SOUTH AUSTRALIAN "BUDGIE DIGEST"

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BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

Meeting Place: Adelaide South West Community Centre, 171 Sturt St, Adelaide SA First Tuesday of each Month at 8.00 pm

Club website - www.bssainc.org.au

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The opinions expressed by the Authors are their own and not necessarily those of this Society

WELCOME TO 2019

On behalf of the Committee, we would like to welcome all our members and their families to 2019. Once again, we look forward to a very busy year in our hobby, with plenty of shows and functions to exhibit our birds and spend time with our fellow members.

Our first show will be the 2019 Murphy Classic in March, where our Novice and Intermediate members have a massive opportunity to showcase their birds for all to see. The months of May, June & July will be busy once again, with a plethora of shows and auctions to keep us all interested and engaged. And we finish in October with the annual Interclub Nest Feather Show with the NEBS.

FEBRUARY MEETING - TUESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2019

Start time is 8pm and tonight we will be holding our Annual General Meeting in conjunction with our normal monthly meeting.

As per our Constitution, half of the Committee automatically retire at the AGM and their positions are up for election. The following positions are up for election: President, Treasurer, Trading Officer, Show Manager, Web Manager & 2 Committee Members.

As such we have a great opportunity to promote some new thinking and ideas at our Committee meetings, so the opportunity exists for interested members to nominate and potentially be elected to the Committee.

Wayne Bandt and Wayne Weidenhofer will introduce to our members a new computer based entry form for our shows which will be available to all members for 2019. The Committee trialled the computer based entry form in 2018 and have recommended as many members use as possible as the time savings for the Show Manager is quite significant.

Jim Butterworth will also lead a detailed discussion on our Calendar for 2019. The BSSA Club Championship winners for 2019 will be announced and awarded their trophies.

2019 MURPHY CLASSIC SHOW FUTURE CHAMPIONS (NOVICE & INTERMEDIATE) SHOW SATURDAY 30 MARCH 2019

The Future Champions show will be open to all exhibitors within SA and will count for status movement points, so this is a great opportunity to gain points to enable members to gain promotion to either the Open or Intermediate level.

We will also provide the opportunity for all exhibitors including Open exhibitors to enter birds into a sales class on the day. Depending on the numbers in this class, we may well judge these birds to add some interest in this class.

Show schedules for this event are available from any member of the Committee or can be downloaded from the BSSA website www.bssainc.org.au

2019 CALENDAR OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

| Monthly | February 5 th @ | AGM & Presentation of online show entry form |
|---------|-------------------------------|---|
| Meeting | 8pm | · |
| Monthly | March 5 th @ 8pm | The differences between Spangles and AOSV Span- |
| Meeting | | gles. |
| Monthly | April 2 nd @ 8pm | How to distinguish between Clearwings, |
| Meeting | | Greywings & Dilutes. |
| Social | April 14 th @ 11am | Mike Crossley has kindly offered to host Club mem- |
| BBQ | | bers at our annual social BBQ. |
| Monthly | May 6 th @ 8pm – | Members on the couch – 3 senior members will be |
| Meeting | Monday evening | interviewed on the couch. |
| Monthly | June 4 th @ 8pm | Novice Opportunity Evening. A night |
| Meeting | | dedicated to our Novice members. |
| Monthly | July 2 nd @ 8pm | The varying shades of blues – Skyblue to |
| Meeting | | Violet. |
| Monthly | August 6 th @ 8pm | Vet Talk – to be confirmed closer to the date. |
| Meeting | | |
| Monthly | September 3 rd @ | The Yellow Varieties – Blackeye, Spangle |
| Meeting | 8pm | Double Factor, Lutino and Dark Eyed Clear. |
| Monthly | October 1 st @ 8pm | Lacewing & Fallow – strategies to breed these vari- |
| Meeting | | eties. |
| Monthly | November 5 th @ | President's Cup |
| Meeting | 8pm | |
| Monthly | December 5 th @ | Recessive and Dominant Pieds – the |
| Meeting | 8pm | differences. |

BSSA 2019 SHOW DATES

The dates for our Shows in 2019 will be as follows:

- Murphy Classic Future Champions Show Show & Social Day Saturday 30 March.
- Logan Shield Sunday 19 May.
- National Show in South Queensland weekend of 25 & 26 May.
- Ron Norman Annual Show & South Australian BRASEA Show Saturday 8 June.
- Stan Watson Breeders Show Saturday 6 July
- Interclub Nest Feather Show Saturday 26 October.

