

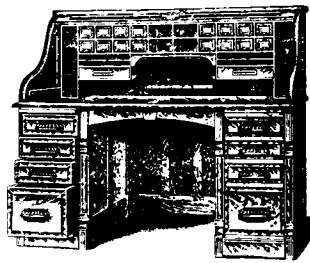
NOTICE

All correspondence intended for the editor of the *Watchbird* should be mailed directly to his address.

Sheldon Dingle
P.O. Box 340
Norco, CA 91760

From The Editor's Desk

by Sheldon Dingle



Results of the recent A.F.A. Watchbird Survey

Over the years *Watchbird*, like Topsy, just grewed. No one in the A.F.A. really had an accurate idea of who the magazine really reached nor what sort of material the readers wanted. The recent survey completed and returned by hundreds and hundreds of A.F.A. members has at long last given us a clue as to who you are and what you want. Some of the results are surprising.

First off, the A.F.A. membership is the *creme de la creme* of the bird fancy. Over 74% of the members returning the survey had some college education with 28% having a four year degree and 24% having advanced degrees.

The survey indicates *Watchbird* readers are intelligent, intellectually inclined, and curious people. These bright folks also tend to be rather young. Fifty-five percent are between 20 and 40 years old. Thirty-five percent are 40 to 60. Fewer than one percent are under 20 years of age and ten percent are over 60.

Oh, best of all possible worlds!! You bright, educated young people also have money. Fully half of you who returned the survey earn \$15,000 to \$30,000 per year. Twenty-five percent of you earn \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year and a lucky fourteen percent earns more than \$50,000. Only eleven percent of us are poor, earning less than \$15,000 per annum. With youth, brains, and money, birds can't be far behind.

Regarding the numbers of birds A.F.A. members own, the categories are pretty even up to 200 birds. Twenty-seven percent have 10 birds or fewer. Twenty-seven percent have 50 to 200 birds on hand. Only thirteen percent have 200 to 500 birds and three percent respectively have 500 to 1000, and over 1000 birds. The survey didn't request data that would indicate which income groups kept the most or fewest birds. Common sense leads me to believe the most birds are kept by the poorest people—they don't have any money because

they spend it all on birds.

Almost half (43%) of the A.F.A. members live in suburban areas. This I suppose includes most of the "backyard breeders," the backbone of the A.F.A. Thirty percent live in an urban area. This, perhaps, includes a lot of bird rooms and basement breeding arrangements as well as a few small back yards. The rural areas accommodate twenty-nine percent of the members and probably the largest collections of birds. These percentages add up to 102% which means some of you folks keep birds in more than one place—doesn't it? Actually, when I calculated the percentages I rounded off to the nearest ½ percent so the figures (like those in my checkbook register) only indicate a general trend and not a mathematically precise accounting.

Now that we have a general idea who we are, let's see what we want more of and less of in the *Watchbird*. Several trends emerged so strongly as to be unmistakable. Seventy-four percent want more articles on avian nutrition. Seventy-one percent want to read more about successful aviaries and sixty-nine percent want more material on avian medical and health care. One person asked for information on keeping a sick or injured bird alive until it could be gotten to the veterinarian. That's a valid point considering many A.F.A. members live a long way from qualified bird vets. We'll get a good article on that subject.

The gist of the above statistics indicates that most A.F.A. members are bird breeders rather than single-bird pet owners. A healthy forty percent also want to read more about rare and endangered species, perhaps with thoughts of captive breeding lurking in the back of their minds. Thirty-six percent want to learn more about birds in their native habitats—field studies, as it were, and, again, I feel this is data that could be

fruitfully incorporated into good captive breeding programs. I know that Robert Berry, Chairman of the A.F.A. Conservation Committee is interested in field studies and is anxious to get some work under way. Perhaps we can, before long, get some field results written up in the magazine. Jack Clinton-Eitnrear's "From the Field" column has been very well received and we'll encourage Jack to do even more field work and to report it in more detail.

