

# Notes On Fostering Finches

by  
Jayne Yantz  
Wilmington, Delaware

All finch breeders face the potential problem of finding a healthy nestling which has been purposefully or accidentally removed from the nest by its parents. The breeder has only a few options to save the baby — return the baby to the nest (if the nestling fell accidentally and its return will not cause abandonment of the nest by the parents), hand-feeding (not easy and not always successful), or fostering (if an appropriate pair is available). Fostering is the most common choice. However, the results of fostering are often not as good as expected, partly because breeders immediately think of society finches when there are other options. This article will suggest some alternatives to fostering finches under typical society (Bengalese) pairs.

## Types of Fostering

Finch nestlings may be fostered to male/female pairs of societies, to "pairs" of societies of the same sex, to zebra finches, to closely related or similar species (e.g., red-cheeked cordon bleu to blue-capped cordon bleu), and to mixed pairs (male/female of different species) if the mixed pair has formed a pair bond. The following discussion will give two examples of fostering and then consider some aspects of what constitutes a "good" pair of foster parents.

## An Unexpected Foster Pair

Recently two of my four fire finch nestlings (*Lagonosticta senegala*) were ejected from the nest, the first on day one and the second on day three. In an attempt to save them they were placed with the only pair of foster parents available — a female society and a male owl finch (*Poephila bichenovii*) which had been together for several months, had built a nest, and were incubating fostered eggs. The foster parents accepted the babies immediately. The fires were reared successfully with no live food and fledged at day 18, one day behind their siblings which were successfully raised by the natural parents. All four babies were equally strong and healthy. The diet for the fostered babies included the parents' usual fare<sup>1</sup> and two daily feedings of Robert Black's for-

mula for fostering finches.<sup>2</sup> An evening feeding of Abba Green was also given.<sup>3</sup> Feedings were provided at 6 a.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. Interestingly, once fledged, the young only accepted food from the owl finch. The female society initially attempted to feed them, but the young only accepted food from their father. Preening and clumping continued with the society, however, and all four birds continued to behave as a typical family.

This fostering episode took place in a 12 x 12 x 32 inch cage located in the dining room less than three feet from the main conversation area. Clearly these circumstances are less than ideal for a successful fostering and raise the question of why this worked.

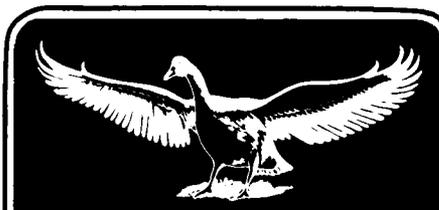
## Cordon Bleus as Foster Parents

One golden-breasted waxbill (*Amandava subflava*) was found beneath its nest which contained eggs and another newly-hatched nestling. Hesitant to disturb the nest, I fostered the baby to the most reasonable pair, a pair of red-cheeked cordon bleus (*Uraeginthus bengalus*). The nestling could have been placed with societies then sitting on eggs, but the cordons were selected because the societies had already rejected a golden-breasted earlier in the season. Also societies are not likely to accept or succeed in rearing a golden-breasted because this waxbill nestling differs in size and appearance compared to the societies' own young.

The cordons were sitting on their third infertile clutch and appeared pleased with the appearance of the baby. They fed the nestling from their usual diet, but relied heavily on Robert Black's fostering formula, a few very small meal worms (10-15 per day), some aphids and seedling grasses. The cordons were one year old and had never raised their own young. Again, the significant question associated with this fostering is why it worked at all.

## Observations on "Good" Foster Parents

Based on past success and failure with fostering, the author offers the following observations concerning the



*Ken McConnell*

RT. 1, BOX 218M • RED BLUFF, CA 96080

(916) 527-6465

**Swans are my only business.**

- AUSTRALIAN BLACKS
- BLACK-NECKED
- MUTE SWANS
- TRUMPETERS
- ROSE-BREADED COCKATOOS
- CONURES

*A Dedicated Hobby*

**AVIARY & ANIMAL PET SUPPLY**

**P.O. Box 514**

**Fort Towson, OK 74735**



Three Types Automatic Watering Systems, J-Clips, J-Clip Pliers, Flush Ground Cutting Pliers, Pop Bottle Water Founts, Plastic & Metal Feeders, Metal Trays, Breeding & Flight Cages, Parrot Stands & Cups, Incubators, Ketch-All Mouse Traps, Electric Foggers, Automatic Light Timer, Kool Mist Foggers, Medications, Vitamin & Mineral Supplements, Books, Nylon Corner for 1" x 1" Steel Tubing, Canary Nests, Canthaxanthin for Red Canaries, *Much More.*

Send \$1.00 for Illustrated Catalog #3 by First Class Mail.

**The Avicultural Society  
of America, Inc.,**

Welcomes new members.



We publish a monthly bulletin on all aspects of aviculture. Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact: Aletta M. Long, (213) 596-7429, A.S.A., Inc., P.O. Box 157, Stanton, CA 90680. Yearly dues \$15.00. Overseas members, please add \$5.00 to cover postage.