April 6 is reserved as a back up date for the Future Champions Show. This is in case hot weather prevents the show going ahead on the planned date of 30 March. We have also planned for tender sales to be a prominent feature of all BSSA shows during 2019. Keep an eye out for the show schedules.

2019 RINGS

The 2019 rings were issued on 15 December in line with ANBC rules. Members who have paid for postage should have received their rings already. Otherwise, pre ordered rings will be available from our Ring Officer (Wayne Bandt) at our monthly club meetings. As you can see from the chart below, the ordering of rings is becoming very specific and members need to plan in advance.

As Clubs make zero profit on ring sales, we cannot afford to order excess rings in the hope that we will sell them. So the onus is on our members to order sufficient rings to cover all their requirements. Any uncoded rings that are unused are able to be resold to other members – you just need to let the Ring Officer know the numbers for record keeping purposes.

| 15 December 2018 | Issue date for Black 2019 rings. |
|---------------------|--|
| 16 June 2019 | Closing date for final 2019 ring order. This is the second and final chance to order your rings for 2019. |
| 17 August 2019 | Estimated delivery date of the final 2019 ring order. |
| 18 August 2019 | Closing date for 2020 1 st order. The BSSA will not be holding spare rings. All members are encouraged to pre order their own rings. The next order is not until June 2020. |
| 15 December 2019 | 2020 rings available from the Ring Officer. |

ANBC & BCSA NEWS & UPDATES

Show Cage Fronts – In 2010, the BCSA passed a motion that all show cage fronts which were at that stage chrome plated, would need to conform to the ANBC standard of powder coating by 2019. Several opportunities were available in previous years to have your show cage fronts powder coated, although none recently.

The BCSA have confirmed that 2019 will be the final year chrome fronted cages will be accepted on the show benches, so we need to survey our members and understand how many members this decision effects and the number of cages involved.

Could all members with chrome plated cages email or call a BSSA Committee member with this information by 5th March 2019.

2021 ANBC Organising Committee – In 2021, the ANBC Show returns to Adelaide at the Grand Chancellor Hotel in Hindley Street. Volunteers are being sought for a variety of positions on the Organising Committee. If any member is able to help out in any way. Please speak with Sue Adams, Chris Murphy or Ben Hale.

Australian White Cap - The ANBC has confirmed that the Australian White Cap will be an exhibition class at the 2019 Show in Brisbane.

National Judges – Congratulations to Peter Glassenbury on being invited to judge the 2019 ANBC Show.

THOUGHTS FROM THE LATE HARRY BRYAN.

The message has to be, to buy a good bird at any time you are able to get it. Remember it is easier to sell that good bird than it is to buy it. I have always liked to buy young Budgerigars rather than over year birds. Cocks can be bought into a stud with little risk but hens that are moved into a room, frequently fail to breed. If you do buy a hen make sure it is a young one!

Good young Budgerigars become available around October. If you bring an outcross in at this time of year, it will have time to settle down before the breeding season. Cocks settle far easier than hens, so ideally breed your own hens and buy in cooks to make improvements. The mistake most fanciers seem to make is that they bring in a good bird, breed with it and then are disappointed with the youngsters. What they have not done is to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their own stock before they buy. It is vital to know which features are lacking and then go out and buy that feature to improve your stud. If your birds are lacking in head qualities, there is no point in buying another cock, however good it might be, that is lacking in head qualities. Decide which features you need to improve before you buy. If you are interested in "specialist varieties" you need to buy a bird of that colour or variety. If your aim is to breed quality Budgerigars, I would suggest you buy the best Normal cock that you can obtain. There is nothing wrong with a good Cinnamon or an Opaline but Normals seem to have so much more potential. If you are buying a hen, it makes little difference whether it is a Normal, a Cinnamon or an Opaline. Opaline hens are especially useful in the breeding pen. They seem to produce larger youngsters with that vital extra width of shoulder. If you buy a cock, the best age is 12 to 18 months. If it has been used for breeding by a successful fancier it should tend to be a Budgerigar of quality rather than a lesser quality youngster, that has failed to make the grade. Hens need to be about 10 to 12 months and unused. Once an adult hen changes birdroom, there is always the risk that it will never settle into a different environment and produce young.

