

breeding the Java Mannikin

(*Lonchura leucogastroides*)

by Carol Anne Calvin, New Jersey



*The Java Mannikin (*Lonchura leucogastroides*) is also known as the Java Munia or Black-rumped Munia. The adults are not sexually dimorphic.*

The juvenile Java Mannikins do not have the distinct coloration of the adults. This youngster was fostered and reared under Society Finches.



The Java Mannikins were housed indoors and reproduction took place during the summer months in a 4' long by 2' wide by 3' high cage under artificial light and heat.

Our Java Mannikins, also known as Java Munias or Black-rumped Munias, are wild-caught birds, obtained out of quarantine, age unknown. Since they are not sexually dimorphic, all six were housed together in a community flight for two to three months in our birdroom, first in a flight four feet long by three feet high by two feet wide and then in an 18 inch cube cage. Each bird was individually color-banded to identify individuals.

The actual mating and egg laying took place in the 18 inch cage, which was meant to be only a temporary home until transferral to a larger flight. The one clutch of three eggs, only one of which was fertile, was laid in a small, closed wicker basket lined with dried grasses. The cock's courtship display was typical mannikin — hopping up and down on the perch, feathers fluffed up, making inaudible vocalizations.

The birds bred in mid-summer, but the outside climate is irrelevant, as our 12 foot by 24 foot indoor basement birdroom provides constant tropical conditions.

The birds enjoy a constant temperature of 78°F, humidity of 70 to 80 percent, Vita-lites 16 hours per day, and a variety of tropical plants — banana trees, palms and weeping figs. This environment is shared by a multitude of other rare tropical finches, some free-flying, others similarly caged.

The fertile Java Mannikin egg was fostered under Society Finches, the two clear eggs being discarded. The Society pair successfully incubated, hatched, and raised the youngster to independence, along with three Society chicks of their own. Hatched on August 10, 1990, the young Java Mannikin fledged at about three weeks and was fed for about another ten days, being weaned on or about September 10, 1990 — the same schedule as the Society chicks with which the youngster was raised.

Editor's Note: *If any person knows of a successful breeding of the Java Mannikin prior to the above article, please inform Dale R. Thompson, Chairman Aty Awards Committee, through the AFA Home Office in Phoenix, Arizona. ●*

VAC-PAC™

L/M's Fresh Treats



L/M Animal Farms
Pleasant Plain, Ohio 45162
Trust L/M Quality

L/M
vita-vittles™
**HONEY
STICKS**

VACUUM PACKED • VALUE PACKED • VARIETY PACKED

VAC-PAC™ means extended shelf life. Two large sticks mean added value. Available in 20 varieties including honey, fruit, nut, egg and vegetable sticks that provide a nutritious well balanced dietary food supplement for all caged birds and small animals.



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE

Dedicated to conservation of bird wildlife through encouragement of captive breeding programs, scientific research, and education of the general public.

1991 OFFICERS

JACK CLINTON-EITNIEAR, *President* (512) 828-5306

CHUCK SAFFELL, *1st Vice President* (813) 722-0997

JERI WRIGHT, *2nd Vice President* (206) 838-9802

VICKI FLETCHER, *Chief Financial Officer* (206) 841-2705

LINDA SUN, *Executive Secretary* (714) 688-4907

LEGAL COUNSEL VICE PRESIDENT • LEGISLATIVE

AFA office, P.O. Box 56218, Phoenix, AZ 85079-6218

(602) 484-0931 / FAX (602) 484-0109

MEMBER NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

African Love Bird Society • Amazona Society • American Cockatiel Society, Inc. • American Budgerigar Society, Inc. • Avian Insights Bird Club
Avicultural Society of America • Budgerigar Research Association • The Golden Triangle Parrot Club • International Aviculturists Society
International Dove Society • International Loriidae Society • International Softbill Society • National Cockatiel Society
National Finch & Softbill Society • National Parrot Association • Society of Parrot Breeders and Exhibitors

