# **RVATION**

# **BRAZILIAN RED-BROWED** AMAZON BREEDING PROGRAM

The Red-browed Amazon (Amazona rhodocorytha) is endemic to the Atlantic forest of eastern Brazil and is one of the most endangered mainland Amazons. It is threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation, as well as by the removal of young from the nests for illegal trade as pets. Less than 10 percent of the original habitat remains, and the wild population could be as low as 845 birds and continues to decline.

The Institute for Research and Nature Conservation (Instituto de Pesquisa e Conservação da Natureza-Idéia Ambiental) of Curitiba, Brazil, is conducting a project for the conservation of the species in the wild and, as an insurance policy, in 2006 also began a parallel project to establish a captive breeding program in Brazil.

In 2005, Loro Parque Fundación with help from one of AFA's Avian Research Grants provided a grant to the Brazilian Institute of Research and Nature Conservation (Idéia Ambiental) for the project "Establishment of a Breeding and Research Center for the Red-browed Amazon (Amazona rhodocorytha) at the Curitiba Zoo in Paraná state, Brazil."

In 2006 the breeding center was constructed on land owned by the Curitiba City Zoo. The scientific breeding center allows a genetically viable population of the species to be maintained in captivity, allows for exchange of information with other breeders, and can be used for possible re-introduction of birds back to the wild. Louri Klemann Jr. of Idéia Ambiental leads the project, which also benefits from the advice of Pedro Scherer-Neto of the Curitiba Natural History Museum (Museu de História Natural Capão da Imbuia).

Klemann established the initial captive population with 21 birds that had been confiscated by the Brazilian authorities and were transferred from their facility at CEREIAS to the new center by IBAMA (Brazilian Institute of Environment and Natural Resources). Following quarantine and gender determination, these birds were placed in a large flocking aviary to choose their own mates, creating at least seven pairs for breeding. The pairs were then transferred to the breeding aviaries.

The Red-browed Amazon is not easily induced to breed in captivity, and to date few breeders can



PHOTO BY LOURI KLEMANN JR.

A pair of Red-browed Amazons (A.rhodocorytha) in the breeding center



Map of Brazil with former extent of the Atlantic Forest indicated. Only about 10 percent of the original forest remains undisturbed.

report breeding successes. Therefore, two breeding seasons have been required for the birds in the Curitiba center to reach maturity and to feel comfortable with their surroundings.

In 2009 the first pair to breed is currently rearing three healthy chicks, which it fiercely defends. A close observation is being maintained of the other pairs for signs that they might also soon breed successfully.

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# 2010 AFA Convention speakers include

# Daniel Almaguer

• Victoria Crowned Pigeons (Goura victoria)

# Johanna "Jeleen" Briscoe, DVM, DABVP (Avian)

• The Animal Welfare Act and Birds: An Update

# Josee Bermingham (sponsored by Hagen Avicultural Research Institute)

 Seizing the Moment at the "Fledgling Age"; and Troubleshooting Infertility Through Individual Breeding Pair Assessment

# Jenifer Chatfield, DVM

• Zoonotic Influenzas: Is the Sky Falling?

### **Jason Crean**

• Tea for 'Toos—and Other Birds, Too!

# **Michael Dalton**

• Beyond "Polly Wants a Cracker"

# Caroline Efstathion

• Preventing Bacterial Infections in Aviary Birds

# Walt Frey, Ph.D.

Keeping Parrots Outdoors in Colder Climates

# Benny J. Gallaway, Ph.D.

• The Blue and Gold Macaw

# Lara Joseph

• Empowerment, Choice, Control, Complexities and Their Effects on our Birds' Behavior

# LoraKim Joyner, DVM

• Psittacine Chick and Nest Assessment in Central Am.

### Lawrence E. Killmar, Ph.D.

 Shoebill Stork (*Balaeniceps rex*) First Hatching in North America at Lowry Park Zoo

# Gabrielle Laurent (sponsored by Hagen Avicultural Research Institute)

• Use of Clay in Aviculture

### Denise Lacazette and Julie Corwin

 Living with the Big Four—PDD, PBFD, Polyoma and Psittacosis

# Cassie Malina

• The Secret of Training Birds—Natural Encounters Inc.

### Sandee Molenda

 Aviculture's Future—Our Challenges and How We Can Triumph

# Jean Pattison

• Nest, Nursery and the New Home

# Daniel Sigmon and Heidi Good, Ph.D.

 Replacing America's Parrot—The Quaker Parakeet in a Naturalized Setting

# Roger G. Sweeney

 Ground Hornbills; and Techniques for Pairing and Mate Selection for Parrots



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**House of Delegates registration includes** lectures, exhibits, specialty meetings, and a banquet ticket. One copy of Convention Proceedings is included if HOD meeting is attended. **Full registration includes** lectures, exhibits, specialty meetings, and a banquet ticket. **Daily registration includes** lectures, exhibits, and specialty meetings for a specific day only.

### Refunds

Full refund if postmarked on or before June 18, 2010. 50 percent refund if postmarked on or before July 3, 2010. All refund requests must be in writing and mailed or e-mailed to the address below. **Early Bird** registration **MUST** be postmarked by **June 18, 2010**.

# **Hotel information**

The Convention will be held at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel. Accommodations are NOT included in registration fees. Call 1-800-944-5500 for reservations. Mention AFA when making reservations to secure convention rates of \$95.00 per night for single/double/triple or quad.

All minors attending the Convention must be accompanied at all times by a	Early Bi	rd Rates	Norma	l Rates
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