Deciding who to buy from is not easy. Champions and intermediates tend to be able to spare the better birds. However, it is the bird you are buying and it matters little where it comes from. I believe it is important to buy from those who are successful with the colour or variety you wish to purchase. A fancier who has sold good Budgerigars to other fanciers which have gone on to breed even better birds, are the ones to seek out.

I am sure that the day is coming when the bird with the best deportment will be the class winner. Deportment is so important. Never buy a bird with a major fault, like bad wing carriage or a dropped tail. These faults seem to get passed on to so many youngsters. Personally I hate a bird with a long tail. A 3 inch tail is quite long enough for me. If a tail is too long on a bird when it is in the show cage, it looks un-balanced. The bird is never able to move from perch to perch in the same way as a short tailed bird. Far too many of today's top Budgerigars have tails that are too long.

Buying a bird with flecking has to be a real problem. Try to avoid it if possible. However, a flecked Budgerigar frequently has many qualities essential in a super bird. Sometimes it is worth using to see if all the youngsters are flecked. A flecked bird is very often able to improve the spot size on a family of birds, however, there is always a risk with a flecked bird. On occasions the risk is worth taking. When selecting a partner always try to make a balanced pair of birds. Never, never double up on a fault. If all the qualities you want are within the pair, you have a good chance that at least some of the youngsters will carry the improved features.

Golden National 2019

You are invited to the 45th Australian National Budgerigar Championships Grand Chancellor Hotel, 23 Leichhardt Street, Spring Hill – May 24 – 27th 2019. Registration forms are now online.

Two things that must be done to register:

- 1) Prior to going to the link, turn on the volume on your computer
- Place curser on link below and press Ctrl and click. Once you have clicked on the link, WATCH THE VIDEO. It only takes a few minutes but makes the registration process so easy.

The link is https://mandaweb.net.au

For those without access to the computer, a manual registration form is available. Please call either Bill Sedgwick or Carol Gough (numbers below) and we will do it for you.

We congratulate the officiating judges, Peter Glassenbury, Alan Baxter, Rod Turnbull and Derek Poole. We know they will do an outstanding job.

You book the accommodation yourself by contacting the Grand Chancellor on 07 3831 4055. Don't forget to order Bed & Breakfast to obtain a great deal. I recently read a newsletter from a club President encouraging his members to book elsewhere other than the Grand Chancellor. Anyone who has ever worked on a steering committee for a National Show knows wonderful deals are done with the host hotels and by supporting them, you also support the host zone so please fly the flag for the Grand Chancellor Hotel. It is a beautiful hotel and everything is under the one roof.

The timetable is now out for the 45th ANBC Show and I have attached it with this Golden Newsletter. We look forward to welcoming you in May and hope you will stay the entire week to join us in our activities. We promise you will have lots of laughs and thoroughly enjoy yourselves.

If you wish to contact a member of the steering committee their details are:

President, Neale Love ph 0421471781
Secretary, Garry Menzies ph 0438227009
Treasurer, Heather Farren-Price ph 07 5429 8930
Bill & Pat Sedgwick ph 073396 8732
Dave Ganzer ph 0402161845 Trevor Broadbent ph 0407323622
Glenn Winch ph 0438 722 903 Keith & Carol Gough ph 07 3886 8069

