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Hand Raising Green Imperial Fruit Pigeons

by
George Heinrich
and Beth McLain
Memphis Zoo, Tennessee

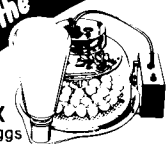
The Memphis Zoo and Aquarium has maintained green imperial fruit pigeons (*Ducula aenea*) since May of 1974. At present, the zoo has three adults consisting of a pair and an additional male. These are on display in the back open flight of the tropical bird house. On November 17th of 1981, we had our third successful hatching. It was named Marty Feldman because of the bulging eyes it had while a youngster. The previous two hatched out in February and May of 1980 and were raised by the parents. This third hatching is notable because it is being hand raised at the zoo's reserve bird house. The parents abandoned the nest while the youngster was pipping. The egg was removed from the nest on November 14th and placed in an incubator set at 98.5°F. On the morning of November 17th the squab hatched. Outside the reserve bird house was a pair of nesting common pigeons. It was decided at this time to trade the youngster with a hatchling of approximately the same age from this nest. After periodically observing the birds during the day, we noted the youngster was being brooded but not fed. Not wanting to take any chances, we pulled the baby to hand raise.

At first Marty was fed a very liquid formula of cooked Heinz baby cereal, KMR and small amounts of Osteoform and K-zyme. The baby cereal was cooked to aid in digestion. The bird was fed this mixture luke warm from a spoon approximately five times daily starting at 8 A.M. Feedings were scheduled for every two hours. For the first week, an evening meal was provided. Careful observation was taken to be sure the formula was not impacting in the crop. This happened once, but gentle massage cured the problem.

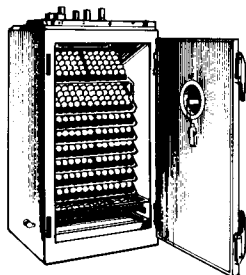
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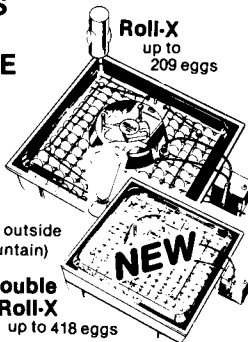


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Green imperial fruit pigeon at approximately 25 days old.

After approximately two weeks, Heinz blended baby fruits were added. Within another two weeks, 50% of Marty's formula consisted of these blended fruits. The blended fruits were slowly substituted with chopped fruits such as apple, banana and raisins. After a few more weeks larger pieces of fruit, as in canned fruit cocktail, were given. The fruit cocktail was thoroughly rinsed to remove the sweetened syrup. At 74 days, old Marty was eating canned fruit cocktail, morning mix (a mixture of dog food, carrots,

graham crackers and Heinz baby cereal), K-zyme and parrot grit. On November 19th, at two days old, the youngster weighed 17.25 grams. At the time of this writing, Marty is 83 days old and weighs 422.00 grams. (See Table 1 for schedule of weight gains.)

Ducula aenea, their scientific name, are found in India, Ceylon, Burma, the Adamans, Thailand, Indo China, Malay Peninsula, the Phillipines and Indonesian Islands. They are light, grayish-green above and pale gray below. The sexes are

Green imperial fruit pigeon at approximately 83 days old.



alike and are approximately 18 inches in length. In the wild these fruit pigeons frequent low-lying forest regions and are rarely found at elevations above 1,500 feet. They are shy birds and usually keep to the tops of high trees. Feeding in the cool of early morning and evening, they sometimes gather in small flocks in trees heavy with fruit. Strong feet with broad, flattened toes make it easier for them to move about the branches. They are seldom seen on the ground, except to drink. Flexible mandibles enable them to gape wide enough to swallow large fruits whole. The flesh of the fruit is digested and the hard seeds are later regurgitated.

Table 1. Schedule of Weight Gains

Day	Weight (grams)	Gain/Loss (grams)
3	17.25	(1st day weight)
4	18.50	+ 1.25
5	20.00	+ 1.50
6	19.75	- 1.25
7	21.25	+ 1.50
8	22.75	+ 1.50
9	25.50	+ 2.75
10	30.75	+ 5.25
11	33.25	+ 2.50
12	37.00	+ 3.75
13	41.00	+ 4.00
14	41.00	same
15	50.75	+ 9.75
16	56.75	+ 6.00
17	61.50	+ 4.75
18	66.50	+ 5.00
19	70.00	+ 3.50
20	74.25	+ 4.25
21	77.75	+ 3.50
22	86.50	+ 8.75
23	92.50	+ 6.00
24	94.00	+ 1.50
25	102.50	+ 8.50
26	110.00	+ 7.50
27	122.00	+ 12.00
28	133.25	+ 11.25
29	128.00	- 5.25
30	135.50	+ 6.50
31	133.00	- 2.50
32	137.00	+ 4.00
36	153.50	(the remaining weights are given for longer periods than one day)
39	168.50	
41	183.40	
48	216.50	
49	248.00	
63	334.75	
70	446.00	
76	465.25	(diet switched to mostly fruit)
79	410.50	
83	422.00	