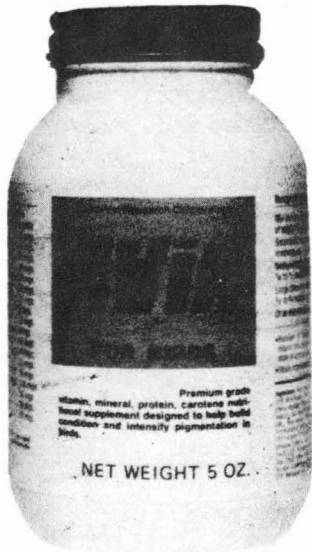
When it comes to the types of birds that are most popular with A.F.A. members, psittacines are a heavy favorite (special interest of seventy-seven percent of the respondents) with finches (34%) following next. There is a strong group (30%) that specializes in budgerigars. Budgies are, of course, psittacines but many budgie breeders specialize to the exclusion of all other birds. Softbilled birds were the next most popular with 23% of the respondents indicating an interest. Eighteen percent of the returns asked for more canary material, and gamebirds and waterfowl drew 13% each. These percentiles, in my experience, probably reflect the actual percentages of bird types commonly kept in American aviculture. They are a fairly accurate reflection of the categories of material that come in to the *Watchbird* also.

The remaining portion of the survey permitted a good deal of subjective variety. One person objected to repetitive advertising in the magazine. Six people wanted cartoons and five said no cartoons. One reader suggested a regular section where readers could submit their bird photos (such a section could give art director Hessler gray hairs), and one strange fellow requested *fewer* photos in the magazine.

Many respondents voiced a desire to have more "how to" articles and short "handy hints." One person asked how vitamins were most commonly administered to birds and another asked how deep a lovebird seed dish must be to prevent waste. A lady asked for specific plans to build a photo-box for bird photography. Many people requested more articles on aviary construction and planting. Nearly everyone seemed to be interested in other bird breeders and what their aviaries were like. It will be easy for *Watchbird* to re-establish the "A.F.A. Visits" or some such similar look at various successful aviaries. And one A.F.A. member (obviously a new one) even asked that the A.F.A. do a census on birds bred in captivity. *That*, of course, we've been doing for a long time. In fact the census sheet is on the

Analysis per 3.5 grams (approximately one teaspoon)

A 600 IU
 Carotene 0.365 mg.
 Canthaxanthin 1.8 mgs.
 D₃ 60 IU
 Arginine 32 mgs.
 Histidine 13 mgs.
 Isoleucine 24 mgs.
 Leucine 33 mgs.
 Phenylalanine 30 mgs.
 Tyrosine 33 mgs.
 Methionine 12 mgs.
 Cystine 8 mgs.
 Threonine 33 mgs.
 Tryptophane 9 mgs.
 Valine 40 mgs.
 Lysine 44 mgs.
 Alanine 30 mgs.
 Aspartic Acid 50 mgs.
 Glutamic Acid 140 mgs.
 Glycine 36 mgs.



E 10 IU
 K 0.001 mg.
 C 6 mgs.
 Bioflavonoid
 Complex 0.85 mg.
 Hesperidine
 Complex 0.735 mg.
 Rutin 0.365 mg.
 B₁ 0.5 mgs.
 B₂ 0.5 mgs.
 B₆ 0.5 mgs.
 B₁₂ 0.001 mg.
 Choline 7.8 mgs.
 Inositol 7.8 mgs.

Niacinamide 3.7 mgs.
 P.A.B.A. 2 mgs.
 Biotin 0.003 mg.
 Calcium 170 mgs.
 Phosphorus 170 mgs.
 Magnesium 7.3 mgs.
 Potassium
 Chloride 39 mgs.
 Sodium
 Chloride 25 mgs.
 Manganese 0.069 mg.
 Cobalt Trace
 Silicon Trace
 Iron 0.7 mgs.
 Copper 0.037 mg.
 Iodine 0.008 mg.
 Zinc 0.245 mg.
 Proline 39 mgs.
 Serine 50 mgs.
 Pantothenic
 Acid 2.5 mgs.
 Folic Acid 0.122 mg.

THE SECRET IS OUT.

The secret of Avia's "Magic Powers" has been well guarded up to

now. Whispered in top aviaries around the world, concealed from the public, men with that special edge know that when it comes to developing the most brilliant intense coloration covering the full breadth of the spectrum, that when it comes to developing luxuriant plumage, full weight and all those enviable qualities of vitality and durability Avia has no peer.

