

**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](http://www.bssainc.org.au)

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

### **ROYAL SHOW 2013**

A big thank you, to all our members and their families who once again supported the BSSA and assisted at the Royal Show. Kerry Murphy once again coordinated our efforts and spent 9 consecutive days at the Show promoting our Club and the budgerigar hobby.

The exhibitor numbers improved from last year, but unfortunately still reveal the general apathy from our membership and other budgerigar exhibitors when it comes to promoting and encouraging the public about budgerigars.

The funds raised from the Show all contribute to the Society being able to provide events and Shows for our membership each year, so give some thought to supporting the Royal Show in 2014.

### **OCTOBER MEETING – TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER**

At our October meeting, our entertainment will be a DVD. More details will be available at the meeting.

The Bird of the Night Classes for October are:

Class 1 – Albino including English & Australian Yellowface;

Class 2 – Cinnamon including English & Australian Yellowface;

Class 3 – Any Other Variety.

### **NOVEMBER MEETING – TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER**

The highlight of our November meeting will be the annual Hen's Night. A promotional flyer for this event is included with the Digest.

### **BSSA/NEBS INTERCLUB CHALLENGE**

Enclosed with the Digest is the show schedule for the annual Interclub Challenge between the BSSA and the NEBS. Wayne has put a lot of thought into the cover page for this event, and as the illustration highlights, it must be the BSSA's turn to reclaim the trophy in 2013. Entries close on October 18, so please support your Club of choice and enter as many birds as possible. If your nest feather birds will not be ready for this show, then consider entering birds in the Young Bird Classes.

## **DO WE NEED OPEN, INTERMEDIATE, NOVICE & JUNIOR SECTIONS?**

This question has been around for a few years, and was recently raised at BSSA Committee. To avoid endless hours of debate, a motion was carried at the meeting to refer the question to the whole membership for their input and opinions. If any member has a view on this topic, please speak to a member of your Committee. As a point of reference, the question of removing the Intermediate class instigated this discussion, leaving three sections for competition – Junior, Novice and Open.

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### **RESULTS OF THE BUDGERIGAR SECTION KADINA A H & F SHOW—Held 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2013**

Judge: Bruce Stafford  
85 birds benched

Grand Champion: R SIMPSON  
Champion Opposite Sex: R SIMPSON  
Reserve Champion Cock: T RUSSELL  
Reserve Champion Hen: R SIMPSON

Best Young: R SIMPSON

Aggregate Points 2012/13: K & A SMITH

Thank you to the BSSA for your continued support.  
Convenor, Malcolm Loveridge.

### **ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW RESULTS**

Best Novice: Jacob Kay Opaline YF Cock  
Reserve Novice: Hayes & Gordon Cobalt Cock

Best Young Bird: M&K Murphy Cinn Greygreen Cock  
Reserve Young Bird: Wayne Weidenhofer Greygreen Hen

Best Adult Bird: M&K Murphy Cinn Greygreen Cock.  
Reserve Adult Bird: M&K Murphy Lutino Hen.

### **Standard Heavy Breeds**

Class 36 - Wyandotte, Gold Laced Hen - Eight hens benched

First Prize: M & K Murphy  
Second Prize: D Hart  
Third Prize: M & K Murphy

## **Investigating Dead in Shell**

By Bobbie Andleton

FREQUENTLY advice is given to breeders that the cause of dead-in-shell (DIS) can be detected by egg post-mortem. This is only partly true. Egg autopsy must be performed within literally hours of the death of the embryo. The difficulty in detecting time of embryonic death is immense. Whether the egg is being incubated by parents or artificially incubated, the naked eye cannot readily detect the status of an embryo. Therefore time of death is difficult to calculate.

There are many reasons for DIS conditions and each contributing factor should be thoroughly investigated by the breeder in cooperation with his/her veterinarian. Several conditions fall directly into the field of microbiology as the search for microorganisms causing DIS conditions begins.

If a breeder continually has DIS two simultaneous tests need to be run immediately. The first would be an oral and cloacal swab of both parents. Secondly, various areas of the nest box or incubator and hatchery should be cultured. Merely adding new strata to an old nest box does not eliminate existing disease organisms already present in the box. This is one of the imminent dangers in constantly using the same nest box repeatedly.