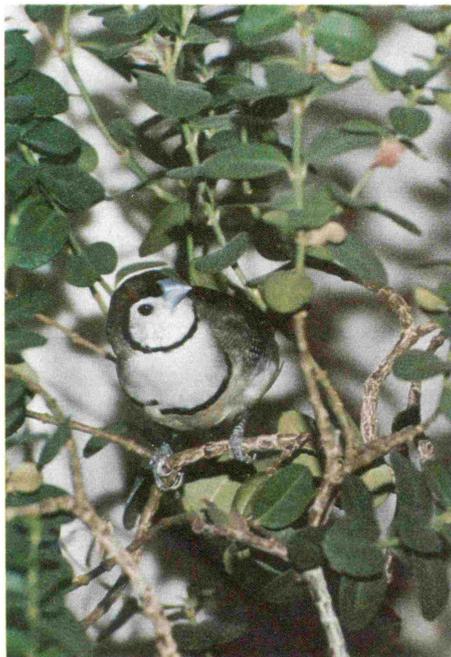


*Basket of young blue-caps with their parents — blue-caps may be easily fostered under red-beaked cordons because of their close relationship. Breeding both species simultaneously could provide a "safety" for abandoned young, especially when the clutch is large and the demand for live food is very high.*

reasons these two unusual fosterings worked.

1. *Perfect Timing and Circumstances* — Both pairs had been sitting on eggs which were infertile but "due" to hatch. Young were raised alone without comparison to young of the parents' own species.

2. *Readiness to Breed* — Both pairs



*Owl finch — owl finches are commonly fostered under society finches. However, when properly managed, owl finches make excellent foster parents themselves — even for waxbills.*

had been surrounded by other breeding birds of the same or similar species, and both pairs had displayed an interest in breeding although they were unable to produce young themselves. Both pairs had strong pair bonds and had shown indications of being capable parents. Housed separately, each foster pair was undisturbed by other birds.

3. *Personality* — Both pairs of birds were calm, agreeable, and tolerant for their species. They were used to their environment, their diet, and the person who cared for them.

4. *Age* — Both pairs were at least one year old. The female society was 2-1/2 and had already fostered bronzed-winged mannikins (*Lonchura cucullata*) and silverbills (*Lonchura cantans*).

In sum, the successful adoption of these fostered babies was probably due to the fact that both pairs had been sitting on eggs already and were very eager to have young. They were surrounded by many successful breeding pairs with young which produced begging sounds that further enhanced the foster parents' desire to have young of their own.

If you attempt similar fosterings, make sure the pair employed is in breeding condition (preferably sitting on eggs), that the parents will feed the diet necessary for rearing the fostered young, and leave the foster parents alone as much as possible. Avoid nest-pecking. Instead, listen for begging

sounds or watch parental behavior<sup>4</sup> to determine the success of your attempt. Essentially you are asking your birds to do something difficult, so do not stress them while they do it.

### Implications

Certainly it is possible to foster finches using birds other than societies. It may even be preferable. By considering more species as potential foster parents you will increase your options for finding a pair at the right stage of the breeding process.<sup>5</sup> By increasing your



*Fledgling Peters' twinspot — using the methods discussed in this article, the author was able to foster a Peters' twinspot under cordons. This was done when an egg was laid on the floor by the natural parents (which are excellent breeders) after their nest had been removed. The cordons reared the Peters' to maturity, and she has since been removed and accepted a mate of her own species. She will be allowed to breed in the coming spring.*



*Recently fledged fire finch — fire finches can definitely be fostered, although placing nestlings under a pair of breeding societies is not the best way.*

options for foster parents you may also be better able to match the fostered young with foster parents whose natural young would be similar to the fostered species (greatly improving your chances for success). Many breeders have limited space and resources, but specifically purchase society pairs "just in case." Perhaps the space reserved for societies could be better filled with birds which really need to be established in aviculture. However, birds already under your care which are infertile (as my cordons), "retired," or imperfect may be humanely kept as foster parents.<sup>6</sup>

Clearly, as shown by my fostered fire finches, Black is correct in his assessment that waxbills can be reared with no live food. This knowledge, plus expedient fostering, may help establish some relatively difficult birds (such as waxbills), and minimize capture in the wild, hopefully contributing to their future survival.<sup>7</sup>

## NOTES

1. The standard diet fed to these and other finches under the author's care includes the following other than the usual seed, grit, etc.: wheat germ, Proteen 25, Hills Nestling Food, Sluis Bekfin, Ornithological Products Insectivorous Mix, Oyster Shell and Mineral Mix, Extra Fine Finch Seed, Wild Weed Seeds, Petamine and an assortment of greens including kale, chickweed, comfrey, dandelion and various dark-leaved grocery store varieties.
2. Robert Black, *Society Finches as Foster Parents*, Florida, 1977. This is a very short, but extremely useful work on fostering and should be supplemented with Black's work on nutrition, *Nutrition of Finches and Other Cage Birds*, Georgia, 1981.
3. Abba Green is available from Abba Products, P.O. Box 122, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207.
4. Good parental behavior includes the following: calmness and a steady rhythm in all actions (if the birds become flighty or unsteady after a nestling has been introduced, then the chances of successful fostering are slim, demanding very close observation from the breeder and plans for an alternate method of rearing the young if the parents do not settle down); routine trips to several feeding dishes followed by entrance to the nest and begging sounds (which is easiest to observe directly after the sunrise feeding or after new foods have been introduced); brooding of the young by at least one parent usually through the first week (this will vary with the individual and/or species); lack of interest in displaying or nest building.
5. Black, 1-13 and Mervin Roberts, *Breeding Society Finches*, T.F.H. Publications, 1979, 84-85.
6. Black, 2.
7. I would like to thank Hal Bruce, President of the Delaware Avicultural Association, for encouraging me to write this article. It forced me to think more seriously about fostering birds and to appreciate the necessity of passing on information which might help other breeders in attempts to establish the more difficult-to-breed species in this country. ●

