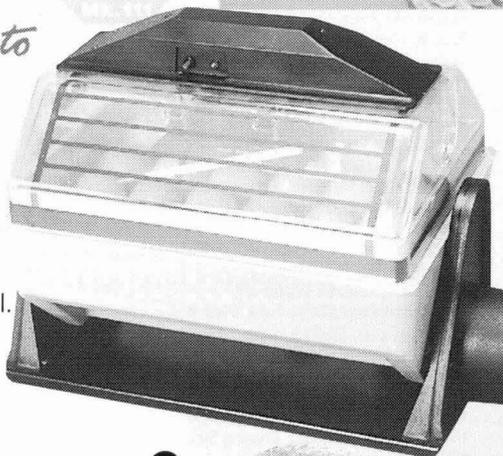
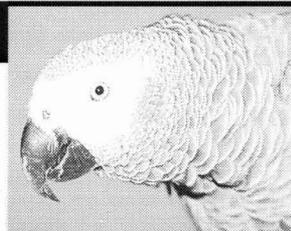
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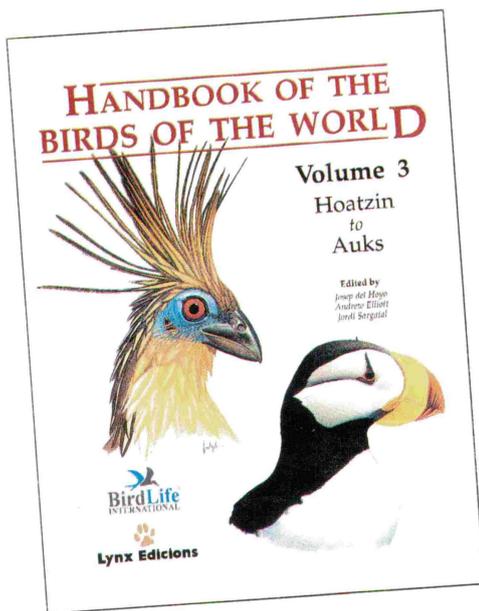
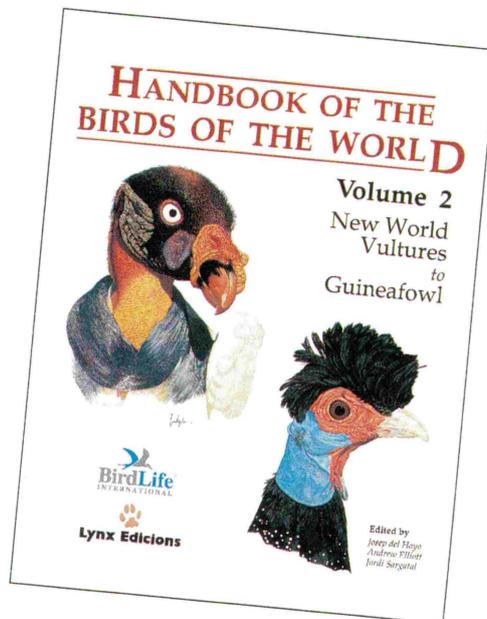
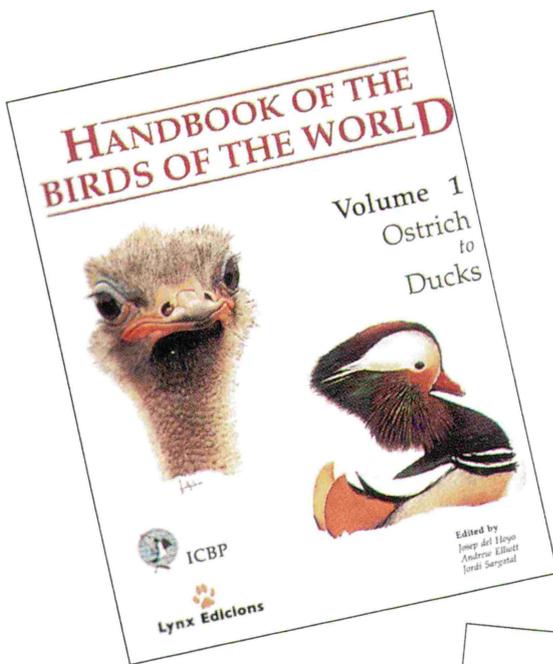
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ical details of the original descriptions of every genus, species and subspecies that is recognized in *HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD*.

Lynx Edicions, the publisher, was founded in 1988 by Dr. Josep del Hoyo, Dr. Jordi Sargatal, and financial backer (and attorney) Ramon Mascort for the principal purpose of develop-

ing and publishing the *HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD*.

Among the objectives of the editors is "to provide an extensive reference work" on birds, "attempt to demonstrate the extraordinary diversity of the birds" and "to give comprehensive worldwide coverage from a genuinely international point of view."

These first four volumes are profusely illustrated with high quality, interesting photographs and 240 "handbook type" paintings by 23 excellent ornithological illustrators. It is expected that this set, when completed, will contain the largest, most comprehensive and best collection of bird photographs ever published in a single work.

The photographs were selected to illustrate aspects of biology or ecology that are explained in the text, i.e.,

methods of thermoregulation, feeding techniques, breeding behavior, etc. Straight portraits have been avoided.

The plates illustrate every species covered in the text. Only birds in mature breeding plumage (no immature or non-breeding plumage) are shown. Breeding plumage and sexual dimorphism are shown when applicable, usually an adult male of the nominate race. Distinct morphs in polymorphic species are also shown. Many subspecies are included, particularly when significant plumage differences exist.

The taxonomic order of listing in this work follows one of the traditional versions. That of Morony, Bock, and Farrand (1975) was deemed the most suitable. Subspecies nomenclature and descriptions generally follows Mayr and Cottrell (1979). These decisions by the editors are a necessarily subjective interpretation of the most widely accepted version.

This publication is not oriented toward aviculture. It is however very useful to the serious aviculturist for the purposes of identification as well as increased knowledge of the species requirements in the wild. Such information is quite essential for avicultural success with the more delicate or difficult to breed and many first and second generation captive species.

If I were able to have only one set of modern bird books it would have to be this *HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD*.

The listed price for the 5th volume is \$185. There is a prepublication price of \$145 if your order is placed by 31 July 1999. The earlier four volumes cannot be purchased selectively, one at a time, but can be gotten *as a complete group* for \$145 each when you order the 5th volume by the end of July.

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