Carol Gough – Publicity Officer

Golden National 2019 Timetable

| DATE | TIME | EVENT | WHERE |
|------------------|------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Friday, 24 May | 1pm | Judges theory | Chancellor 7 |
| | 2pm | Judge Practical | Main show hall |
| | _ _ | - and | Foyer of Grand Chancel- |
| | 2pm | Registration | lor |
| | | | Courtyard & Chanc 1,2 & |
| | 6.30pm | Meet & Greet | 3 |
| | 7.00pm | Official Welcome | Courtyard & Chanc 1,2 & 3 |
| | 7.00pm | Official Welcome | Courtyard & Chanc 1,2 & |
| | 7.30pm | BBQ Dinner | 3 |
| Saturday, 25 May | 8.15am | Benching | Main show hall |
| | 8.30am | Judging | Main show hall |
| | 9am - 3pm | Tour | Newstead House, sights |
| | 12.00 - 1.30pm | Viewing & Lunch | |
| | 1.30 - 4.00pm | Judging | Main Show Hall |
| | 4.00pm | AWC meeting | Main show hall |
| | 4.30pm | C & S meeting | Chancellor 7 |
| | 7.00pm | Dinner | Hotel Restaurant |
| Sunday, May 26 | 8.15am | Benching | Main show hall |
| | 8.30am | Judging | Main show hall |
| | 12.00 - 1pm | Viewing & Lunch | |
| | 1.30pm | Auction | Main show hall |
| | 4.00 - 5.30pm | ANBC Judges | Chancellor 7 |
| | 7pm | Presentation Dinner | Main show hall |
| Monday, May 27 | 9am | ANBC Meeting | |
| | 9.00am - 3.00pm. | Tour | Poppy's Chocolates |
| | 5.00 - 9.30pm | Tour | City Lights |
| Tuesday, May 28 | 8.00 am - 4.00pm | Tour | Australia Zoo |

TOP-UP FEEDING OF BUDGERIGAR CHICKS

Malcolm Green - The Birdcare company

More and more breeders seem to be giving their chicks a top-up feed at night just to be sure that they are growing well and keeping healthy. There are a number of issues to be considered with this practice and I will try to cover them here.

What type of food?

The younger the bird the higher its need for protein. Feeding too much energy (fat or starchy foods) will lead to obesity, which can be fatal in chicks. Of course too much protein can also be dangerous as it can damage young kidneys. Parent reared chicks will always be getting the right protein: energy ratio in their food as the adults will automatically get this balance right (so long as you are offering them a selection of high and low protein foods to choose from). By top up feeding you are potentially upsetting this balance so it would be safer to use a commercial product specially designed for the job. A low energy (high protein) parrot hand rearing formula would be best .

If using a commercial product always mix it as directed. You will need it wetter for younger chicks and thicker as they get older. Mixing the food too dry risks dehydrating the chick.

If you are not feeding a probiotic in the water or the soft food this is a good time to get the top up feed into the chicks.

How So 1 feed the babies?

While syringe feeding was probably the most common way of doing it in the past, crop tubes are becoming very popular. Stainless steel tubes with the appropriate sized "ball" on the end are very easy and safe to use. A size 14g tube is ideal for both adult and baby budgerigars as the crop and oesophagus of the baby is huge compared to the adult.

Remember that hygiene is critical. All utensils should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected using a broad spectrum disinfectant like Avisafe (Enviroclens in USA) or boiling for ten minutes.

What if the chick is sick or growing slowly?

The digestive system of a sick chick is unlikely to be working properly. This means that digesting the starches and fats in the food may be very difficult. At times like this you will need a specially formulated emergency food like Poly-Aid (Survive in USA). Depending on how sick the chick is Poly-Aid may be anything from 10% to 100% of the feed. I would always add a probiotic to the food of sick chicks unless you had decided to try an antibiotic. By now you really will be wishing you had a crop tube as this is definitely the best way to feed sick birds!

Is top up feeding really necessary?

Top up feeding forces you to keep a very close eye on your chicks - which is good - but it is very labour intensive - which makes it impractical for many bird keepers. Most parent birds should have no trouble feeding even large clutches of babies after all it

really isn't a great strain to fly about twelve inches from feeder to next box a few times a day. If your birds are struggling then they are either inexperienced or, more likely, their diet is lacking something.

The most common nutritional deficiency for hens is a lack of calcium. This simply proves that traditional sources like cuttlefish bone are simply not up to the job. A quality liquid calcium supplement like Calcivet (CalciBoost in USA) will increase clutch sizes and hen health dramatically as well as ensure strong bone growth in chicks. It will also banish splayed leg and egg binding problems.