Available from leading bird supply shops or from:

NUTRA-VET RESEARCH CORPORATION, 201 Smith Street,
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. 914-473-1900

1 oz. \$3.25 — 2 ozs \$3.69 — 5 ozs \$7.74
 9½ ozs \$11.75 — 20 ozs — \$20.59 — 5 lbs \$60.49
 and 10 lbs in a money saving polyethylene pouch — \$93.99

PLEASE ADD \$1.50 FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING ON ORDERS UNDER \$11.75

HENDEE ZOOLOGICAL CO.

Importers, breeders, and collectors of birds and zoo animals worldwide

Offering a fine collection of
AUSTRALIAN PARAKEETS, SOFTBILLS, and PARROTS
 for breeding and exhibition

Trained birds and animals for Trade Shows, Advertising, and Film Industry

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Australian king parrots | Green rosellas | Yellow-fronted kakariki |
| Crimson wing parrots | Adelaide rosellas | Red rumps |
| Swift's | Blue-winged | Yellow red rumps |
| Cloncurry | Barrabands | Tanagers |
| Eclactus | Rock pebbars | Sunbirds |
| Blue-bonnets | Princess of Wales | Hummingbirds |
| Barnards | Pennant rosellas | Australian, Asian, & African finches |
| Port Lincolns | Blue rosellas | African & Asian starlings & mynahs |
| Twenty eights | Stanley rosellas | Toucans |
| Pileated (Red capped) | Golden mantled rosellas | Hornbills |
| Yellow rosellas | Lories | Cranes |
| Many-colored | Lorikeets | Shama & Dhyal thrushes |
| Bourke's | Lovebirds | rare softbills |
| Roseate cockatoos | Lovebird color mutations | Barbets |
| Cockatoos | Red-fronted kakariki | Flamingos |

African, Asian, and South American parrots



Craig Hendee

HENDEE ZOOLOGICAL CO.

1944-A Lehigh, Glenview, Illinois 60025

(312) 998-0110 or 724-2578

Distributor for SUPER PREEN, and AVICULTURIST'S BLEND FORTIFIED SEED MIXES
 Official U.S.D.A. approved quarantine station.

paper wrapper of this very magazine. Please fill it out in detail. It has a far greater importance than you might guess.

Well, enough of this. The individual comments received on the survey and pages attached thereto are too many and too varied to relate in full. Many details brought out in the survey returns have not been fully digested yet. The *Watchbird* staff, in other words, has more data than it can comprehend. In summary, however, it is clear that the A.F.A.



In the Dec/Jan issue of *Watchbird*, Canary Culture contains an error. In the top paragraph on page 28 Mr. Catalano introduces an opal factor into his opal canaries to solve a genetic problem. This, of course, does not work. Mr. Catalano actually introduced an *ivory* factor into his opals which worked very well.

Never before has such a comprehensive encyclopedia been offered, both for the specialist and hobbyist.

YOUR LIBRARY IS NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT THIS BOOK.

FINCHES and SOFT-BILLED BIRDS

(revised edition)

by Henry J. Bates and Robert L. Busenbark



\$16.95

Order Your Copy Now From
PALOS VERDES BIRD FARM INC.
P.O. Box 1305, Torrance, CA. 90505
Include \$1.50 postage and handling
Calif. residents add 6% sales tax.

members are primarily well educated people mostly between 20 and 40 years of age earning \$15,000 to \$30,000 per year. They lean more toward breeding birds and are most interested in psitticines. Avian nutrition, avian medicine and health, and aviary construction and design are the subjects they want more of in the *Watchbird*.

For the *creme de la creme*, our readers, we aim to please. My sincere thanks to all of you who took the time to fill out the survey and mail it in. Many thanks also to Helen Hanson and the Home Office crew who tallied the results of our first survey. It was good practice for the next one.

Now perhaps the "Editor's Desk" should push on to a few letters after having taken the last two issues off.

Dear Sir,

First allow me to congratulate you on your fine Aug/Sept front cover, I can appreciate the effort that must have been put into its production. I must, however, take D.R. Thompson to task for the use of the name Charcoal to describe the new mutation. This mutation first cropped up independently in Holland and England at more or less the same time. They were not in any way related. I was lucky enough to have the English mutation, it was named, not by me, as the Whitefaced. This same name was given to the Dutch mutation and I think it is a very good descriptive name. The white face of the cock is the first thing that catches one's attention. The difference in body colour is not sufficient to give it the name Charcoal, were it not for the fact the yellow is completely missing in this mutation, most people would not see any difference between the normal and the whitefaced.