# CLASSIFIED ADS

**CLASSIFIED RATES** — \$6.00 minimum charge for 4 lines of type (average 7 words per line). Additional charge of 12¢ per word for ad running over 28 words. (28 words to include name, address and phone.) All copy to be **RECEIVED BY 1st** day of month preceding publication. One inch boxed ad — 58 word maximum — \$15.00.

**DOMESTICALLY RAISED** — Hand fed Suns, Jendays, Gold-caps, Gold-crowns, Halfmoons as well as several other species. A few Pionus, Eclectus, Amazons & Macaws. Stan or Fay. (602) 983-3028.

**SURPLUS** — All surgically sexed. Male Military Macaw \$500; Female Red Lored Amazon \$300; Female Great Billed Parrot \$450; Female Spectacled Amazon \$175. Call (602) 983-3028.

**AFRICAN GREY BABIES**, hatched in our aviary, handfed and raised in our home (and spoiled rotten!!). Health guaranteed, \$800 firm. We also have Cockatiels: cinnamon-pearls, young adults \$75, handfed babies \$100. Also s/s Mitted conure male, perfect feather, \$75. Call Don or Linda Greeson, (305) 792-5657, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

**GOLDEN MANTLED ROSELLA**, Manycolored hen, possible split to blue Indian ringnecks, Barrabands, Bourke's, Rosy Bourke's, split Rosy Bourke's males, Tourquoisines. Cliff Chamberlin, (503) 664-3744, Oregon.

**VOSMAERI GRAND ECLECTUS**, unrelated pairs. Raised in United Kingdom and United States. Large and beautiful. All shipping paid. Warren Dent, Indiana, (317) 253-5322.

**BLUE & GOLD MACAW** s/s male, tame, approx. 6 years old. Good personality. Perfect condition. We ship anywhere. COD accepted. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**UMBRELLA COCKATOOS**, handfed babies, super tame, special pet birds. Perfect condition. COD accepted. Live arrival guaranteed. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**YELLOW NAPES**, handfed from day 8, tame and talking, approx. 8 months old, fat, healthy and strong babies. We ship, COD anywhere. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**RINGNECK DOVES**, home raised, \$10 each. Quantity prices available. No shipping. Brenda, (313) 749-9125. Michigan.

**HANDFED CATALINA MACAWS** 1½ years old \$1350 each, to good homes. Large mature male Medium Sulphur Crested Cockatoo, semi-tame, \$750. Will consider trade — one Catalina macaw for mature s/s female scarlet macaw or, one pair s/s Toco Toucans, or male Cockatoo towards purchase of either. Sheila Rogers, Norco, CA. Call (714) 734-0578.

**BLUE RINGNECKS** — Indian ringnecked parakeets. s/s split-for-blue. Early '84 hatch. S.L. Dingle, P.O. Box 340, Norco, CA 91760. Phone (714) 734-7448.

**PINE NUTS** — Dec. '84 crop from New Mexico. Truly the "caviar" of nuts. Superb treat for med. & lg. size parrots. People love 'em too! Two sizes: 3 oz. \$5.00, 12 oz. \$17.50. Price includes postage and shipping. Special wholesale prices for distributors and retail stores. Visa/MC-phone orders. PYRAMID BIRDS, INC., 1407 West Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA 91506. Call (818) 843-5505.

**WANTED: FEMALE BLUE CROWNED HANGING PARROTS.** Will buy or trade males for females. I am also interested in other species of Hanging parrots. Kristine, Seattle, WA. area, (206) 282-8513.

**HAND RAISED Blue & gold, and Scarlet macaws.** Also, egg laying female Scarlet macaw and pair of medium Sulphur Crested Cockatoos. Fort Wayne, Indiana, Jane, (219) 489-9415.

**HYACINTH MACAW** — hand fed from hatch Oct. 24, '84, \$5000. Blue/gold macaw, hand fed, \$1000. Black capped lorries s/s pairs \$600, hens \$300. St. Thomas Island conures s/s pairs \$500, hens \$250. Solomon Island Eclectus pairs \$2300. Fred Bauer, California. (707) 923-3715.

**SUPER TAME BABY NAPES**, already talking, \$695. Call for wholesale prices. **HAWKHEADS**, young breeders, female \$795 (2), male \$695 (1), all three \$2100. Tame and talking Double Yellow Heads \$788. Panama (rare), best offer, picture on request, super tame, large Spanish and American vocabulary. Mealy, 1 year old, still learning, best offer. Will ship. Stanley J. Turner, (912) 925-3382, South Carolina.

**ECLECTUS** — Vosmaeri, Grand, Red-sided, '84 hatch, for sale or trade. **WANTED** — male Triton and male Rose breasted cockatoos. Derek Cowie, (805) 257-0566, California.