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank Cliff Ross, Curator of Birds, and John Stokes, Asst. Curator of Birds. Also, we appreciate the assistance of all of the other keepers in the bird department at the Memphis Zoo and Aquarium. •



October 2, 1982
Boston Society for Aviculture, Inc.
 presents their
3rd Annual Show
 at the Weston Town Hall
 Route 128, exit 49, Weston, MA
 Judges:

Finches & Softbills—Bill Parlee
 Parrots & Cockatiels—Dr. Al Decoteau
 Eng. & Amer. Budgies—Linda Rubin
 Border Canaries—John Magee
 Gloster Canaries—Pat Varian
 Type Canaries—John Bradbury
 Colorbred—Jan Stachurski
 Amer. & Variety Singers
 —Diana Lesieur
 Show manager:
 Tim Connor, (617) 834-8978
 795 Plain St., Marshfield, MA 02050

October 16, 1982
Central Ohio Bird Fanciers

present their
41st Annual Show
 at Woodward Park Jr. Hi School
 5151 Karl Rd., Columbus, Ohio
 Judges:
 Colorbred—Bill Henderson
 Type—Robert Ross
 Exotics & Budgies—David Guinn
 Show sec., Peg Larson
 9767 Blacksnake Rd., Utica, OH 43080

October 29, 30, 1982
Gold Coast Exotic Bird Club

presents its
Annual Open Show
 on the beach at the Holiday Inn,
 Oceanside, at A1A and Las Olas Blvd.
 Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
 Rm. reservations call (800) 238-8000
 Judges:
 Budgies—Walter Loepeke
 Color canaries—Tony Bucci
 Type canaries—Dr. Ramon Zardan
 Cockatiels—Nellie Herry
 Exotics—C. Meinert
 Everyone welcome!
 For information contact show mgr.:
 Craig Davis,
 P.O. Box 15056, Plantation, FL 33318

October 9, 1982

Smoky Mountain Cage Bird Society
 presents their
Annual Bird Show
 at the Senior Opportunity Center
 36 Grove St., Asheville, NC 28802
 Judge, Ray Johnson
 Entries taken until 10:30 a.m.
 For information contact
 James L. Cody, show sec.
 337 Wilson Ave.,
 Swannanoa, NC 28778

September 25, 1982

Minnesota Cage Bird Association
 presents its
6th Annual Exotic Cage Bird Show
 to be held at the
 Burnsville Shopping Mall
 Hwy. 35W and County Rd. 42
 Burnsville, MN
 Judge, Ralph Bowman
 for information call show sec.
 Donna Boller, (612) 937-8110

Nov. 18 - 19 - 20
The 1982 National Cage Bird Show
 will hold

The 34th "Show of Shows"
 at the Pittsburgh Hilton Inn
 Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 The judges will be:
 Borders—J.A. Bracegirdle,
 Chesire, England
 Types—Harold Sodamann,
 Paola, Kansas
 Glosters—Ted Collins, Acushnet, Ma.
 Singers—Daniel Feduk,
 Middle Village, N.Y.
 Lipochrome—Carl Welsch,
 Newark, Ohio
 Melanin—Case Quick, Quebec, Canada
 Foreign—Tom Ireland,
 Lake Worth, Fla.
 Lovebirds—Charles Anchor,
 Addison, Ill.
 Budgies—Anthony Gioia,
 Chalmette, La.
 Cockatiels—Bert McAuly, Tulsa, Ok.
 Margie McGee, publicity

October 23, 1982

New Hampshire Cage Bird Association
 presents their
Annual Bird Show
 at the Holiday Inn, Nashua, NH
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Judges:
 Parrots—Dr. John Moore
 American Budgies—Sarah Moore
 English Budgies—Linda Rubin
 Border Canaries—John Bradbury
 Glosters—Jan Stachurski
 Colorbred—Tony Antonian
 Cockatiels & Finches—Bill Parlee
 Show chm., Dr. Al Decoteau,
 (617) 649-6103
 Groton Rd., Dunstable, MA 01827