It is usual to allow the originators of a mutation to name that mutation. The mutation has been written up by myself and others under the name of Whiteface; I therefore think that breeders in the USA should abide by this name. A great deal of confusion can be created by the use of different names for mutations in different countries. Surely it is possible to get some standardization on a simple subject as this.

The fact that the name Whiteface is only 100% accurate for the male is no reason for not using that name. Many species, let alone mutations, are named on the appearance of the male, for instance, the Crimson Wing and the Redrump to name just a few.

Yours sincerely, N.D. Cooper, Sec.
The Parrot Society Bedford, England

The naming of birds (or any animal for that matter) has always been difficult to bring into conformity. Even the various scientific names are often subject to dispute by the recognized authorities and many scientific names have been changed over the years.

When dealing with hybrids and mutations the nomenclature problems are vastly increased. There is no single authority and most bird breeders are singularly independent if not pigheaded. They'll call the critter whatever they want and the rest of the world can take a flying leap.

Regarding this specific case I feel that Dale Thompson is innocent. His poster identifies the mutation cockatiel by both names—whitefaced and charcoal. Mr. Thompson did not originate either term. He merely repeated the terminology used by the several Dutch breeders from whom he got the birds.

Ed.

Dear Sheldon,

I am becoming concerned now as the last two issues of the WATCHBIRD have not had any columns for letters. If I may make a suggestion, a letters to the editor column is a much more consistent and reliable method of finding out what readers think than is a mass mailing of survey forms. Without a letters column, there is no communication with members and the A.F.A. loses a valuable source of input.

I sincerely urge you to re-establish some form of letters column to the WATCHBIRD magazine. Every major publication that I know of reserves space for their readers and I believe that the A.F.A. would profit from doing the same.

Best Regards, Bradley G. Dalton

I concur that a healthy letters to the editor column is a consistent method of finding out what readers think. The problems began when the readers found out what the editor thinks.

As you can see, however, the letters are being reinstated and I should like to see a great volume of them come across my desk. All of you who have a valid point to make regarding any aspect of aviculture, don't hesitate to write "Editor's Desk" P.O. Box 340, Norco, Ca., 91760. Most of your letters will be published and many of them may serve as springboards for further serious debate.

Ed. ●



Jean Delacour / IFCB

SYMPOSIUM ON BREEDING BIRDS IN CAPTIVITY

FEBRUARY 24 - 27, 1983

Sheraton - Universal Hotel - Universal City (Hollywood, California)

The program will emphasize natural history as it applies to the future of captive birds, their husbandry and management -
Fifty prestigious speakers from around the world join with Gerald L. Schulman, Executive Director of IFCB, in honoring Dr. Jean Delacour

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED - WE ADVISE A PROMPT REPLY