**FEMALE BOLIVIAN MILITARY** \$650; female Blue & gold, typey & deep color, tame \$675; male Blue & gold, 1 yr. from quarantine \$450; male Leadbeater 1½ yrs., not tame \$450; female Medium S/c cockatoo, tame, 6 yrs. \$850; male Umbrella, tame (not breeder) \$600; proven pair Yellow Napes \$1800; A. Chandler, (619) 728-7311, L.A. area.

**HAND FED LESSER SULPHURCRESTED COCKATOOS.** Young babies, super tame, excellent condition. Perfectly feathered, fat, healthy birds. We ship. COD accepted. Live arrival guaranteed. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**CITRON COCKATOOS**, super, super tame babies. Handfed from day 6. Very well feathered, fat, healthy. Excellent sweet personality. Ideal pet! We ship. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**SPRING BABIES** — Taking deposits to hold handfed tame babies until weaning. Amazons, African Greys, Cockatoos, Conures, Eclectus, Lorries, Pionus, and others. We guarantee our babies to be in perfect health and feather. Call for species, availability, and details. Gail J. Worth, Aves International, 2808 Oregon Court - Unit L8, Torrance, CA 90503, (213) 541-1180.

**MOLUCCAN handfed babies**, super tame, super pets, super condition. We ship, COD anywhere. Bird Jungle, Inc. P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**BLUE CROWNED AMAZONS**, handfed, tame, and talking, sweet personality. Healthy baby bird. Super pet. We ship, COD anywhere. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**LESSER SULPHUR CRESTED COCKATOOS**, mature pairs available. Ready for breeding, good healthy birds, beautiful feathers. We ship, COD accepted. Bird Jungle, Inc., P.O. Box 262006, Tampa, FL 33685. Phone (813) 935-3837.

**ILLNESS FORCES SALE.** Breeders — Cockatiels \$17-\$30 ea. Mitted conures (s/s) \$100 pr., Chattering lorries (2m., 1f., 1 unsexed) \$135 ea., Indian ringnecks \$100 pr., Young Indian ringnecks \$35 ea., Breeder Budgies \$5 ea., Japanese green pheasants \$5 ea. Birds sold by flight, no individual bird sales. Hubert/Chieko (702) 565-7274.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

**CLASSIFIED RATES** — \$6.00 minimum charge for 4 lines of type (average 7 words per line). Additional charge of 12¢ per word for ad running over 28 words. (28 words to include name, address and phone.) All copy to be **RECEIVED BY 1st day of month preceding publication.** One inch boxed ad — 58 word maximum — \$15.00.

**FOR SALE OR TRADE:** Psittacines or geese or ?? '83 and '84 Ruddy headed, Ashy headed cackler, Andean, Cape Barren, Ross, unrelated pairs. Also hatching Emu chicks now. Call Richard I. Brown, Jr., R.D. #1, Box 1000, Reading, PA 19607. (215) 777-8283.

**NATURALLY CURIOUS AND COMICAL** — pleasant, varied vocalizations. Two unsexed Plush-crested Jays. \$100 each. Chris Brown, Dallas, Texas, (214) 330-4912.

**ROSEBREASTED HEN** — six years old. Ray Baker, P.O. Box 843, La Puente, CA, (818) 968-8725.

**HYACINTH BABIES** — aviary bred and hand fed. One 1983 hatch, one 1984 hatch. Will consider trade for Leadbeater. Also have breeder age male lutino male Ringneck for sale. Call Leslie, (813) 585-9295. Florida.

**BREEDERS, SURGICALLY SEXED** — Green winged macaws \$1500 pr., Military macaws \$1200 pr., Scarlet/Blue & gold cross (Catalina) \$1500 pr., Triton cockatoos \$2000 pr., Umbrella cockatoos \$900 pr., Blue crowned Amazons \$1100 pr., Double yellow headed Amazon male \$450. All birds mature and have been set up over two years. Don Boltzen, Arcata, CA. Phone (707) 822-2366.

**AMBOINA KINGS, PAIR,** breeding age, \$2000. Pair of Double yellow headed Amazons 3 years old, \$1000. Male Tres Marias, talks, \$850. Albany, Oregon. (503) 926-6716 after 6 p.m. (PST).

**ADULT TRITON HEN:** trade for adult Triton male or will sell. Derek Cowie, (805) 257-0566 week days only. California.

**BLUE & GOLD MACAW** for sale, 8 months old, spoon fed baby. Receives lots of attention, a great pet, health certificate included. Asking \$1200. Call (414) 375-1461, Wisconsin.

**ATTENTION: LORY BREEDERS** — I would like to add some breeders to my Lory collection. If you have quality birds to spare contact Stan Carpenter (602) 983-3028.

**SURPLUS BIRDS:** Breeder stock Macaws 0.3 Scarlets \$650 ea., 1.1 Blue & Gold (egg layer) \$1000 pair, 1.0 Greenwing \$450, 0.1 Red-sided Eclectus \$1000, 0.1 Blue crowned Amazon (egg layer) \$400, Orange wing Amazon \$100, 1.0 Baraband \$100. Some imperfect. **BIRDS UNLIMITED,** Teri, (805) 252-3455.

**S/S MOLLUCANS** — \$900 pr., Orange winged Amazons \$125 ea., and other birds. Please call (713) 459-2555. (Houston, Texas area).