Adequate protein, amino acid, vitamin and mineral supplementation with probiotics and carefully selected herbs can dramatically improve clutch sizes and fertility as well as chick health, growth and feathering. By ensuring appropriate supplements are fed in a highly palatable eggfood late at night some breeders have now found no need to top up feed at all. In fact many people have shortened the time to fledging by nearly one week with fully parent reared stock.

PLAIN CANARY SEED

By Bret Doran

I read an interesting editorial in Budgerigar World, by Terry Tuxford discussing some of the common held beliefs, which are passed on from generation to generation and remain unquestioned. Sharon and I began to question the belief that exhibition budgerigars require a diet based on a high percentage (50% plus, year round) of Plain Canary seed. We questioned whether they ate high quantities of Canary based on preference or through necessity as the diet provided little else. The only way to test this dilemma was to feed each seed in separate bowls. Our dry seed includes Plain Canary, White, Jap and Pannicum Millets.

I have noticed in recent years that as the percentage of Canary seed in the mix had increased, the vitality and fertility of the birds had decreased. Since feeding the seeds separately in the flights the vitality and activity of the birds including the hens has been remarkable. This of course may be coincidental, but I don't think so. Long term results based on a scientific basis will prove or disprove the theory. We have had a number of poor breeding seasons with listless birds in the flights, youngsters unable to fly due to lack of muscle strength in the wings, nests of infertile eggs and worse still, full clutches not hatching.

Sharon made the decision after the 1997-breeding season that the mix must be contributing to our poor results. As a consequence the seeds were separated. The following points have become apparent since then:

- 1: Non breeding birds in the flights eat a diet consisting predominantly of Millets with a small amount of Canary approx 25%
- 2: During the breeding cycle this changed as chicks began to hatch, the majority of the pairs switched to a diet built on 50-60% Canary. Once back in the flights after breeding the adults reverted back to their original predominantly Millet based diet

almost immediately.

3: In the youngsters flight Canary accounted for 60% of the diet.

Our results indicated that while feeding chicks Canary intake peaks, and once pairs are split up, reverts to non-breeding levels. Canary usage is also high in the young bird flights during the early growth period up until the second moult at about 6 months. It is becoming obvious to us that force feeding high percentages of Canary seed to our birds year round is having an adverse affect on them. With choice the birds take in this high protein diet only when it is needed, logically during the initial growth period as youngsters and as adults when feeding chicks.

After these changes what results have we had? A very successful year in fact which will see 250+ chicks rung. All chicks capable of flying (no weak muscled birds produced) and showing a vigour not seen in the youngsters for a number of years. A vitality not experienced in recent seasons including many older birds which had appeared listless and disinterested in previous years. I know we won't be going back to a year round high protein diet. How often do we read and hear about birds that don't breed and just get fat and disinterested in the flights. Perhaps the exhibition breeder in his attempts to increase feather production and bulk with year round high protein diets is in fact producing lethargic and weak muscled birds which produce poor breeding results. Horse breeders will know that continual high protein diets will produce a condition called "Tying Up Syndrome" which results in horses being unable to perform even the simplest of tasks without it causing pain and discomfort. This syndrome effectively puts a horse out of action and to return the animal to peak performance is not achieved overnight. This condition also has an effect on the kidneys. Doesn't this sound similar to flightless birds and listless poor performing birds. Perhaps any readers with a medical background can advise us as to what a long term high protein diet does to humans? The answer could be interesting. If at any time you decide to modify the birds diet in any way remember to do it after the breeding season so as to give your birds the maximum period to adjust to the change. The other benefit we have experienced is less wastage and therefore a reduction in seed costs.

Footnote: This article only deals with our dry seed usage. We also supply a soaked seed mix as well as a variety of vegetables, grits etc to provide a balanced diet to our birds.

BCSA Status Movement System - Summary of Points Awarded for 2016, 2017 and 2018 Notes

^{**}Congratulations to **Tracy Haskell & Troy Holmes** on their advancement to Open Status for 2019. Note that Wayne Bandt, Bob Deverson, George England & Sons, Ken & Janet Harris and Paul Soul have had their points adjusted following their promotions into Open and Intermediate in 2018.