MEMBER CLUBS

Northeastern Region

Paul Gildersleeve, *regional v. p.*
(516) 922-1169

CONNECTICUT

State coordinator:
Gustave Seehorst (203) 745-3697
Connecticut Association for
Aviculture, Inc.
New England Finch Fanciers

MAINE

State coordinator:
Sheryl L. Adams (207) 727-5633
Maine State Caged Bird Society

MASSACHUSETTS

State coordinator:
Dennise Cabral (508) 586-3293
Berkshire Cage Bird Friends
Unlimited
Boston Cockatiel Society, Inc.
Boston Society for Aviculture, Inc.
Exotic Cage Bird Society of
New England
Massachusetts Cage Bird
Association, Inc.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

State coordinator:
*
Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society
New Hampshire Avicultural Society
Northeastern Avicultural Society

NEW YORK

State coordinator:
Barbara Heck (518) 766-2778
Broome County Bird Club
Buffalo Hookbill Association
Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association
Greater Rochester Hookbill
Association

RHODE ISLAND

State coordinator:
*

VERMONT

State coordinator:
Peter Lowry (802) 754-6494

Mid-Atlantic Region

Dick Ivy, *regional vice pres.*
(804) 898-5090

DELAWARE

State coordinator:
Nancy Selz (302) 798-8625

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

State coordinator:
Thomas Marshall (703) 318-8438
National Capitol Bird Club

MARYLAND

State coordinator:
Orva Clubb (301) 248-3818
Baltimore Bird Fanciers, Inc.
Del-Mar-Va Cage Bird Club
Maryland Cage Bird Society, Inc.

NEW JERSEY

State coordinator:
Vicki Clark (609) 395-7208
South Jersey Bird Club
The Real Macaw

PENNSYLVANIA

State coordinator:
Kristine Kroner (215) 628-4143
Anthracite Bird Club
Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird Club
Chester County Bird Breeders
Delaware Valley Bird Club
Erie Cage Bird Club
Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society
Philadelphia Avicultural Society

VIRGINIA

State coordinator:
Dawn Kopf (703) 368-1660
Commonwealth Aviculture Society
Parrot Breeders Association
Peninsula Caged Bird Society
Tri-State Bird Club & Foundation

WEST VIRGINIA

State coordinator:
*

Southeastern Region

Willford Pace, *regional vice pres.*
(601) 781-2364

ALABAMA

State coordinator:
Charles Reaves (205) 892-0015
Alabama Budgerigar and Cockatiel
Bird Club of Greater Birmingham
Bi-state Avicultural Association
Central Alabama Aviculture Society
Southeastern Aviculturist
Association

FLORIDA (NORTH)

State coordinator:
Cal Kimura (407) 892-7661
Central Florida Bird Breeders
Association
Exotic Bird Club of Florida
Gainesville Bird Fanciers
Gulf Coast Bird Club
Imperial Bird Club
Panhandle Aviculture Society
Southwest Florida Bird Club
Sunshine State Cage Bird
Society, Inc.
West Florida Avian Society, Inc.

FLORIDA (SOUTH)

State coordinator:
Tom Ireland (407) 968-4214
Aviary & Cage Bird Society of
South Florida
Gold Coast Exotic Bird Club
Greater Brandon Avian Society
Lemon Bay Bird Club
Miami Parrot Club, Inc.
Suncoast Avian Society
Tropical Cockatiel Club

GEORGIA

State coordinator:
Mimi Shepherd, DVM
(404) 248-8977

KENTUCKY

State coordinator:
Thomas B. Angel, Jr., DVM **
(606) 371-4929
Kentuckiana Bird Society

MISSISSIPPI

State coordinator:
Jerry Pace (601) 781-2364

NORTH CAROLINA

State coordinator:
Bob Beech (919) 855-8292
Charlotte Metrolina Cage Bird
Society
Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society
Smoky Mountain Cage Bird Society
Triad Exotic Bird Club