**WANTED:** Sexed pair of Major Mitchell's cockatoos for breeding. Reasonably priced. Bird Haven, 3900 S. Taft Hill Rd., Fort Collins, Colorado 80526. Phone (303) 223-5246.

**WANTED** — adult male Philippine red vented cockatoo, preferably 2-8 years of age. Also for sale, 3 pair of rare Kenya Forest Crested Guinea fowl (breeder age) \$600 per pair. Also one 1984 tame sun conure \$275, sex unknown. Mack Zahler, 3215 North 2450 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116. Phone (801) 364-5010.

**NEST BARRELS** — 50 gal. solid oak wine barrels ideal for macaws, reinforced entrance, \$100. **PALM LOGS** — ideal for toucans, parrots, and other cavity nesting soft-bills, logs hollowed out and ready for use, available in diameters: 10-12" for \$25 per foot; 13-16" for \$27 per foot; 17-20" for \$30 per foot. Call or write: Jerry Jennings, P.O. Box 6393, Woodland Hills, CA 91365. Phone (818) 884-5476.

**LUTINO LOVEBIRD HANDFED BABIES,** (Peachface). Bred in our aviary, Split albino, Silver, Cherryhead, \$100. Silver & Cherry/silver, \$60. Black-masked/blue, \$60. Fischer's, \$50. Super tame. Fed from 4 weeks. No shipping. Bebe, CT, Phone: (203) 374-3103.

**FINCHES: CUBAN MELODIOUS,** Red-head parrot finches, Owl finches. Large, strong, active birds in excellent feather. All aviary raised, outdoors by their natural parents. "Julie's Jewels", Phone: (714) 846-7769.

**BOOKS, SUPPLIES: ENCYCLOPEDIA OF POULTRY.** The new Color Standard of Perfection. 464 color pictures, the official judging guide for leading poultry shows, the exhibitor's "Bible", show requirements, points, weights. \$35.00, mailing \$2.00, overseas air shipping \$16.50. FREE 56 page color aviary supply catalog. "Everything—You Name It!" Stromberg Publishing Co., Pine River 7, Minnesota 56474.

**MOLLUCAN BREEDERS** — beauties, in country over 3 years. Call Rod Hug, (705) 539-3413, Santa Rosa, CA.

Beautifully detailed genuine pewter keychains, your choice: **MACAW, COCKATOO, PARROT, AFRICAN GRAY, COCKATIEL, PARAKEET, CANARY.** \$4.75 postpaid. Send check or USA money order (NYS residents add tax) to **PLANNED PARROTHOOD®**, Dept. AWB, Old Quaker Lane, Highland Mills, NY 10930.

**POLLEN:** Mother Nature's Conditioning Food Powder (birds only) \$4.00 lb. Pellets (birds and people) \$5.00 lb. plus shipping. Follow UPS charts. Add 1 lb. container weight. Jim Ford, Dept. W, 7160 South Brookhill Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84121. (801) 943-7618.

**FLORIDA FINCH HEAVEN** — we buy, breed, consign, sell, barter and trade finches. At least 60 species in stock at all times. **BIRD & CAGE CO.,** 8841 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Shores, FL 33138. Call (305) 757-6000. Open daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sundays. Come visit!

**ECLECTUS & MORE:** males \$900, females, \$1,300. 4 types: Red side, Grand, Solomon and Vos. African Cape parrots, \$600. Also **RARE COCKATOOS.** Inquire, phone: (714) 879-2473.

**LORIES** — Edwards, Orange duskies, Red Mollucan. Bred in our outdoor Florida aviary. Breeders or handfed babies. Breeding pair Indian ringnecks and s/s male baby \$450. Joleen Chrestensen, Phone: (305) 946-2190.

**EXTRA BREEDING STOCK:** 1 pair Yellow napes, domestic, male Blue & gold macaw, male Rose-breasted cockatoo, 2½ years, semi-tame, male Leadbeater, 1½ years. A. Chandler, Phone: (619) 728-7311.

**HANDFED BABIES:** (weaned for Christmas) 1 Ruby macaw, 1 Scarlet macaw, 3 Congo greys, 4 Senegals. A. Chandler, Phone: (619) 728-7311.

**HANDFED SUN CONURES,** born 7/84, \$350 firm. Handfed African grey, 5 mo. old, \$850. 3 year old African grey, tame and talks, \$750. **EXTRA BREEDERS.** 1 s/s male Mollucan, large and beautiful, 10 years old, \$600. 1 male Pennant Rosella, \$175. 1 male Adelaide Rosella, proven breeder, \$250. Both approx. 3 years old. Call after 6 p.m. (714) 629-7545, L.A. County area.

**8 HISPANIOLAN AMAZONS,** reared in Haiti. Been in the U.S. over a year. Healthy, beautiful birds, 3½ yrs. old. Sandy Michaels (419) 562-3916. Ohio.

**MATURE, SURGICALLY SEXED PAIRS** — Scarlet, Green-wing, Blue & gold, Severe macaws. Scarlet male, Green-wing male, Blue & gold male. Pair Hawk head parrots, pair Yellow nape, Double yellow head, Blue crown, Blue front, Panama Amazon parrots, Mexican red head hen, Red vent cockatoo male, Red sided Eclectus male, pair Goffin's cockatoos, pair medium cockatoos. Mary McDonald (512) 885-4889.