***Congratulations also to **Kakoschke and Rice** on maintaining their Champion Breeders status, and to

^{***}Congratulations also to **Kakoschke and Rice** on maintaining their Champion Breeders status, and to Dennis Lomman and Jason & Wayne Weidenhofer on attaining Champion Status for 2019.

BCSA Status Movement System - Summary of Points Awarded for 2016, 2017 and 2018

| Exhibitor | Status | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 3yr Total |
|-----------------------|---------|------|------|--------|-----------|
| Sue Adams | Open | 10 | 10 | 10 | 30 |
| Wayne Bandt | Open* | - | - | 15 | 15 |
| Laurie Barber | Open | 15 | 5 | - | 20 |
| Murray Bray | Open | - | 20 | - | 20 |
| Butterworth & Stone | Open | - | - | 10 | 10 |
| Michael Crossley | Open | - | 20 | - | 20 |
| Bob Deverson | Open* | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Geoff Edwards | Open | 10 | - | - | 10 |
| L & H Edwards | Open | 15 | - | - | 15 |
| Stephen Elliott | Open | 5 | 10 | - | 15 |
| George England & Sons | Open* | - | - | 10 | 10 |
| Graham Evans | Open | 15 | 30 | - | 45 |
| Peter Glassenbury | Open | 5 | 5 | - | 10 |
| Deane Grantham | Inter | - | - | 10 | 10 |
| Ben Hale | Novice | - | 5 | - | 5 |
| K & J Harris | Inter* | - | - | - | - |
| Tracy Haskell | Inter** | - | 25 | 10 | 35 |
| Polly Heel | Open | 10 | 20 | 10 | 40 |
| Troy Holmes | Inter** | - | 5 | 45 | 50 |
| lan Jenke | Novice | 5 | - | - | 5 |
| G & B Jones | Open | 15 | 5 | - | 20 |
| Kakoschke & Rice | Open | 210 | 85 | 140*** | 435 |
| D & R Lange | Open | 15 | 10 | 5 | 30 |
| Dennis Lomman | Open | 105 | 80 | 85*** | 270 |
| Malcolm Loveridge | Open | 30 | 55 | 45 | 130 |
| Marshall Family | Open | 15 | 15 | 40 | 70 |
| John Mulley | Open | 55 | 70 | 65 | 190 |
| C & T Murphy | Open | 10 | - | - | 10 |
| M & K Murphy | Open | - | 10 | - | 10 |
| S & C Norris | Open | 25 | 30 | - | 55 |
| Shiralee Reardon | Open | - | 25 | 5 | 30 |
| Trevor Russell | Open | - | 15 | - | 15 |
| Vicki Sanford | Inter | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| R & D Simpson | Open | 5 | - | - | 5 |
| Ray Slade | Open | 50 | 50 | - | 100 |
| Michael Sloper | Novice | - | - | 10 | 10 |
| Paul Soul | Inter* | - | - | 15 | 15 |
| Libby Thomas | Novice | 5 | - | - | 5 |
| Frank Tilley | Open | 10 | - | - | 10 |
| Nigel Tonkin | Open | 10 | - | - | 10 |
| Diana Trevarthen | Open | - | 20 | 35 | 55 |
| J & W Weidenhofer | Open | 50 | 20 | 125*** | 195 |

MONEY SAVING IDEAS FOR FEEDING BUDGERIGAR Anonymous contributor

Some of my ideas regarding proper feeding have undergone quite a change. These changed ideas are the result of many things, but mostly, the change is the result of feeding changes employed to solve problems associated with the high cost of feed. Also, the health and vigour of our birds was a consideration. These ideas depart from the old standard feed mixes and thus may be subject to question by some. Here again, I want to assure you that I am not urging you to change your feeding procedures etc. I am only writing of my own experiences and how they worked for me. Any decision to use this information is your own decision and responsibility.