Merely washing a nest box with soap and water between hatches will not destroy the organisms! Unless the nest box is of metal or plastic construction it cannot be safely cleaned. Even painted wooden boxes can store unwanted organisms. Wooden nest boxes under constant use become natural harbors for a variety of harmful organisms including bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases. Ideally only one clutch should be hatched and raised in a wooden box and then a new box installed. Maximum length for use of a single wooden nest box should never exceed one breeding season.

### **Routine cleaning**

If the eggs are artificially incubated then the incubator and/or hatchery both need to be tested for the presence of bacterial, viral and parasitic organisms. Routine cleaning of all parts of the incubator should occur throughout the breeding season. One of the best products on the market is Vanodine. When breeding season is over the incubator and hatchery should both be fumigated according to the manufacturer's recommendations. At the same time when either cleaning or fumigation occurs the egg cartons should be totally replaced. The majority of egg cartons are made of a porous, paper fabric which quickly absorbs a variety of harmful organisms making cleaning impossible.

Several and/or consistent DIS: from a variety of species can be a sign of low humidity, an airborne disease or a common carrier such as roaches. Roaches love the dark

confines of nest boxes; they are excellent carriers of diseases.

Strata used in nest boxes can also be carriers depending upon the type of strata and its origin. Sawdust or shavings might provide a more natural strata but each can be deadly to incubating eggs, the parents and young hatchlings. Many such materials are exceedingly prone to a variety of fungi and parasites which cause various respiratory problems. Shredded paper products, especially ones containing ink and colorations are prone to causing other respiratory problems. The various manufactured stratas for birds have usually undergone some type of sanitizing making them safe for birds. Some of the same stratas are also manufactured for dogs, cats, rabbits, and the rodent family of pets. These should not be used with the birds.

### **Contaminate unhatched eggs**

**Some birds will defecate within** the confines of the nest box. Hatchlings likewise defecate in the nest box. Faecal and urine matter in the nest box can contaminate all unhatched eggs causing DIS to occur. Merely removing clumped portions of strata formed by the faecal droppings does not necessarily remove unwanted organisms. Even if an egg necropsy identifies the organism responsible for the DIS condition, the aviculturist working with the veterinarian still must uncover the contaminating source. Some disease are passed directly from parent to egg; other diseases arise during the incubation process from the parents' cloacal region; other diseases enter the egg from the parents oral cavity as the beak is utilized in the turning of the eggs. There are reasons for DIS. Finding that reason requires minute microscopic examination of many areas associated with the parents and the environment. Then must follow an eradication programme and retesting of all areas including parents to assure the breeder that the condition no longer exists.

Humidity is easily detected by placing a hydrometer in the breeding area. If low humidity is the problem then adding a humidifier can help correct the problem. Other ways to increase humidity would be adding an automatic misting system or daily misting birds and the exterior of the nest box. Too high a humidity level can likewise cause incubation problems resulting in not only DIS but deformed chicks for those fortunate enough to hatch. In this case it might be necessary to add a dehumidifier or cease daily misting.

Certain species of parrots require different heat and humidity settings for artificial incubation and hatching. Using a community incubator and hatchery for mixed species can have detrimental affects on certain birds. Research done by UC-Davis in the eighties showed that a slight deviation of one degree in temperature and humidity levels severely affected the growing embryo and among these was a pronounced increase in DIS incidences.

### **The chick cannot pip**

Another DIS cause is malpositioning of the embryo inside the egg. In order for pipping

to occur successfully the head must be properly positioned for the beak to make it's circular cut (or pip) of the egg. When free movement and proper positioning of the embryo is not present the chick either cannot pip or it continues to pip in the same area. Unable to get out of the shell it becomes a DIS statistic.

One seldom discussed cause of DIS is the part genes might be playing. Sometime embryonic or neonate death and deformities are transmitted by human parents and other animals to their offspring. Birds have the same capability for transmission of these lethal genes. This is an area of scientific study which has only begun in a very elementary manner for the aviculture community. The advanced DNA studies required to determine the effect the avian parental combination of genes will have on their offspring is a costly and longitudinal undertaking. It is therefore not likely to become an imminent research area in Budgerigars in the near future. For a variety of species which have developed mutations DIS becomes more frequent. Any mutation is always weaker than the nominate. When these mutant genes combine in a lethal manner DIS occurs. The more mutations contained in the parents' genotype the more subject the chick will become to lethal combinations.

