

AFA in action...

NEWS and VIEWS

MAY 1995

Importing Birds into Colorado for the Purpose of Sale or Transfer

Section 35-80-108-(2)-(d) states that it is unlawful...for any person (including Bird Hobby Breeders)...to import (into Colorado)...any pet animal (including birds) for the purpose of sale...unless that person is the holder of a valid pet animal facility license. The type of license required may be different if this person is selling their own birds or those raised by someone else.

Application for a Colorado bird breeder identification number and/or license may be made by contacting the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division, 700 Kipling Street, Suite 1100, Lakewood, CO 80215, Attn: either Dr. John Maulsby or Dr. Keith Roehr. Their phone number is (303) 239-4161.

A requirement for a health certificate accompanying any bird entering the state has been discussed by the department. I will furnish information on this once a decision has been made.

Please contact me if you need further clarification.

Ray Vander Leest, P.O. Box 124, Elizabeth, CO 80107, (303) 646-0885 ●

Co-operative Breeding Program for Toucans Approved by USFWS

On February 24, 1995 the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service approved the application for a co-operative breeding program for toucans submitted by the Toucan Preservation Center, a non-profit organization. This approval marks the first time the USFWS has approved an application for a co-operative composed of private aviculturists, and is one of only four approved co-operatives overall. The other three are for birds of prey.

The toucan co-operative breeding program covers four species, the Keel Bill Toucan, Toucan *Ramphastos sulphuratus*, the Red Breasted Toucan *Ramphastos dicolorus*, the Saffron Toucanet *Bailloni bailloni*, and the Chestnut-eared Aracari *Pteroglossus castanotis*. The permit issued the Toucan Preservation Center allows for the importation of one hundred individuals of each species for captive breeding purposes.

The co-operative consists of eight individuals and institutions, the largest such co-operative. The members are Diane Fell, Tulsa Zoo, Tim Kitchens, Kris Kuchinski, DVM, Dick Schroeder, Bob Seibels, Riverbanks Zoo, Mac Sharpe, Chuck Siegel, Dallas Zoo, and Jerry Jennings, Director of the Toucan Preservation Center.

The group will import its first birds under the program in April, with a group of Keel Bill Toucans, and expects to acquire additional birds during the remainder of 1995. For further information, please contact the Center at Rt. 6, Box 14, Fallbrook, CA 92028, tel. (619) 728-2226. ●

Spix's Macaw Release Takes Place

The fax machine slowly printed out a letter of confirmation to the Loro Parque Foundation of an event which had been anticipated for several months. The writer of the letter, Dra.

Maria Iolita Bampi, Vice-President of the Spix's Macaw Recovery Committee, reported that the long-awaited release of the female *Cyanopsitta spixii* back into nature had finally taken place on the 17th March, 1995.

This historic event is the result of years of planning and preparation—the released bird was hatched and reared in the wild but had spent many years in captivity in Brazil. Some six months prior to the release, the bird was installed in a large, specially-designed cage to become used to the natural habitat environment of the site and the new food source which would form the basis of its diet once released from the cage. By the middle of March, the team who had been carefully monitoring the female Spix for several months decided that the bird had adapted sufficiently and that the timing was right for the release to take place.

The door to the cage was opened at 6:30 a.m. on the morning of March 17th and the female soon flew from the cage, initially flying about 300 metres before resting for some 10 minutes. It later flew a further 300 metres and rested in a Pinhao tree where it spent its first night roosting in liberty. The team monitoring the bird report that it has already been seen to utilize other food types in addition to the Pinhao, which it had been fed during the adaptation period. It is not yet flying great distances but recordings of the vocalization of the wild male Spix's Macaw are being played in an attempt to stimulate more movement from the female.

The wild male is currently still paired with an *Ara maracana*, (Illiger's Macaw) at present some distance away from the location of the released female.

News of this release has been a source of great excitement to the Loro Parque Foundation, who as the principle funders of the Spix's Macaw Recovery Project from its very beginnings, feel that they are now seeing worthwhile achievements resulting from the effort, time and money which has been provided over previous years. ●

March 17, 1995 Bird Regulations Update

Attention Bird Hobby Breeders and persons out-of-state desiring to sell birds in Colorado.

The Banding of Psittacine Birds Required in Colorado

The Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act, section 35-80-108-(1)-(i), states that any Psittacine birds in your possession...for the purpose of sale or transfer...must be banded with a type of leg band authorized by the Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture. The act states that this requirement also applies to Bird Hobby Breeders who are exempt from other sections of this law.

An authorized band must be a traceable seamless band containing the letters CO, a Colorado bird breeder identification number issued by the Commissioner, and the last two numbers of the year in which the band was used. Also allowed would be a United States Department of Agriculture Quarantine Station leg band or a band approved by another state. There are also provisions for obtaining authorized seamed bands for those Psittacine birds not banded as babies. ●

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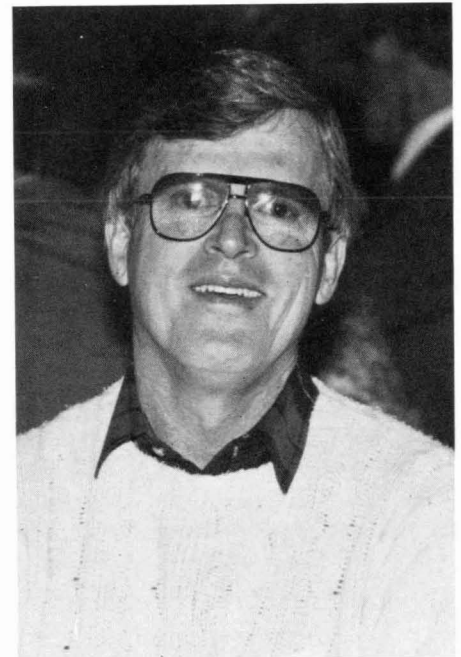
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In Memoriam
William Tom Ireland, Jr.
December 3, 1940—
April 20, 1995



The AFA is saddened to report the loss of a long time member and a Past President (2nd Vice President 1980-1981, President 1982-1983) of our organization, William T. Ireland, Jr.

Ireland was graduated from the University of Nebraska with a BA degree in business and a BS degree in bacteriology. He wrote many articles for various avian magazines and bulletins including *The Watchbird*, and two well known British publications.

A resident of Lake Worth, Florida for many years, Tom was the owner of Tuwana Aviaries, and was particularly noted for his work with numerous neotropical species, especially conures.

During his lengthy avicultural career, he did much to promote the art and science of aviculture and willingly shared his knowledge and expertise with others.

He will be greatly missed by his many friends in the avicultural community. The AFA expresses its sincere condolences to his family and its gratitude for his generous support and dedicated efforts on behalf of the AFA and aviculturists around the world.

Yes, count me as
a member of the

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