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AVAILABLE EXOTIC CAGE BIRDS IN BANGLADESH

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ABSTRACT: Cage birds in Bangladesh covers a major role an unemployment status for the young and adult people. Finding cage birds were 16 in total belongs in the family *Psittacidae* 6, *Passeridae* 5, *Phasianidae* 3 and *Columbidae* 2. The productivity as well as its breeding performance was good and rearers getting more benefit from it. Nineteen different feeds were very nutritious during its rearing and all birds were graminivorous. Very less neglected diseases were found in cage birds. Only parrots prefer to take human cerelac and biscuit. Due to confined rearing all cage birds are not crossed with others so that its identity or pureline was mentionable.

Keywords: Cage birds, Exotic birds.

INTRODUCTION

Cage birds were first recognized in ancient Egypt at least 4000 years ago. Talking ability in parrots first observed so that it reared in stylish apartments in Paris, New York and London. Mixed food for such cage birds come from Australia, Canada and Morocco. Oil and cereal seeds are two types of cage birds' meal. In oil seeds- nuts, sunflower seeds and mustard and in cereals are rest of the items are there. Java Sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*) is called rice birds because it takes mainly rice. Birds' feathers are full of mites and lice also. During preening and changing its feather tray of cages carries huge feather and this is the source of mites. Most hand rearing birds are affected digestive ailments. So, need very sensitive care for them. In breeding season for egg laying birds need extra calcium in its diet. Mother birds losses it antibody through eggs and both parent losses antibody through their crop milk in *Columbidae* family which is ideal food for squab (Alderton 2000, 2003, 2005). Ancient Greek first domesticated parrot for uttering some words. Very common and excellent Budgerigar originated from Australia and well known in Europe during 1840s. Throughout the world there are 330 species of parrots. *Trichomonas* is a crop parasite found in birds' crop and it spreads during young feeding by its parents. Bathe water of birds are the major source of mite and worms. In farms or shops the rodents mainly rats and mice are the causal agent for the bacterium *Salmonella* (Alderton 2001, 2008). A study was conducted in Dhaka Katabon, Bangladesh in the year 2009 and the result suggested that there were 33 species of birds out of 43 wildlife species (Sarker and Abdullah, 2009). Bengalese finch Munia is the result of hybridisation published in 1894 and this is Silverbill x Striated Finch hybrid. By observing very carefully the White-rumped Munia, *Lonchura striata*, you would after a short time have no doubt that this is pure form to our Bengalese origin (Jim Warburton, from google). Regular surveillance for maintaining a disease free farm is must. The house of those birds its length and width not exceed the ratio 4:1. Always provide mixed feed in an alternative way (Queensland Schools Animal Ethics Committee, 2014). First the idea of cage birds study came from aviculturists. By seeing the altricial or helpless chicks of birds from its hatch need to care of human. Cage birds are directly associated with poultry diseases. There are six colour patterns in Cockatiel and California is the major Cockatiel producer and supplier of the world. In breeding season female birds always need good food due to egg laying (Grau and Roudybush 1983). Birds' transportation in hot season a cut apple at any corner of the cage is good for moisture control. Any emergency for catching birds' night is good because that time birds are calm (Miller, no date). The six basic fundamental needs for cage birds should ensure- food, environment, disease free life, company and avoid mental suffering. The cages of birds need to change its position twice a year and when any new birds will be introduce observe carefully for thirty days as quarantine (Animal Welfare Council,

UK). In most case the wildlife business is illegal. World wildlife fund (WWF) plays an important role against fighting that illegal business with largest wildlife business monitoring network called TRAFFIC. This organization is dedicated to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals (Wikipedia 2008). Wildlife business is one of the primary threats to a large number of species in Bangladesh. In international regulating body covering in response to declining wildlife populations due to over-exploitation for international business but there remains much work to be done. In spite of the existence of CITES, the most powerful organization, is going on, specially in the third world countries. International and local laws designed on trade, live animals are sold in open market throughout the region (Sullivan 2003). Thus, the illegal trade in endangered wildlife species is characterized by imperfect competition (Erwin and Richard 2005). At present rare, endangered, critically endangered animals are going to be extinct due to the unwise and non-scientific rearing.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

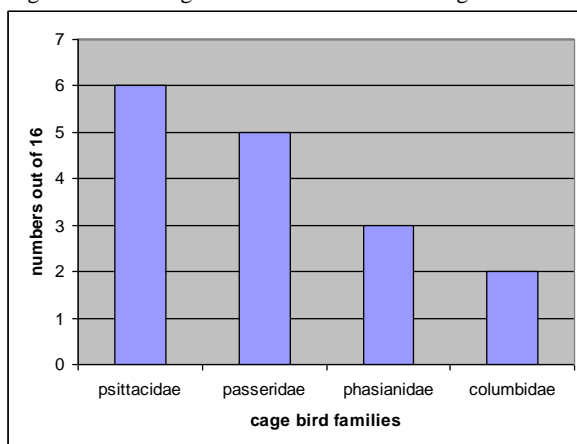
Observed species with breeding performance

Total observed species were 16. All were in pureline and its breeding performance was remarkable. For proper breeding the nest materials such as wooden box, bamboo sticks and mud hole were introduced in breeding season in a specific cage. Though birds breeding cage were not different but in all moderate cages their breeding performance were good. In *Psittacidae* family most medium sized birds and in *Passeridae* all were very small so that need not extra space within the cage for breeding (Table 2).