As one can see the answer to DIS by its very nature is a much more detailed investigative process than merely having an egg necropsied at the proper time. The only guarantee that an egg necropsy may reveal is the appearance of an organism which might be responsible for DIS but it does not disclose how this organism arose within the egg. Therefore, the search for clues as to DIS situations must continue.

Budgerigar World. August 1997

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## **THE MANAGEMENT OF OWNING SUPER BUDGERIGARS**

By Jim Hutton

THE characteristics of a modern Budgerigar are a bird with wonderful deportment, standing well off the perch with a wide wrap around mask of good depth. The spots need to be round and of good size. Each of the spots is required to be evenly spaced. The head must be of a good width and the feathering should be just beginning to curl round the side of the face. The capping should extend behind a line directly above the eye. The body feathers should be as close to the body as possible, and there should be no sign of an apron when the bird is perching. Wings should be close to the sides of the body and not carried above or below. The tail should be straight. Standards say that the back line should be straight, however, a small hollow improves the outline of the bird so long as it is not excessive

There are problems associated with the modern bird, chiefly due to the density of the feathering and the shorter flights. It is difficult to get the birds to fly long distances, and many are happy to spend the majority of daylight hours on the floor of an inside flight. Outside flights these days seem to be un-necessary for this type of Budgerigar.

It seems that due to the feather type, the youngsters stay with their parents much longer and appear to need more care and attention after they have left the nests. These birds have a shorter life span, and this could be due to the lack of extra protein required to maintain feather growth.

### **Obvious pointers**

From what I have already said, there are obvious pointers as to how these birds should be managed. Taking them away from their parents too soon causes them to rapidly deteriorate. I believe that these Budgerigars require the protection of stock cages rather than a flight to see them through their first moult. Once they are through that first moult they seem to benefit from an inside flight to grow. Modern Budgerigars need to be treated with great care, they are not as hardy as the ordinary Budgerigar.

Some fanciers fortunate enough to own these Budgerigars would say that they have too much feather. I would not agree! However, I do feel we need to be careful how these birds are paired. Any coarse feathered birds should be paired to a finer feathered partner, otherwise big problems can be expected. Personally I do not find this type of hen difficult to breed with. However, because I have a small stud I always know when the birds are in full breeding condition. Hens reach top breeding condition just twice a year. The first time is when the moult is nearing completion and all the body fat has been used up. I believe that hens paired at this time have about a 90 per cent chance of producing fertile eggs. My hens seem to come into full breeding condition again about four months later, but at this time I find I only have about a 60 per cent chance of getting those full eggs. With buff birds it is vital to trim the feathers around the vent on both cocks and hens or there will be little chance of the sperm from the cock ever penetrating the hen.

### **More difficult to handle**

Coarse feathered buffs are generally the most difficult birds to handle. They are frequently too untidy to exhibit, and are rarely in show condition, or at least a condition that will enable them to compete. There is a massive problem deciding when they are in breeding condition. However, if you are lucky enough to breed one, pair it to a fine feathered partner and hope you are successful as these are frequently the pairings that produce the top winners. The coarse buffs also do not take to being moved from one bird room to another. If they are going to breed, they tend to do so in the bird room in which they were bred themselves. They hate to be stressed and overcrowded. If one of these birds is purchased then it should be placed in a long stock cage with a well mannered bird for company. Gradually introduce other birds until it is finally settled.

### **The feeding programme**

The feeding programme is only slightly different but different it is. They do best on a high protein soft food with a good standard seed mixture. These birds benefit from

being fed meat bones and poultry carcasses cooked and not raw. They need fresh water and a mixture of good mineral grits. Water soluble vitamins are good if they are fed in the non-breeding season, when the consumption of water is normal. Once breeding begins, the intake of water increases and so does the intake of vitamins. Too many vitamins causes problems. I prefer to feed the vitamins added to any soft food. The use of probiotics are useful to combat stress, such as returning after a show or even after breeding. All additives are better under dosed rather than being overdosed.

Never overcrowd Budgerigars of any type or quality. The modern bird becomes stressed and begins to fail if over crowded. And it seems that the better quality the bird, the more it is affected. It is essential to have inside flights at the very least, although the modern exhibition buff bird does not fly especially well. It requires the maximum flight to enable its muscles to be developed and maintained. The birds seem to know the amount of flight necessary and although they tend to spend a lot of time on the floor, they will fly when they feel the need. Care should be taken not to fly these good birds too early in their lives. They require much more time to develop than their finer feathered relations. Outside flights are good for the birds, but if they are too long the birds are put under too much stress.