- | | |
|--|---|
| Dr. Daniel W. Anderson - USA
"Conservation of Endangered Birds In Their Wild State" | Dr. David M. Bird - Canada
"The American Kestrel, Laboratory Research Animal - McGill University" |
| Dr. Braulio Araya Modinger - Chile
"Humboldt Penguin in Chile" | Mike Lubbock - England
"Torrent Ducks - The Ultimate Specialist" |
| Linda Barber - USA
"Techniques in Successful Handraising of Psittacines" | Charles S. Luthin - West Germany
"Breeding Ecology of Neotropical Ibises in Venezuela" |
| Robert Berry - USA
"Meaningful Propagation Programs Need Not be Expensive" | Dr. Frank McKinney - USA
"The Bahama Pintail & New Zealand Blue Duck" |
| Dr. Romuald Burkard - Switzerland
"Breeding Lories" | Jose Ottenwalder - Caribbean
"Caribbean Avifauna" |
| Dr. Pierre Ciarpaglini - France
"Breeding of the Magpie Goose, -Zoological Park, Cleres, France" | Graeme Phipps - Australia
"Australian Aviculture and Avifauna" |
| Dr. Susan Clubb - USA
"Diseases in Imported Birds" | Pilai Poonswad - Thailand
"Hornbill Ecology in Thailand" |
| William Conway - USA
"Captive Birds and Conservation" | Dr. Henri Quinque - France
"Breeding Cloven-feathered Doves, and 3 Other Rare New Caledonian Birds" |
| Renata Decher-Juden - USA
"Foster-Parenting of Lady Gouldians & Owl Finches" | Dr. S. Dillon Ripley - USA
David Rushton - Australia
"Pigeons, Freckled Ducks, and Australian Aviculture" |
| Lynne Anne Drewes - USA
"Microflora of Baby Psittacine Birds" | Shirley E. Russman - USA
"Status of Cranes In Wild" |
| Dr. Keven Flammer - USA
"Environmental Sources of Disease
Causing Bacteria In An Exotic Bird Farm" | Dr. Oliver A. Ryder - USA
"Genetic Considerations In Breeding
Threatened & Endangered Birds" |
| Dr. George Gee -USA
"Avian Artificial Insemination" | Raymond Sawyer - England
"The Importance of Private Aviculture" |
| Dr. Helga Gerlach - West Germany
"Virus Infections That Interfere with Conservation of Birds" | Dr. Ulrich Schurer - West Germany
"Breeding of Softbills" |
| Didy Grahame - England
"The World Pheasant Situation" | Dr. W. Roy Siegfried - South Africa
"Avian Ecology and Conservation in South Africa" |
| Dr. Wolfgang Grummt - East Germany
"Breeding Pelicans at Tierpark Berlin" | Glen Smart - USA
"U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and its Role with Endangered Avifauna" |
| John Klea - USA
"Artificial Incubation - Problems and Solutions" | Dr. Noel Snyder - USA
"Captive Population of California Condors" |
| Dr. Klaus M. Immelmann - West Germany
"Cross-Fostering Experiments with Finches" | Dr. Stanley A. Temple - USA
"Reintroduction - Is It Realistic?" |
| Kamal Islam - Pakistan
"The Western Tragopan in Pakistan" | Dale R. Thompson - USA
"Strategies For Captive Reproduction of Psittacine Birds" |
| Tom Ireland - USA
"Status of American Aviculture" | Frank Todd - USA
"Long-term Propagation & Research Programs" |
| Dr. Joseph R. Jehl - USA
"Can the Sicorro Island Dove and Mockingbird Be Saved?" | Enriqueta Velarde - Mexico
"Breeding Success of the Heermann's Gull" |
| Dr. Anne La Bastille - USA
"Guatemalan Giant Grebe--Is There Any Hope?" | Robert Wagner - USA
"The Private vs. Public Aviculturist" |
| Dr. Jean Marc Lernould - France
"The Breeding of Hartlaub's Duck" | Dr. James W. Wiley - Puerto Rico
"Captive Propagation in Puerto Rican Parrot Conservation" |
| Dr. Jesus Estudillo Lopez - Mexico
"Cracids in the Wild and Captivity" | Dr. Gordon R. Williams - New Zealand
"Aviculture and the Endangered Birds of New Zealand" |
| Dr. Nathan Gale - Panama
"Aviculture and Avifauna of Panama" | Hsu Wei-shu - China
"Ringneck Pheasants" |
| Dr. David Graham - USA
"Pathologist's View of Nestling and Hand-reared Birds" | Rosemary Low - England
"Future Emphasis In Parrot Aviculture" |
| | Dr. Greg Harrison - USA
"Problems In Bird Reproduction" |
| | Ramon Noegel - USA
"Caribbean Island Amazons" |



**INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIRDS**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION PACKET:
GARY SCHULMAN, Delacour/IFCB Symposium
11300 Weddington Street, N. Hollywood, CA 91601
(213) 980-9818 Telex: 686119 SCHULMAN LSA

Norshore Pets

P.O. Box 271-W • 6206 S. Route 23
Marengo, Illinois 60152

Our 22nd year

(815) 568-6732

United Parcel requires seeds and box NOT to exceed 50 lbs. Therefore, 3 lbs. of seed is removed from the 50 lbs. bag. YOU PAY FOR ONLY 47 lbs. of seed. YOU PAY FOR 50 lbs. shipping weight. Due to market fluctuations, all prices are subject to change. You will be charged the price in effect at time of shipment. PICK UP AND SAVE: \$1.00 off per 50 lb. bag if you pick up your order.

