



Blue Crowned Lory (Vini australis)

New Lory Society

The Lory Society is being formed to fill an important avicultural gap. All persons having lorries or an interest in them are invited to join at \$9.00 per year in the U.S. and \$11.00 overseas.

The primary purpose of the Lory Society is to aid and abet the increase of the lory populations in captivity. The main effort toward this end will be the annual lory census taken by the Lory Society and forwarded to the A.F.A. Annual Bird Census under Larry Shelton. As always, this data is confidential.

This lory census is extremely important as it will compile the complete gene pool of captive lorries and will help greatly in pairing up unmated birds that are sitting alone here and there.

A further service of the Lory Society is a bi-monthly newsletter that will contain a wealth of data pertaining to lorries and lorikeets. Articles will be written by the most authoritative lory breeders in the world and much information will be exchanged by all of the members of the society. Each member will be urged to share his or her knowledge and experience. The newsletter will also have a "for sale, trade, wanted" column that members can use at no charge for now.

There are 55 species in the sub-family *Loridae* in the wild. It is not known just how many species are in captivity but access to the wild birds is drying up. It is imperative that we establish self sustaining captive populations of the lorries we now have or in a few years these most beautiful birds will disappear from aviculture.

Please send your full name, address, and phone number along with your charter-membership dues (\$9.00 U.S.A., \$11.00 overseas) to Roland Cristo, 11130 Edgewood Rd., Auburn, Ca. 95603. ●

A Food Supplement You Can Make Yourself

by Robert Travnicek, M.D. and
Thomas D. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Wilber, Nebraska

Commercial food supplements have been a favorite of aviculturists over the years. Most of us feed them by blending the meal base and seed with carrot, hard-boiled egg, etc. Recently due to inflation many have sought a cheaper alternative to the expensive commercial mixes. Published reports have advocated ground dry dog food either alone or mixed with the seed base. Some have utilized commercial poultry preparations.

Facing a cost crisis and trying to maintain the quality of nutrition in the aviary, the advice of our State University Department of Poultry Nutrition was sought with what I think are excellent results on three fronts.

First, the participation in formulation of the meal with an experienced expert was stimulating. The aviculturist certainly learns more about nutrition than by opening a bag. Secondly, the savings in cost were substantial. The previous mix (Petamine) cost \$12.95/25 lbs. delivered, as opposed to \$30.00/100 lbs. for basic mash with a cost of \$22.50/100 lbs. for the final product (mash seed mix). Finally, one is able to know the exact nutritional content of the mash so that any additional supplements or changes in the formula itself can be weighed against the effect on your birds. The nutritional content of the entire diet can then be calculated based on the history of the consumption of each of the components.

Preparation of Turkey Starter Super Supplement

The primary ingredient in this supplement was a typical turkey starter ration. Composition of the turkey starter ration used to prepare the supplement evaluated in our study is presented in Table 1. This ration was composed largely of ground yellow corn and soybean meal with appropriate levels of a feed phosphate, ground limestone, salt, a vitamin premix, trace mineral premix, a selenium premix and a methionine supplement.

The calculated composition of this ration is listed immediately below the ingredient levels or formula in Table 1. Also listed are levels of vitamins and trace

minerals furnished by the various premixes.

The total calculated vitamin and trace mineral contents of the 28% turkey starter ration are presented in Table 2. These levels include vitamins and trace minerals provided both in premix form and those furnished by ration ingredients such as ground yellow corn, soybean meal, dehydrated alfalfa, etc.

The following ingredients were used to mix the "Turkey Starter Super Supplement":

Turkey starter ration, unmedicated (28% protein)	100 lbs.
Vitamin premix TC-80	100 lbs.
Trace mineral premix	0.5 lb. (227 g)
Hydan (85% L-methionine)	1.5 lb. (681 g)
Total	112.0 lb.

These ingredients were blended in an appropriate sized mixer for four or five minutes. If a feed mixer was not available, these ingredients could be blended by hand in a large tub or with a grain scoop on a clean concrete floor.

This "Turkey Starter Super Supplement," when mixed as previously indicated, should contain vitamin and trace mineral levels which are approximately 10 times greater than those in the original turkey starter ration (Tables 1 and 2). Also, the methionine level should be 2.12% as compared to 0.62% in the original turkey starter. Methionine is an essential amino acid needed for growth of new tissues and is especially important in feather growth.

Mixing or procurement of one's own "super supplement" should not be an impossible task. If necessary, an unmedicated chick starter ration could be substituted for the unmedicated turkey starter ration used in our study. Then premixes of vitamins and trace minerals at 10 times the rate used in turkey or chick starter rations should be blended with the unmedicated starter ration. Starter rations for chicks and perhaps turkeys may be purchased at most any large feed and farm supply store. Premixes of vitamins and trace minerals should be available at most feed mills and feed supplement dealers.