There can be problems when it comes to moving top class Budgerigars to a new bird room, especially if they are more than one year old. Great care needs to be taken when introducing them to new surroundings and established Budgerigars. Once the exportation of Buff feathered Budgerigars is considered, the problems becomes magnified. Budgerigars sent to Australia are quarantined in the UK first, transported in boxes by plane, and quarantined again in Australia. That is not the end of the story, they are then moved to the breeders who have purchased them. It is no wonder that many of the larger, buff feathered birds never got to a stage of producing chicks. During periods of quarantine, it is not unreasonable to expect that all the birds will be treated in the same way. Just good seed, clean water but no probiotics, no soft food and not the care and attention they might have received in the bird rooms where they were bred. It is no wonder that these top quality birds rarely perform well after being exported to distant places.

If you are lucky enough to own super Budgerigars, then it is important to manage them properly. If you have bred the birds from your own stock, then there is the possibility you already understand how different the management of super birds has to be, compared with that of ordinary Budgerigars. If you have just purchased that super bird then you might just need to rethink your management. These birds are much more back-ward, show little aggression, and if not cared for will be bullied by the other, more dominant birds. If you have one or more of these buff feathered birds, care for them properly. Never over show them, and try where possible to breed with them. Over showing good birds especially hens brings nothing more than bad breeding results. Budgerigar World.

## **BREEDING EXHIBITION BUDGERIGARS—TIPS AND TRICKS FROM BILL NOVICKAS**

One of the hardest things for new breeders to recognise are birds that are in condition to breed and pairs of birds that are truly pair bonded. I've seen an article where a fancier said that if he put a pair up and he does not see them mating within the first five minutes then they are not ready to breed. Whilst the observation of mating is certainly desirable, in a vast majority of cases you don't see the pairs mate at all. When pairs are placed in the breeding cage, you will see the cock bob his head, his eyes dilate, he will bang his beak on the perch and sometimes feed the hen almost immediately. If after three days the pair are sitting on opposite perches, inactive, having nothing to do with each other, it is almost certain that they have not mated, or are completely out of sync with their breeding cycle's. At 10 to 12 days the hen's abdomen should be distended and she should be going in and out of the nest box. If after 3 weeks there is no sign of the hen laying an egg, she should be returned to the flight.

### **The birds will tell you when they are ready**

Some Budgerigars are harder to get to reproduce than others. Some larger, heavy feathered hens may be ready to breed at 7 to 8 months, or not ready until 11/2 years. If you watch your birds closely they will tell you when they are ready to breed. The cocks and hens that I use for breeding are flighted separately in 3 feet x 10 feet flights which are side by side. Hens, when they come into condition, will hang on the wire and call to the cocks. The cock will feed a hen through the wire, head bobbing and obviously attracted to the hen. If these are a suitable pair they are placed in a breeding cage. These are what I call high percentage matings; probably 95% will produce fertile eggs.

I will compare this to an experiment run at the University of California, Davis. Twenty pairs of cockatiels were placed in individual breeding cages. Only one pair produced chicks. When the same 20 pairs were allowed to pick their own mates in a flight, 17 pairs produced chicks in individual breeding cages. As a side note, the other three pairs never did produce or select mates.

### **A familiar story**

It is an all too familiar story that we hear, that having found that excellent outcross cock we really needed and have then never got a fertile egg out of a hen that he has been set up with. I was told of a fancier who had spent nearly £1,000 on a particularly outstanding cock from a top breeder and then complained 5 months later that he never got a fertile egg from any of the hens he had paired it to. Piecing things together from his story, he had taken the bird directly home, placed it in a breeding cage, run a series of 6 hens past him over a 3 months period, only to decide that obviously the cock was not fertile. He promptly sold it for £100 and as is often the case, the bird

was moved to a new aviary and soon came the report of numerous chicks being bred from the same bird.