**LIVE IN COUPLE** — house furnished, vehicle furnished and many other extras — to help take care of large bird farm. One or both physically able to handle birds (parrots). Second part of job is to do certain preventative and general maintenance around farm. Salary reasonable and to be discussed. D. Fisher, P.O. Box 1922, 2575 S.E. 9th Street, Pompano Beach, Florida 33062.

**BIRDS: SELL OR TRADE.** Raised in our aviary. Derbyan and Princess parakeets, Port Lincolns, Rosellas, and Mollucan cockatoo. Jim DeMartini, (209) 538-3162, California.

**TRUE GREATER SULFUR CRESTED COCKATOOS** (C. galerita galerita). Fat, affectionate handfed babies from breeders we hand-picked in western Australia. \$2500. Hornbeam Farm, (419) 588-2279. Northern Ohio area.

**JOHN STOODLEY BOOKS** — Pionus Parrots, and Parrot Production. \$29.95 each plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling. California residents add 6½% sales tax. Dale Thompson, P.O. Box 1122, Canyon Country, CA 91351.

**WHITE-FACED COCKATIELS** \$650 each (mostly hens). Unsexed splits \$150 each. **BIRDS UNLIMITED,** 16425 Placerita Canyon Road, Newhall, CA 91321. Phone (805) 252-3455.

**BEAUTIFUL SOLOMON ISLAND ECLECTUS,** pairs and extra males. Males make excellent pets. Handfed Congo African Greys. Yellow Red Rumps and Meyers Parrots, '84 hatch. Female Pennant Rosella. John Curtis, 505 E. Romie Lane, Salinas, CA 93901.

**HANDFED AND HAND TAMED** birds of all types. Lots of surgically sexed pairs. Quality birds at super low prices. We ship nationwide. Jungleville Exotics, Rt. 1, Box 10A, Rowesville, SC 29133. Phone (803) 531-BIRD (2473).

**MINI-WORMS.** A live, high protein food for soft billed birds and all fledglings. They also come in dehydrated form. Great for adding to your nestling food. For more information and prices send LSASE to: E. and C. Enterprises, 1628 West Dell Circle RW, Mesa, Arizona 85201.

**FOR SALE: DOMESTIC BRED, HAND-RAISED BABY SEVERES** \$350, Green wings \$800, Double yellows \$500, Black-headed caiques \$350, Blue-headed Pionus \$200, female Philippine blue-naped parrots \$450. All super tame, some talking. Adult male Yellow-crowned \$350, adult s/s Double yellows \$1,200 pair, adult s/s Scarlets \$3,000 pair. (601) 948-3129.

**ECLECTUS & MORE:** males \$900, females \$1300, 4 types — Red side, Grand, Solomon & Vos. African Cape parrots \$600 each. (714) 879-2473, California.

**LUTINO INDIAN RINGNECKS:** 1 male, 2 females closed banded. Also cockatiels, peach faced love birds, Lady Gouldian finches, Society finches, Diamond doves. Kayla's Aviaries, California. Call (209) 431-0257.

**BLUE HEADED PIONUS BABIES,** domestically bred. Call Pampered Parrot Haven, Inc. (516) 922-1169. New York.

**WHITE-TAILED DIAMOND DOVES:** New DOMINANT mutation, available in silver & blue, \$100/pr. Photos \$1 + SASE. Greenwing doves \$95/pr. \$10 box charge on any size order. Garrie Landry, Rt. 1, Box 199, Franklin, LA 70538, phone (318) 828-5957.

**FINCH NESTING MATERIAL:** fine quality Bermuda grass, properly dried, THE MOST IDEAL finch nesting material. SASE for sample; sizeable quantity, \$7.50 ppd. Garrie Landry, Rt. 1, Box 199, Franklin, LA 70538.

**FINCHES:** Diamond sparrows, Masked grass finches, Cuban melodious finches. Raised outdoors. Gene Fetter, San Francisco, CA. Call (415) 566-3262 evenings.

**RELOCATING, MUST SELL** 3 pairs s/s Blue and gold macaws \$1100 per pair, one pair Umbrella cockatoos \$1000. Call Sharon (904) 878-6325 evenings. Tallahassee, FL area.

**BREEDERS SURPLUS** — s/s pairs Hahns macaw \$425, Senegals \$150, Goffins \$350, Patagonians \$175, lutino hen, male/lutino \$500. Also mature male Plum head \$150, Slaty head female mature \$175, s/s Indian ring-necks '84 male/lutino \$150, lutino female \$295, mature female \$100, Jewell's Exotic Birds, L.A. (714) 595-6612.

**BIRD FARM** in beautiful Central Texas within 36 miles of Austin, State Capitol and high tech center. Warm climate, 1-hour drive to Hill Country lakes and resort areas. Located on 1 acre in thriving community just out of city limits of Taylor, 1½ miles to shopping center, high school and hospital, comfortable 3-bedroom brick home, young producing fruit and nut orchard, factory-built storm cellar, water well, privacy fenced. Insulated bird facilities will accommodate up to 20 pairs large birds. \$100,000.00 negotiable. Also reducing stock, some pairs proven breeders, others ready to breed. Address inquiries to Gene & Jo Hall, Rt. 4, 11 Sandy Lane, Taylor, Texas 76574, or call (512) 352-8820.