PUERTO RICO

Coordinator:
David Negron (809) 251-1153

SOUTH CAROLINA

State coordinator:
Ted Stephens (803) 279-3374
South Carolina Bird Buddies

TENNESSEE

State coordinator:
Richard Porter, MD (901) 386-1625
Greater Memphis Bird Club
Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club
Tennessee Valley Caged Bird Club

VIRGIN ISLANDS

State coordinator:
*

Mid-Eastern Region

Bob Smith, *regional v. p.*
(517) 764-5170

ILLINOIS

State coordinator:
Bonnie Doane (708) 223-2117
Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club
Illini Bird Fanciers
Northern Illinois Parrot Society
Springfield Pet Bird Club

INDIANA

State coordinator:
Nicole Vander Heyden, DVM
(317) 786-1826
Central Indiana Cage Bird

MICHIGAN

State coordinator:
Jane Stuart (313) 453-3465
Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club
Great Lakes Avicultural Society
Lansing Caged Bird Club
Mid-Michigan Bird Club
Motor City Bird Breeders, Inc.
Town & Country Feathered Friends

OHIO

State coordinator:
John Wathen (614) 965-2667
Avicultural Society of
Greater Cincinnati
Cleveland Cage Bird Society
Golden Crescent Cage Bird Club
Mid-American Exotic Bird
Society, Inc.
Northwest Ohio Exotic Bird Club

WISCONSIN

State coordinator:
David Bluma (414) 554-8432
Kenosha Exotic Bird Club
Milwaukee Bird Society, Ltd.
Wisconsin Cage Bird Club, Inc.

North Central Region

James McCabe, *regional vice pres.*
(612) 753-5241

IOWA

State coordinator:
Randy Karg (712) 542-4190
Mid-America Cage Bird Society

MINNESOTA

State coordinator:
*
Minnesota Companion Bird
Association

NEBRASKA

State coordinator:
Father John Glaves (402) 729-2058
Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society

NORTH DAKOTA

State coordinator:
Christine Bjerke (701) 241-9742

SOUTH DAKOTA

State coordinator:
Royce King (605) 393-1720
Black Hills Cage Bird Club

South Central Region

Paddy Lambert, *regional vice pres.*
(314) 962-8186

ARKANSAS

State coordinator:
Carol Hoeres (501) 839-2948

KANSAS

State coordinator:
Hal Prester (316) 788-4505 **
Kansas Avicultural Society, Inc.

LOUISIANA

State coordinator:
Gene Broussard (318) 233-9993
Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.
Southwest Louisiana Bird Club

MISSOURI

State coordinator:
Walter C. Crawford (314) 938-6193
Gateway Parrot Club
Greater Kansas City Avicultural
Society
Missouri Cage Bird Association

OKLAHOMA

State coordinator:
Richard Bewley, (918) 369-2580
Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma
Oklahoma Cage Bird Society

TEXAS (NORTH)

State coordinator:
Tom Squyres (817) 244-4126
Dallas Cage Bird Society
Fort Worth Bird Club
Plano Exotic Birds

TEXAS (SOUTH)

State coordinator:
Daniel Gonzalez (512) 399-6464
Alamo Exhibition Bird Club
Avicultural Council of Texas
Parrot People

Northwestern Region

Ron Sweere, *regional vice pres.*
(503) 324-2473

ALASKA

State coordinator:
Jim Bauman (907) 344-0623 **

IDAHO

State coordinator:
Arnold Davis (208) 775-3609

MONTANA

State coordinator:
Fred Frey (406) 549-0530

OREGON

State coordinator:
Ron Sweere (503) 324-2473
Cascade Canary Breeders Assoc.
Emerald Exotic Bird Club
Northwest Bird Club
Rose City Exotic Bird Club

WASHINGTON

State coordinator:
Natalie Weiss (206) 927-6983
Jeri Wright, *legislative liaison*
(206) 838-9802
Avicultural Society of Puget Sound
Cascade Canary Breeders
Association
Fine Feathered Friends
Greater Spokane Avicultural Society
Northwest Exotic Bird Society
South Sound Exotic Bird Society
Washington Budgerigar Society, Inc.