Patience and tempered expectations are a necessity in this hobby, particularly in the instance just outlined. If I had been able to obtain a cock of this quality, I would have taken three or four suitable hens, placed them in a 4 feet cage that has two perches for approximately 3 days and then introduced the cock. I would watch the birds to see if he would select his own mate. If he obviously has picked a mate, exhibiting the same characteristics as the bird hanging on the wire, they would be placed in a breeding cage. If however, after several days the cock was inactive and sluggish, he would be placed in a separate cage for approximately a week before he is returned to the same cage of hens. Sometimes, absence really does makes the heart grow fonder.

If after two tries the cock still is not interested in the hens I would return him to a separate cage for another week. I would take the hens that were in the 4 feet cage and return them to the flight, after several days place the cock in the hen flight. I should say that in most instances if the cock was ready to mate, he would have paired to one of the first three or four hens, but on occasions the cock will find a hen in the flight that is the "apple of his eye".

If the cock has still not selected a mate in three days, I would place him in the cock flight and wait until he is ready to breed later, Something to consider with this regime is that the bird in question had an opportunity to acclimatise to your aviary to your time schedule, feeding programme and physical layout, all of which can put a particular bird off its breeding cycle for a period of time.

### **Difficult hens**

While in the first instance I've discussed bringing in an outcross cock the true hard cases to crack are hens. While I doubt if they are too tired and have headaches, it may just seem that way! I believe that one of the hardest parts of the hobby is obtaining fertile hen lines. An article in Budgerigar World, referred to the "poor fatherless gentleman who had sold him seven hens none of which produced the following year". While most of us who have been in the hobby for a period of time have had similar feelings, in several instances we have brought this on ourselves.

The simple fact of the matter is if we are insisting on buying the best looking hens that are available, we are looking at what I consider three problem areas. The first is large, the second is buff and third, normally over a year old. Even if we are talking about a breeder who has had a good season, the hen that is most likely to be parted with will not be the best daughters from the most fertile lines, or even their lesser sisters. It is much more likely that it would be an outcross hen that was purchased that did not work, or a bad doer that doesn't raise chicks, poor fertility, and the rest

of the problems that we are all too familiar with. One way to avoid this is to buy current year, untried hens. Look for the ugliest of the pretty sisters. On several instances I have been able to obtain reasonable quality young hens that were bred from excellent parents but for sale because they were second or third round youngsters. While selection of hens that you bring in can eliminate a lot of problems, aviary management and planning to succeed can move the odds more in your favour.

First you need about 2 1/2 times the number of hens to pairs you plan to set up. I keep several varieties of specialist birds (Recessive Pieds and Yellows) that are free breeding. I set these pairs up 4 or 5 weeks ahead of my main pairings. The hours of light are extended prior to this point to about 14 hours by the use of an automatic timer. The sound of chicks calling to their mothers to be fed has almost a magical quality in stimulating the maternal instincts of the hens in the flight.

#### **When do you give up with a hen?**

One of the hardest things to know is when to give up on a hen. Too often I've seen fanciers pair the best cocks in their aviary to, hens that have produced only one or two chicks in their entire lives (and continue to pair their best cocks to them for 3 or 4 years). Compare this to a hen that has produced 20 to 30 chicks, of whose daughters have produced 20 to 30 chicks. I do not want to under emphasise the importance of quality, because we are trying to improve but if we simply take large buff hens (and I believe that buff is at least approaching sub-lethal in hens) we need to be careful that they are from fertile hen lines. I consider better mates for the large buff hens to be smaller, yellow feathered, aggressive cocks. Your percentage of success will go up.

One of the other tricks in the production of chicks is the successful use of foster parents. As size is important, a problem with the very large hens is that they do not incubate and hatch chicks successfully, a large part due to their size. Also, the quality pair that produces 6 or more fertile eggs in a round. Good feeding foster pairs can save your entire breeding season with one or two key rounds being raised. If you use fosters we need to pay as much attention to them as our other breeding pairs. It is important to note when the hen starts to incubate her first eggs, as the eggs placed under the foster pairs need to hatch in a two to three day time frame of what is expected of the foster pairs own eggs. My preference in the use of fosters is for them to feed the chicks that have already been banded prior to placement in the foster nest, as this avoids the problem of, "now who is this chick out of?" It is frustrating to find the best chicks you've raised can't possibly be out of the pair that you thought. Remember to watch your fosters very closely. Cull any hen that is a problem or does not feed chicks excellently. Keep the daughters to your best feeding, best producing pairs. If your fosters are cage bred and you've raised your own, you know what to expect from them. Select and raise your own best feeding, most fertile hens.

