



tional Secondary Hyperparathyroidism (NSHP). The signs of NSHP initially may be vague and may include the following: dull feathers, slow feather growth after a moult, feather picking, sleepiness, mental dullness, gastrointestinal upset. In advanced cases there may be muscle cramps and involuntary wing flapping, eggs may be laid deformed or with no shell or there may be a complete failure to lay eggs. Seizures can occur and may be triggered by stress, egg laying, noise, sudden turning on and off of lights or a meal with a high amount of phosphorus.

Treatment: The need for calcium is satisfied by taking in adequate calcium in the diet and by drawing upon the calcium depots (bone) of the bone (via PTH). Vitamin D alone should *not* be used in the treatment of NSHP. Vitamin D does not increase the intestinal absorption of calcium, but increases the blood calcium levels by taking it from the bone. In fact, prolonged vitamin D therapy will completely demineralize the bird unless the diet is corrected. The proper treatment is to correct any dietary problem and if necessary correct the hypocalcemia (low calcium) by injecting calcium gluconate in fortified 5% dextrose in saline into a vein.

Diagnosis of NSHP is done by a combination of signs that the bird is showing, blood tests and X-rays. The best prevention is a good diet no matter what the species. ●

Palm Cockatoo Registration

The first Regional Studbook for Palm Cockatoo, *Probosciger atterimus*, will be published and issued during the fall of 1985. Studbook cards are being mailed out now. If you have not been previously contacted and you are now holding Palm Cockatoos in your collection, please contact: Ronald A. Young, Studbook Keeper, Palm Cockatoo, Greater Baton Rouge Zoo, P.O. Box 60, Baker, LA 70704, phone 504/775-3877.

Some successful reproduction is now taking place in the private sector. It is important, therefore, that we identify and register as many of the birds now residing in the country in an effort to keep parentage information clean for the future of the species.

It is advisable that you identify your birds in some way. Tattooing under the wing is permanent. There are also good leg rings on the market made of stainless steel that can be custom stamped. Please contact me for more information.

R.A. Young

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SCHEDULE FOR AFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Mark these dates and plan to attend!

November 16, 1985
 Redondo Beach, California — A.F.A. Home Office
 Fall Quarterly Meeting

February 14-17, 1986
 Phoenix, Arizona — Holiday Inn and Holidome
 Winter Regional Meeting

August 6 thru 10, 1986
 New Orleans, Louisiana — Fairmont Hotel
 12th Annual Convention