October 23, 24, 1982

Motor City Bird Breeders
 presents its
Annual Bird Show
 at St. Stephen's Hall
 4330 Central, Detroit, MI
 Judges:
 Type I—Sig Larson
 Type III—Dr. Raymond GIpwacki
 Red Factor—Carl Welsch
 Budgerigars—Don Langell
 Foreign—Charles Anchor
 American Singner—Aledine Walo
 Show Sec.: Kit Boles (313) 286-5954
 40227 Garfield, Mt. Clemens,
 MI 48042

October 23-24, 1982

Central Alabama Avicultural Society
 will be hosting an
All Feather Fair
 to be held in Montgomery, AL
 For information contact:
 Hubert B. Ward, Sec./Treas.
 Rt. 1, Box 452-W, Selma, AL 36701

September 3, 4, 5, 1982
Great Western Budgerigar Society, Inc.
 will host its
All American Budgerigar Exhibition
 aboard the Queen Mary,
 Long Beach, CA
 Judges:
 Norman Byer, Anthony Gioia,
 Hugh Wilson
 Contact show sec. for information,
 Eleanore Bowman
 1102 Riviera Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92706

October 1, 2, 1982

Mid America Cage Bird Society
 presents their
7th Annual MACBS Show
 at Howard Johnson North
 4800 Merle Hay Rd.,
 Des Moines, IA 50323
 Judges:
 Canaries—Fred Moss
 Budgies—Len Adams
 Foreign Birds—Ralph Bowman
 For information contact
 Flo or Dorward Horrell (515) 277-1956
 3941 29th, Des Moines, IA 50310

October 29, 30, 31, 1982

Fresno Canary and Finch Club
 presents its
Annual Show
 at Fresno District Fairgrounds
 Judges:
 Red Factor—Chuck Hudson, IL
 Type—Pat Kane, WA
 Budgie—Steve Wilson, CA
 Finch—Val Clear, IN
 Hookbill—Hank Johnson, CA
 This show will be presented in
 conjunction with
 ABS Regional Show, West Coast
 for more information call
 Brian Mandarich, (209) 255-6508

November 18, 19, 20, 1982
5th National American Cockatiel
Society Show

to be held in conjunction with the
34th National Cage Bird Show
 at the Pittsburgh Hilton
 (412) 391-4600
 Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, PA
 A.C.S. Panel Judge—Bert McAuly,
 Tulsa, OK.
 For information contact
 Nancy A. Reed, (203) 688-4069
 55 Sunnyfield Dr., Windsor, CT 06095

November 5th, 6th 1982
Annual Open Show

presented by the
 Missouri Cage Bird Association
 at the
 Harley Hotel of St. Louis
 13440 Riverglen Drive
 Earth City, MO
 Show Secretary:
 Rae Bouckaert
 9515 Craigwood Terrace
 St. Louis, MO 63126
 Judges
 Color bred — Bonnie Williams
 Type — Paul Williams
 American Singers — Adelaide Walo
 Budgerigars — Gill Barboza
 Hookbills and Wild birds —
 Earl Courts

October 22, 23, 1982

Suncoast Finch Society
presents their

7th Annual All Breeders Show
at the St. Petersburg

Nat. Guard Armory

3601 38th Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL

Judges:

Finches/Softbills—Russ Snyder

Psittacines—Conrad Meinert

Cockatiels—Nellie Herry

Colorbred Canaries—Ignacio Perea, Sr.

Type Canaries—Gus Piros

American Singers—Else Gerritson

For information contact:

Lynn Wiezycki

8316 N. Blvd., Tampa, FL 33604

October 15, 16, 1982

Gulf South Bird Club

will hold their

Fourth Annual Bird Show

in New Orleans, LA

Judges:

Type Canary—Margie McGee, CA

Color Canary—Joann Hobbs, TX

Finch—Robert Black, NC

Hookbill—Dee Dee Squyres, TX

Show sec., Julia K. Nagel

603 Deslonde St.,

New Orleans, LA 70117

Club Coordinator, Joan Bordelon

722 Seyburn Ct.,

Baton Rouge, LA 70808

November 13, 14, 1982

Golden Gate Avian Society

presents its

Annual Bird Show

Alameda County Fairgrounds,

Pleasanton, CA

(680 Freeway-Bernal Ave. exit)

Judges:

Exotics—Gene Hall

Finch—Brian Mandarich

Budgie—Vic deVictoria

Canary Types—Gabe Dillon

Red Factor—Mike Harbushka

Show Manager, Charlene Johnson

(415) 462-6393

October 1, 2, 1982

Mid American Cage Bird Society

presents its

7th Annual Show

at Howard Johnson, North

4800 Merle Hay Road

Des Moines, Iowa 50323

Judges:

Canaries—Fred Moss

Budgies—Len Adams

Foreign—Ralph Bowman

for information contact show sec.,

Flo Horrell, (515) 277-1956

3941 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310

September 19th 1982

6th Annual Bird Fair

presented by

Missouri Cage Bird Association

at the

Kolping House

4035 Keokuk St. Louis

Contact

Carol Herbold

2841 Telegraph St. Louis, Mo. 63125

(314) 894-0477

October 23, 1982

Charlotte-Metrolina Cage Bird Show

Holiday Inn-Carowinds

Carowinds Blvd. and I-77

Fort Mill, SC 29715

Judges:

ACS, Harold Bowles—

Cockatiels and Hookbills

Bonnie Williams—

Canaries, Finches, and Softbills

ABS, Tony Mancini—Budgies

For information contact:

Charlotte-Metrolina Cage Bird Society

10537 Steel Trace Court

Charlotte, NC 28210

Glen Gibson, pres., (704) 588-1616, eves.

November 5, 6, 7, 1982

American Canary Fanciers Association

presents its

Third Annual Show

at the Hacienda Hotel (LA Airport)

525 N. Sepulveda, El Segundo, CA

(212) 322-1212

Judges:

Melanin—Geoff Walker, England

Lipochrome—Baldomero Hernandez, FL

Type—Gino Abbate, NJ

Border—Jim O'Connor, CA

For information call or write:

Tony Bucci, (213) 833-7349

1605 W. 20th St.,

San Pedro, CA 90732

November 26, 27, 28, 1982

Santa Clara Valley

Canary & Exotic Bird Club

will hold its

Annual Show

at the

Peterson Jr. High School Cafetorium

Santa Clara, CA

Judging, Sat. 27th all day.

(Budgie judging new this year)

For information contact:

Ron Mercer

3382 Olsen Dr., San Jose, CA 95117

November 6, 1982

Gulf Coast Bird Breeders Club

presents their

Annual Open Show

at the Holiday Inn

Riverfront-Holidome

2006 W. First St.

Ft. Myers, Florida

Jim Duke—Budgies

Juanita McClain—Exotics

B.W. Hardingham—Amer. Singers

Louis Mazorra—Canaries

Contact Show Chairman

Richard Muench

P.O. Box 07006

Ft. Myers, FL 33907

October 15, 16, 17, 1982

Massachusetts Cage Bird Association

will hold its

1982 All Bird Show

at Reed Community Bldg.,

Route 3A, Kingston, MA

Show sec., Jean Andrea

17 Jereva Rd., Hanson, MA 02341

Show Mgr., Dan Conatser,

(617) 328-5270

October 2, 1982

Ohio Valley Cage Bird Club

will hold its

Annual Show

at the Harley Hotel, Cincinnati

Judges:

Mrs. Louise Loepke—Budgies

Marvin Boles—Canaries

Richard Ryan—Exotics

For information contact:

Mary C. Hempel

9173 Trelawney Ct.

Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

(513) 521-5014

October 15, 16, 1982

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society

will host its

Fifth All-Bird Show

at the Heritage Inn

15201 S. 71 Hwy., Grandview, MO

For information contact

Karen S. Potter (816) 358-6534

6655 Maywood, Raytown, MO 64133

November 5, 6, 7, 1982

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club, Inc.

presents its

50th Annual Bird Exhibition

at the Holiday Inn

1290 and Irving Pk., Itasca, IL

Judges:

American Singers—Sharon Yates

Types—Harold Sodamann

Red Factors—Scott Ritchie

Exotics—Charles Anchor

Cockatiels—Conrad Meinert

Hookbills—Ralph Milos

Budgies—Corine Traver

When requesting catalog, send \$1.00

For information contact,

LaVerne Krauss

2719 S. Komensky Ave.,

Chicago, IL 60623

October 30, 1982

Connecticut Association for Aviculture

will present its

Annual Bird Show

at the Knights of Columbus

500 Bloomfield Ave., Exit 37, I-91

Windsor, CT

Judges:

Finches & Soft Bills—Clark Spencer

Hookbills—Arthur Freud

Type Canaries—Manny Silva

Color Bred Canaries—Gerry Brisson

Singers—Rita Brisson

Cockatiels—ACS Panel Judge,

Nancy Reed

For information contact Show Manager

Natalie Molaver (203) 756-1753

28 Piping Rock Drive

Waterbury, CT 06706

October 23, 24, 1982

Central Alabama Avicultural Society

will present its

Annual All Feather Bird Fair

at the Holidome, Holiday Inn East

E. Bypass at I-85

For information contact

Show sec., Hubert Ward,

Montgomery Zoo

P.O. Box Zebra,

Montgomery, AL 36109-0313