Budgerigar World.

### **Over Feeding Vitamins Results in a Poor Breeding Season says Jim Hutton**

Back in the 1970's a significant number of Budgerigar fanciers lost stock due to crop infections. Many breeders obtained antibiotics and fed them to their birds without veterinary advice. There may be some excuse for this because, compared with today, the number of vets who knew anything about birds was few. It was not unusual for a veterinary surgeon to lecture at a club meeting and finish the evening by having gained more knowledge from the fanciers who had come to learn than he had imparted.

A consistent problem when giving medication to birds is arriving at the correct dosage. In their ignorance, the breeders of the 1970's who dosed their Budgerigars on large doses of antibiotics did more harm than good. Could the same be happening today, with the feeding of vitamin additives?

Another consistent problem with Budgerigars is the bad breeding season. As always, some are producing chicks in great numbers, but reports suggest that breeding Budgerigars in is proving to be more difficult than usual.

As fanciers struggle to breed Budgerigars it is only right that they should try to find the reasons for failure. I believe that one reason for poor breeding results is the overfeeding of vitamins. Breeders visit each other and learn from each other's methods. When a successful Budgerigar fancier uses a certain additive, the news gets around and it is not long before lots of others are trying to emulate his success by using the same product. What they often do not take into account is that their birds present diet already has in it many of the substances the new additives contain. They can easily fall into the trap of over-feeding certain dietary components.

#### **Water soluble**

I believe this to be particularly true of water soluble additives. The water intake of Budgerigars is variable. They consume great quantities at times, such as when feeding chicks yet, unlike some other birds, can be quite unaffected by a day without water. So there can be virtually no control over the consumption of water soluble additives.

A side effect of some water soluble vitamins is that they can give a Budgerigar's droppings an unpleasant odour. One breeder I visited was overfeeding vitamins in the drinkers and the stench of the hens droppings was awful. His bird room was a most disagreeable place.

Overfeeding vitamins can bring Budgerigars into breeding condition so quickly that their natural cycle is upset. I have known hens to start laying a second round of eggs when the first round chicks are still only half reared. When this happens, what is the hen to concentrate on doing - incubating the eggs or feeding the chicks? Like most things that are caught between two stools, she will most likely fail on both accounts.

### **Plain seed and water**

I would advise anyone who was suffering a poor breeding season and feeding water soluble vitamins to cut back on them. One of the products used by many Budgerigar breeders should be diluted to the rate of one drop in two gallons of water yet I know people who put three drops in a pint without a second thought. We must never lose sight of the fact that a normal diet already contains vitamins and the addition of natural foods, among which I include cooked meat from the Sunday joint, helps to avoid the need for additives. There are those who say that Budgerigars are not equipped to eat animal protein but they are, by nature, scavengers. Anyone who has failed to spot a dead Budgerigar in the flight, for only a few hours, will tell you that the carcass is virtually unrecognisable by the time it is found.

Still on the subject of animal protein, most of the proprietary soft foods on the market contain eggs and I have never heard breeders advise against using them on the grounds that birds are not able to digest egg properly. It is better to underfeed additives than overfeed them and anyone failing to produce Budgerigar chicks could do far worse than splitting up the pairs, keeping them on a plain seed and water diet for a couple of months and trying again.

Additives apart, the most likely reason for a bad breeding season is not being able to recognise when our Budgerigars are ready for pairing. Hens will lay whether they are in condition or not, but if they are not in full breeding condition their eggs will be infertile. If, by chance, the eggs are fertile, problems will occur during the incubation period if the hen is not in peak condition. One reads of breeders who pair up 40 pairs on the same day. I cannot envisage a situation in any bird room where so many hens are at the right point to be paired, all at the same time. In my own, admittedly small, stud I am lucky if three hens can be put down to breed over a single weekend.

My reservations about over feeding vitamins extend into the show season. Too many vitamins can cause an untimely moult not at all what you want as the show season looms. Dry groats are a sufficient additive to bring Budgerigars into show condition. I do not believe in soaking any seeds as I blame many crop and stomach disorders on this practice. There is also a final factor that can make a great difference to a breeding season, yet it is a factor that one does not read much about. Indeed the point I am referring to is not only ignored by many successful fanciers, it is denied. The factor I am referring to is luck!

