

deterioration), poor fertility and high mortality of the young. Fostering of the young should also be done at dusk. Then, next morning check the birds to see if the mother has fed the fostered young. Most hens feed throughout the night and if the fostered young are fed then they normally will be cared for.

Another suggestion that might help is regular inspection of the nests in your aviaries. Birds, like all animals, are creatures of habit, thus, it is a wise aviculturist who feeds his birds, cleans aviaries and checks nest boxes on a routine basis. I check all my nest boxes every five days in the afternoon, this way my birds are used to my inspection. All of this makes the fostering of young and the close banding of the young a much easier task. Please understand that I do this only with the easy breeding Agapornis, that is the peach face, masked, and fischer's.

In future issues I will discuss each member of the Agapornis in detail devoting perhaps one article to each species.

If there are any questions I do not cover in the following issues of this column, feel free to write me regarding your problem with the "AGAPORNIS" and I will try to answer your questions.

Write to: Agapornis Acres
2376 Bella Vista Vista, California 92083

L.A. CITY PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING HELD

The Los Angeles City Planning Commission conducted a public hearing June 24, 1975 at the Northridge Junior High School Auditorium before a 'standing room only' audience of more than 600 RA zone residents and aviculturists. Arguments "for" and "against" a city proposal to place strict numerical limitations on animals kept on lots in the RA (residential agriculture) zone were heard.

Under the city proposal, generated by an isolated complaint, the breeding of game birds, waterfowl, and other birds would be practically eliminated on lots of 17,500 sq. ft. (1/2 acre) or larger. The implications for aviculturists living on the average 7,000 sq. ft. R-1 lot are profound, as the proposal is a step toward some of the harshest city regulations affecting bird breeders of nearly any city in the nation. Los Angeles currently ranks among the most liberal with no numerical limitations.

Spokesmen in support of the restrictions numbered only three, including the individual responsible for the original complaint.

Opposition spokesmen representing the

A.F.A., RURAL (Residents United for RA Lifestyle), 4-H Club, Future Farmers of America, Sierra Club and others numbered more than sixty, forcing the hearing to be extended to a second session in July.

The opponents to the proposed ordinance, wearing "I Like Animals" signs, presented convincing arguments and a show of strength for maintaining the status quo. A petition of over 4,700 signatures was presented with the groups vowing to gather more.

Whatever the Planning Commission's decision, the ordinance must be submitted to the City Council. If the Commission approves the restrictions a simple majority of council votes would be required for passage, whereas the commission's rejection would require a 2/3 majority vote from the councilmen.

Area aviculturists will be kept advised by mail of future action and will be asked to lend their support to the A.F.A. position. The proposed severe restrictions, should they become law, may well be held up as an example for other cities to follow.

Magnolia Bird Farm

Owner
Frank Miser



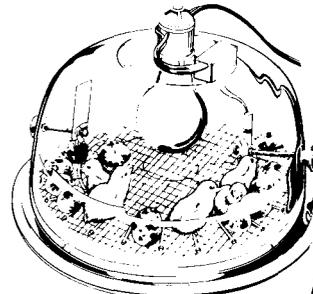
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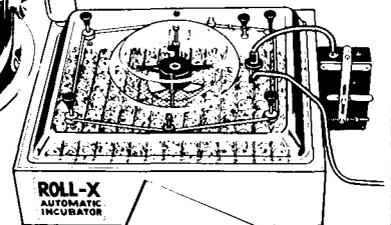
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