**WANTED:** For resale, good, young budgerigars at jobbers price. Lots of 50 or more per week. GSBF, Inc., Box 125, Middleton, Idaho 83644. (208) 585-3125.

**COCKATIELS BRED FOR COLOR** and quality. Strong, healthy birds. Heavy pids, cin-pieds, cin-pearl pids, fallows, fallow pids, fallow pearl pids. Southern California area — Dave, (714) 827-3447.

**DOMESTICALLY BRED** in our aviaries, hand raised and imprinted in our home. Baby African grey parrots. Voren's Aviaries, Florida, (305) 793-5528.

**HAND RAISED BABIES:** We are now taking reservations for our 1985 domestic babies. We specialize in macaws and parrots: Hyacinth, Blue and gold, Catalina, Green-winged, Red fronted, African grey, Yellow naped, Tucuman, Alexandrine ringneck parakeet. Send SASE for our price list. SANDY CREEK FARM, Rt. 2, Box 350-H, Sarasota, FL 34240. Call (813) 322-2006.

**MOLUCCAN BREEDERS.** Proven pair. Also spoonfed babies and mature male. Lilac crown Amazon. Rod Hug, Santa Rosa, CA, phone: (707) 539-3413.

**FOR SALE OR TRADE:** 1 male Grand Eclectus, 1 Yellow vented bluebonnet, 1 pair White breasted caiques and more. Feathers and Furs, Phone: (912) 272-2504, (912) 272-1557, (912) 272-5490.

**SCARLET CHESTED PARAKEETS,** Yellow fronted kakariks, and normal and pied cockatiels. Healthy. Outdoor aviary raised. Unrelated pairs. 1984 hatch. San Diego. Will ship. Phone: (619) 287-7353.

**DOMESTIC HANDFED BABIES AND YOUNG BREEDERS,** cockatiels, Citron cockatoos, Indian, African ringnecks, Alexandrines, Plumheads, Timeneh greys, Conures: Suns, Jenday, Nanday, Dusky's. Pacific parrotlets, Lovebirds. Laurie, Phone: (602) 266-2334.

**HYACINTH MACAW AND GRAND ECLECTUS BABIES:** 2 mo. to 1½ years old, domestically bred and handfed. Reservations accepted for future babies. Po Kim, New York City, Phone: (212) 673-0437.

**FOR SALE: PARAKEETS ALL COLORS** \$5 each. Will ship. Also Cockatiels, Finches, Lovebirds and some larger birds, tame and untame. Lakeside Bird Farm, P.O. Box 1203, Tifton, Georgia 31794. (912) 386-8164.

**NATIONAL PARROT ASSOCIATION.** Join now and receive fact-filled, bi-monthly newsletter all about Parrots, Macaws, Cockatoos, Conures, etc. Expert tips on breeding, nutrition, training, taming, health care. Q's & A's, classifieds, D.V.M. and bird-boarding referrals. Shows, book reviews, much more. Yearly membership only \$14. Canada \$16. Foreign \$21. Suite 111, 8 North Hoffman Lane, Hauppauge, N.Y. 11788.

**DOMESTICALLY BRED** in our aviaries, hand raised and imprinted in our home. Baby Blue fronted, Yellow fronted, Double yellow head, and Yellow naped Amazons. Voren's Aviaries, Florida, (305) 793-5528.

**DOMESTICALLY BRED** in our aviaries, hand raised and imprinted in our home. Super tame baby Sun, Jenday, Gold cap, and Maroon bellied conures. Also older sexed pairs and quantity prices available. Voren's Aviaries, Florida, (305) 793-5528.

**BABIES ONLY — PARAKEETS,** normals \$4.50, rares \$5.00, 3/4 to full crest \$20. Zebra finch \$2.50. Normal Peach faced lovebirds \$10. Cockatiels: grey \$17.50, pied \$28, lutino \$30. KNESEK BROTHERS FARMS, Rt. 3, Box 357, Van Buren, Arkansas 72956. Contact Larry for availability.

**PRINTING:** Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, salesbooks, invoices, rubber stamps, labels, all types of commercial printing. Since 1947. Don's Printing, 845 Neva Ave., Addison, Illinois 60101. For samples send 25¢.

**DOMESTICALLY BRED** in our aviaries, hand raised and imprinted in our home. Super tame baby Scarlet macaws. Voren's Aviaries, Florida, (305) 793-5528.

**CARLSON PREMIUM SPRAY MILLET.** Shipped anywhere in the U.S. except Hawaii and Alaska. Pre-paid 5 lb. box \$15. Remit to: Fine Feathered Friends, 7878 Deering St., Canoga Park, CA 91304-5005. Phone orders, Visa and MasterCard accepted. (818) 340-6318. California residents add 6.5% sales tax.

**DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE** finding healthy pet quality birds? Choose fat, bright eyed, well feathered parrots from Parrot Island. We ship. 6101 FM 1960 W, Houston, TX 77069. Call (713) 580-7773.

**BEE POLLEN** — Clean, high quality bee pollen from California. \$5.25/lb. orders less than 5 lbs., \$5.00/lb. order of 5 lbs. or more. All orders add postage/UPS. Call or write for bulk order prices. PRE-STEP AVIARIES, 914 E. Birch Ave., Fresno, Calif. 93710. (203) 431-0970.