Budgerigar World.

### BSSA Hall of Fame - ANBC Class Winners

<b>K &amp; J Kakoschke - 22 Wins</b>	<b>Nigel Tonkin - 2 Wins</b>
Normal Green - 1980,1984	Spangle - 1993
Normal Blue - 1980,1984	Hens - 1988
Red Eye Self - 1977,1979,1983,1984,1986	
Clearwing - 1980	<b>R Arnold - 1 Win</b>
Cinnamonwing - 1981,1993	Normal Blue - 1977
Opaline - 1986	
Fallow - 1982,1986	<b>B Coventry - 1 Win</b>
Lacewing - 1986	Dominant Pied - 1977
Dominant Pied - 1980,1982,1986	
Yellow Face - 1984	<b>R &amp; E Deslandes - 1 Win</b>
Hens - 1977,1982	Greywing - 1980
<b>Kakoschke &amp; Rice - 7 Wins</b>	<b>Graham Evans - 1 Win</b>
Normal Green - 2005	Normal Green - 1981
Clearwing - 2005,2010	
Opaline - 2011	<b>Alan Kett - 1 Win</b>
Opaline AOSV - 2010	Normal Blue - 1981
Crested - 2005	
Dark Factor Green/Blue - 2003	<b>Stan Watson - 1 Win</b>
	Hens - 1981
<b>Geoff Smith - 5 Wins</b>	
Opaline - 1984	<b>Malcolm Aspen - 1 Win</b>
Dominant Pied - 1981,1983,1984,1985	Opaline - 1985
<b>W "Tiger" Weidenhofer - 4 Wins</b>	<b>Marie &amp; Kerry Murphy - 1 Win</b>
Yellow Face - 1977,1978,1979,1980	Spangle - 1989
<b>Deane Trevellion - 3 Wins</b>	<b>Lynn Ray - 1 Win</b>
Clearwing - 1981	Dominant Pied - 1990
Greywing - 1983	
Fallow - 1985	<b>Ron Norman - 1 Win</b>
	Hens - 1996
<b>Peter Glassenbury - 3 Wins</b>	
Blackeye - 1980,1992,2009*	<b>Mike Crossley - 1 Win</b>
	Yellow Face - 2002 *
<b>Ethel Dobie - 2 Wins</b>	
Lutino - 1975	<b>Peter Simic - 1 Win</b>
Dominant Pied - 1975	Recessive Pied - 2010
<b>Gordon Lowe - 2 Wins</b>	● Indicates a past or current BSSA
Opaline - 1979	member who did not enter with the BSSA team
Yellow face - 1983	For Logan Shield pre selection event.
	<b>Note:</b> Both Geoff Smith and W Weidenhoffer
<b>G &amp; E Duffield - 2 Wins</b>	would be ANBC Hall of Fame members, however
Black eye - 1975	ANBC by laws only count wins since 1983 when
Clearwing - 1994	all seven states became full members and
	participants

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**B.S.S.A. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP  
POINTS SCORING SYSTEM  
February to November (Monthly Meetings)  
(20 cents entry per bird)  
1<sup>st</sup> = 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 2 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 1 point  
Bird of the Night = 3 points**

**Annual, Breeders, Novice and Deane Trevellion Interclub Show results**  
Each Class  
1<sup>st</sup> = 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 2 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 1 point

<b>OPEN</b>		<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	
M & K Murphy	106	Vicki Sanford	44
J & W Weidenhofer	102	Tracy Haskell	39
Peter Simic	84		
Sue Adams	74	<b>NOVICE</b>	
Michael Crossley	46	Wayne Bandt	143
Stephen Elliott	46	Andrew & Lucy	77
Barbara Fisher	36	Sophie Patterson	44
Glenn Stearnes	34	J Kaleas/S Wright	34
Dennis Lomann	27	Susanne Steele	33
C&T Murphy	18	Libby Thomas	32
Graham Evans	16	Geoff Hay	26
R&I Field	9	T&K Campbell	11
Robert Worrall	6	Ashley Wenham	6
Trevor Gwatking	3	Ian Jenke	6
Ian McEwan	1	Jim Tolson	2

<p>LIFE MEMBERS CONT 2001: Mr. C Murphy; 2004: Mr. K Murphy, Mrs. M Murphy 2008: Mr J Fisher; 2012 Mr K Wing.</p>
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