Over the years, I like most of us, have been educated to the idea, and agreed that a proper Budgerigar diet must contain at least 35% and up to 80% Canary seed. The balance of the seed mix being mostly white Millet plus a little Groats. Of course this does not refer or pertain to any supplemental soft food, vitamins, green foods, etc. In the past some breeders have had some peculiar health problems. The problem was that some, not all, of the adult birds will become ill, not bad, just fluffed up a bit and lose weight. These adults would remain in this soft condition for months and eventually die. In these same aviaries there seemed to be an excessively high death rate of babies in the nest boxes (about two weeks old). Through correspondence and my own personal experience it seemed evident that this problem was feed related. This takes into account the fact that the problem did not exist in all aviaries that were using more or less the same feeding programme. However let me point out that I am not getting into the good seed bad seed controversy; I am only saying that because of cost etc., we made some pretty radical feed changes here in our aviary. However, the symptoms that appeared to be feed related went away. The other birds perked up and breeding results have been the best that I can remember. Also, we reduced the over-all cost of feed considerably. Note. Our birds were on this new mix for about four months before starting them to breed.

In checking and talking to people who are educated and trained in nutritional value of feeds, they all agree that the only real reason to feed so much Canary seed is because the birds prefer it. Of course, this is not bad but is not a real valid reason to feed it. Further tests indicate that they prefer the Canary because it is easier for them to hull, and if the Canary seed is not readily available to them, they will substitute other seeds with which they are familiar. The protein content of Canary is slightly higher than Millet and/or Oats. Fat content is about the same, slightly lower than Oats. Also the carbohydrate level in Oats and Millet is much better than in Canary, nearly 10% better. So you can see that there should be no real big advantage in feeding extra large amounts of Canary seed, or according to the same reasoning,

Canary seed is not really needed at all.

A sound healthy mix

With this in mind we worked out what we considered to be a sound healthy mix and changed our birds to it. The change was made all at once because I wanted to get away from the high priced Canary and Groats as soon as possible. It is also noted that during this investigation I visited several aviaries that were not then, nor had they ever fed any Canary seed or Groats, and their success was self evident. The mix that we determined to be good is as follows:

- 60% White Millet
- 6% Red Millet
- 12% Yellow Millet
- 12% Whole Horse Oats
- 10% Canary Seed

Note: The Canary can be left out and replaced with White Millet.

The reason for the different kinds of Millet is to provide a bit of colour etc. to the mix. This seems to please them. This is also the only reason that I have included the Canary. It is my opinion that the birds will feed a bit better if there is a variety of seed in the mix.

Now we come to the most important part of this new feeding programme. We keep the mix available to all birds at all times and also soak some of this same mix. We soak the seeds for 24 hours, rinse it well, let it drain for a few minutes and then add 25% by volume Soy Bean Meal. We mix this well and feed immediately. All birds will eat it, soon they will love it. This soaked seed plus the Soy Bean Meal (48% Protein) will boost the nutritional level of the overall diet and thus you have a beautiful balanced diet that your birds will enjoy and do well on.

What has this new feed mix done for us and others? First of all; all of our birds returned to good health. Secondly; It seems to have improved fertility and hatchability. Third, it is so simple. Fourth, Young birds raised on this mix are healthy and vigorous, they grow out quickly and make nice big adults. Fifth, Cost savings. Whole Oats are cheaper than Groats, along with the reduction in Canary seed. We continue to add Cytacon and Abidec to all drinking water all year. Note: Soy Meal of good livestock quality can be purchased from feed merchants, Soy Meal can be purchased at health food stores but is expensive.

MAGILL GRAIN STORE

(JOHN & TONY WALLIS)

574 Magill Road Magill SA 5072

STOCK FOODS

POULTRY & HORSE REQUISITES

TOP QUALITY BIRD SEEDS

White French Millet 20kg

Plain Canary 20kg

Jap Millet 20kg

Fisher Mix 20kg

Magill Budgie Mix 20kg

(Please phone for a price)