**ECLECTUS PARROTS** — Solomonensis and Vosmaeri, beautiful, tame, spoonfeeding babies. Males \$1000, females \$1300. Other parrot-types available seasonally. Jo Hall, (512) 352-8820.

**BUTTRICK'S AVIARIES:** Thousands of birds always in stock! We import, breed, and broker high quality cockatiels, conures, parrots, cockatoos and macaws; many hand fed, tame and talking! Low wholesale and retail prices. Tremendous quantity discounts. All birds guaranteed healthy or free replacement! 17887 U.S. One, Tequesta, FL 33458. (305) 747-8294.

**ENGLISH BUDGERIGARS.** English imported and bred. Champion bloodlines. Exhibition quality. \$50 a pair and up. Will ship. Fran Mason, 23 Kenwood Lane, Trumbull, Conn. 06611. Call (203) 261-4828.

**COCKATIELS,** including fancies — selectively bred from our aviaries. Cinnamon pids, cinnamon pearls, lutino pearls, green pearly pids. Reasonable prices with quantity discounts. Call or write: Barbara Hutchinson, 50 N. Lake Idylwild, Winter Haven, FL 33881. (813) 299-6232.

**BUTTON QUAIL:** silver and normal chicks \$3.00 each. Adults: normals \$10 a pair, silvers \$15 a pair. Doves and finches. Debbie Mills, Rt. 4, Box 1108, Los Lunas, NM 87031. Call (505) 865-0331.

**RED SIDED ECLECTUS** for sale \$2,400 per pair, males \$900, females \$1,600. Grand Eclectus \$2,500 per pair, males \$1,000, females \$1,700. Other parrots and toucans also available. Write or call for price list. Jerry Jennings, P.O. Box 6393, Woodland Hills, CA 91365. Phone (818) 884-5476.

**CUTTLEBONE** — pure and natural. New, lower prices! 6-13" and cleaned, 5 lb. at \$3.90 per lb. (\$19.50), or 10 lbs. at \$3 per lb. (\$30). SCHROEDER & ATKINSON, 644 South Isis, Inglewood, CA 90301. Phone (213) 776-6486. All orders pre-paid and shipped freight collect.

**HOFFMAN'S AVIARY** — Over 3000 Birds — Lots of hand-fed tame birds. Over 200 different types. Anything from Finches to Hyacinth Macaws. Lots of breeding pairs. We ship anywhere. Visitors welcome. We service Pet Shops, Breeders and Bird Hobbyists. For Quality and Variety send SASE for Price List or call (704) 867-8629. Open 7 days, 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. HOFFMAN'S AVIARY, RT. 1, BOX 201, KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC 28086. We surgically sex birds. (9-84)

**ECLECTUS,** grand, red-sided, Solomon Island, hand-fed babies, fabulous size and color. I buy and sell adult eclectus on occasion. Bernie Conner, (707) 526-7111.

**DECORATIVE MANZANITA** hardwood perches, 36" long, excellent for parrots. Small diameter multi-branched for finches and parakeets, 15 for \$25. Medium diameter for parrots, 12 for \$25. Large diameter for macaws, 10 for \$25. Extra large diameter, 6 for \$25. All orders shipped freight collect. Send check with order to: LAURA'S BIRDS, 5693 Happy Valley Rd., Anderson, CA 96007. (916) 357-3100.

**WE SPECIALIZE IN BIRDS.** Have other pets and supplies, carry Leach seed. Special price on 300 pounds or more. We buy birds and small animals, also take birds on consignment. Open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. No shipping. S & A Pets, 15880 East Amar Rd., City of Industry, (818) 369-3943.

**HAND-FED BABIES:** Amazons, African Greys, Cockatoos, Conures, Eclectus, Lories, Macaws, Pionus, others. Health guaranteed. Call for species and availability. Gail J. Worth, Aves International, 2808 Oregon Court, Unit L8, Torrance, CA 90503, (213) 541-1180.

**HAND-FED BABIES** — hatched & hand-fed at our home. Blue & gold, Catalina, Scarlet, & Hyacinth macaws, Citron, Goffin, Moluccan & Umbrella cockatoos, Congo African greys & many others. Sea Island Aviaries, 4124 Blue Cross Lane, Johns Island, S.C. 29455. Call (803) 559-9072.

**DOMESTIC HANDFED PARROTS:** Congos, Amazons, Macaws, Asians, Australians, Conures. Breeder pairs or singles available also. Many birds in stock. Waterfowl, Vulturines, Guineas, Ratites, and more. S.A.S.E.-Exotic Avian Specialties, Rt 6, Box 387, Corvallis, Oregon 97330. Call (503) 745-5248.

**ECLECTUS** — Big, beautiful, handfed babies. Adult birds on occasion. Bernie Conner, Phone: (707) 526-7111.

**DOMESTIC RAISED PATAGONIANS,** Lilac crowns, Meyers, Galarita galaritas, Scarlet macaws. Also available: Dwarf macaws, Pionus, Conures, Amazons, Lovebirds, Parrolets, Grass keets and Cockatiels. Send SASE for current price list. Westridge Aviaries, 4340 W. Ajo Way, Tucson, Arizona 85746, (602) 883-6094.