SILVERSONG PRODUCTS were all developed by Dr. Wallace E. Higby who spent over 45 years in the most intensive scientific research ever done in the world on cage and aviary birds. More and more producers of bird foods are trying to copy SILVERSONG. BEWARE OF CHEAP, BUT EXPENSIVE IMITATIONS.

SILVERSONG PRICE LIST

WHEN ORDERING, STATE FOR WHAT TYPE OF BIRDS.

<u>SUPERSEED DIETS</u>	<u>PER LB.</u>	<u>10#</u>	<u>25#</u>	<u>50#</u>
Canary	\$1.05	\$ 9.60	\$22.00	\$39.75
Budgie	.90	8.30	18.75	33.00
Finch	.95	8.60	19.50	34.50
Gouldian or Siskin	1.10	10.30	23.75	42.75
Hookbill (NO SUNFLOWER)	.90	8.30	18.75	33.00
<u>SUPERSEED BOOSTERS</u>				
Canary	1.15	10.70	24.75	45.00
Budgie	1.00	9.20	21.00	37.50
Finch	1.10	10.10	23.25	42.00
Gouldian or Siskin	1.25	11.60	27.00	49.50
Hookbill (NO SUNFLOWER)	1.00	9.20	21.00	37.50
<u>MINERALITE</u>				
	.60	5.30	11.25	18.00

*****THESE PRICES "DO NOT" INCLUDE SHIPPING CHARGES*****

The SuperSeed Complete Diets are maintenance diets for all birds that are not used for breeding. They should have the proper complete Diet PLUS Mineralite, PLUS FRESH GREENS, PLUS fresh fruits in season.

Birds to be used for breeding should have the proper complete Diet PLUS Mineralite, PLUS the proper Booster fed separately at the rate of not less than 1# of Booster to each 4# of Diet. In addition, they should have FRESH LEAF GREENS at ALL times PLUS fruits when possible.

Orders of \$15 or more sent U.P.S. prepaid. Orders under \$15 add \$1 for handling charge. We accept VISA, MASTER CHARGE, and AMERICAN EXPRESS credit cards.



Hours
Mon. thru Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sat., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All prices subject to change without notice according to market conditions.



These Blue and gold macaws were hatched at Norshore Pets November 8, 12, and 15, 1982.

1982 "TODAY'S HARVEST" MILLET SPRAYS

on C.O.D. orders U.P.S. adds \$1.50 collection fee

Order of	Price	Shipping Weight	Zones and Shipping costs						
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 lb.	\$ 2.65	2 lbs.	\$1.34	\$1.40	\$1.47	\$1.55	\$1.67	\$1.79	\$1.93
4 lbs.	8.75	5 lbs.	\$1.61	\$1.75	\$1.93	\$2.14	\$2.43	\$2.74	\$3.09
12 lbs.	22.50	14 lbs.	\$2.41	\$2.82	\$3.32	\$3.89	\$4.71	\$5.57	\$6.55
20 lbs.	35.00	22 lbs.	\$3.12	\$3.76	\$4.55	\$5.45	\$6.73	\$8.09	\$9.63

PHONE ORDERS can be sent C.O.D., American Express, Visa or Master Card credit cards. (U.P.S. ADDS \$1.50 C.O.D. fee to the above charges). We stock a complete line of T.F.H. bird books, plus books on waterfowl, pheasants, bantams, pigeons and other bird publications. VITA-LITES, HEADSTART Poultry Vitamins, Electric Foggers, AVITRON in 1/2 ounce, 1 ounce, 2 ounce and 16 ounce sizes. NUTRO CAGE AND AVIARY SPRAY in 8 oz. and 16 oz. sizes with sprayer attached. Also in economy size gallons. PREVUE/HENDRYX and CROWN cages. WE NOW STOCK SILVER SONG MIXES developed by Dr. WALLACE HIGBY, DIETS, BOOSTERS AND MINERALITE, NORSHORE PETS PARROT MIX, KELLOGG'S PETAMINE, BUDGIMINE AND OTHER KELLOGG MIXES. NUMEROUS OTHER BIRD ITEMS IN OUR NEW 1983 catalog. PLEASE send \$1.00 for catalog and price list. Refundable with first order.



Painted conures were hatched at Norshore Pets August 10 thru 23, 1982.