PHONE: (08) 8331 8159

BSSA Hall of Fame - ANBC Class Winners

| K & J Kakoschke - 22 Wins | G & E Duffield - 2 Wins | Lynn Ray - 1 Win |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Normal Green - 1980,1984 | Black eye - 1975 | Dominant Pied - 1990 |
| Normal Blue - 1980,1984 | Clearwing - 1994 | |
| Red Eye Self - 1977,1979,1983,1984,1986 | | Ron Norman - 1 Win |
| Clearwing - 1980 | Nigel Tonkin - 2 Wins | Hens - 1996 |
| Cinnamonwing - 1981,1993 | Spangle - 1993 | |
| Opaline - 1986 | Hens - 1988 | Mike Crossley - 1 Win |
| Fallow - 1982,1986 | | Yellow Face - 2002 * |
| Lacewing - 1986 | R Arnold - 1 Win | |
| Dominant Pied - 1980,1982,1986 | Normal Blue - 1977 | Peter Simic - 1 Win |
| Yellow Face - 1984 | | Recessive Pied - 2010 |
| Hens - 1977,1982 | B Coventry - 1 Win | |
| 10.10 10.17,1001 | Dominant Pied - 1977 | D Lomman - 1 Win |
| Kakoschke & Rice - 11Wins | 2577 | Violet - 2014 |
| Normal Green - 2005 | R & E Deslandes - 1 Win | Violet 2011 |
| Clearwing - 2005,2010, 2015, 2016 | Greywing - 1980 | |
| Opaline - 2011 | Sicywing 1500 | |
| Opaline AOSV - 2010, 2015 | Graham Evans - 1 Win | |
| Crested - 2003, 2005 | Normal Green - 1981 | |
| Grey Green - 2016 | Normal Green - 1981 | |
| drey dreen - 2010 | Alan Katt 1 Win | |
| Morne Meidenhefen C Mine | Alan Kett - 1 Win | |
| Wayne Weidenhofer - 6 Wins | Normal Blue - 1981 | |
| Yellow Face - 1977,1978,1979,1980 | Stan Watson - 1 Win | |
| Clearbody - 2015, 2018 | | |
| Coeff Cookle F Miles | Hens - 1981 | |
| Geoff Smith - 5 Wins | Address Assess A MCs | |
| Opaline - 1984 | Malcolm Aspen - 1 Win | |
| Dominant Pied - 1981,1983,1984,1985 | Opaline - 1985 | |
| - III III | | |
| Deane Trevellion - 3 Wins | Marie & Kerry Murphy - 1 Win | |
| Clearwing - 1981 | Spangle - 1989 | |
| Greywing - 1983 | | |
| Fallow - 1985 | | |
| | | |
| Peter Glassenbury - 3 Wins | | |
| Blackeye - 1980,1992,2009* | | |
| | | |
| Ethel Dobie - 2 Wins | | |
| Lutino - 1975 | | |
| Dominant Pied - 1975 | | |
| | Note: Both Geoff Smith and | |
| Gordon Lowe - 2 Wins | W Weidenhoffer would be ANBC | *Indicates a past or current BSSA |
| Opaline - 1979 | members, however ANBC by | member who did not enter with |
| Yellow face - 1983 | laws only count wins since | the BSSA team for Logan Shield |
| | 1983 when all seven states | pre selection event. |
| | became full members and | |
| | participants | |
| | participarits | |

B.S.S.A. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SCORING SYSTEM

February to November (Monthly Meetings) 1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point Bird of the Night = 3 points

Annual, Breeders, Novice, Deane Trevellion and Unbroken Cap Shows

| OPEN | | INTERMEDIATE | |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| M & K MURPHY | 136 | Paul SOUL | 106 |
| J & W WEIDENHOFER | 96 | K & J HARRIS | 58 |
| G ENGLAND & SONS | 71 | Tracy HASKELL | 38 |
| Wayne BANDT | 39 | Vicki SANFORD* | 22 |
| Dennis LOMMAN | 36 | | |
| Jim BUTTERWORTH | 35 | NOVICE | |
| C & T MURPHY | 22 | Michael SLOPER* | 41 |
| Michael CROSSLEY | 13 | lan JENKE | 24 |
| Glenn STEARNES | 13 | Ben HALE | 24 |
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| | | | |
| * NEBS member | | | |
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LIFE MEMBERS CONT 2001: Mr. C Murphy; 2004: Mr. K Murphy, Mrs. M Murphy 2008: Mr J Fisher; 2012 Mr K Wing.