Pet shops

During this study in the district Kushtia and Dhaka Katabon, Bangladesh were the target place. Observed 16 species of birds' were common in Dhaka but some devoid in Kushtia. 16 breeds were found all the year round and all breeds are more or less attracted by the birds' lovers (Table 2) (Diagram 1). Dhaka Katabon animal market is established in 1990 with just two shops. Now this market is large one in Bangladesh with huge shops. From August 2006 to July 2007 the birds were in 15 shops in Dhaka Katabon 1,23,564 which are 80.67%. At least one visit was done in a week and data were collected regularly by talking with the people who working there. The identification of species was done by the help of Ali 1977, Bologna 1987, IUCN 2000a,b,c and Whitfield 1998.

Diagram 1. Showing the available families of cage birds in Bangladesh



Analysis of feed

Out of 19 types of feed a single birds can take 2-6 types of feed at a time. Per seven kg of feed contains maximum items. All cage birds were graminivorous so it's easy to maintain feed for them. For parrot, sometimes it took cerelac and toast biscuit. Vegetables, ant's egg and boiled egg yolk were occasional feed for cage bids. Due to huge mixing of feed it contain more vitamins and minerals according its requirements (Table 1).

Table 1. Feed for cage birds/7 kg

Sl.	Items	Amount (kg)
1	Proso millet	0.5
2	Japanese millet	0.5
3	Paddy	0.5
4	Linseed	0.5
5	Sesame	0.5
6	Sunflower seed	0.5
7	Safflower seed	0.5
8	Soyabean	0.5
9	Mustard	0.5
10	Cerelac	Occasionally
11	Toast biscuit	Occasionally
12	Mung beans	0.5
13	Wheat (boil)	0.5
14	Corn (boil)	0.5
15	Chickpea (boil)	0.5
16	Ground nut	0.5
17	Ants' egg	Occasionally
18	Egg yolk (boil)	Occasionally
19	Vegetables	Occasionally

Sharing the experiences with breeders

All breeders' were very cordial for sharing their long time experiences with the researcher. Information on cage birds was helpful to accumulate the core of this research (Table 2).

Table 2. List of common exotic cage birds of Bangladesh

Sl.	English name	Scientific name	Origin	Clutch size	Incubation (days)	Fledging (days)
1	Crimson Rosella	<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Australia	5-7	26	35
2	Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	Australia	4-6	18	35
3	Peach-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	Africa	4-5	23	42
4	African Gray Parrot	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	Africa	3-4	29	80
5	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	India	2-3	28	49
6	Cockatiel	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	Australia	5-6	19	35
7	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Europe and Asia	2	14-18	15-19
8	Diamond Dove	<i>Geopelia cuneata</i>	Australia	2	13	13
9	Java Sparrow	<i>Padda oryzivora</i>	Indonesia	4-6	13	27
10	Zebra Finch	<i>Taeniopygia guttata</i>	Australia	4-6	12	20
11	Scaly-bellied Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	China	4-6	10-16	21
12	Black-headed Munia	<i>L. malacca</i>	China	3-5	13	20
13	White-rumped Munia	<i>L. malabarica</i>	China	4-8	12	21
14	Guinea Fowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	China	6-12	26-28	7
15	Turkey Fowl	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Turkey	10-14	28	12-24 hrs
16	Japanese Quail	<i>Coturnix japonica</i>	Japan	300/year	16-18	not applicable

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Out of 16 species of birds most common family is Psittacidae for its chattering and very taming ability. Secondly the Passeridae family is famous for its sweet song and call, small body size, few excreta and small cages. Some cage birds take four or more types of feed at a time (Grau and Roudybush 1983). As supplementary feed the eggs yolk is good for both parents especially female. Any emergency for catching birds' night is good because that time birds are jobless and this phenomenon is similar with Miller, no date. Among cage birds the Budgerigar had the highest frequencies for the people. With the wild and foreign cage birds some other indigenous birds like Rose-ringed Parakeet, Chinese Spotted Dove and Hill Myna were occasionally found which are now facing great ecological hazards (IUCN 2000). People took wild or cage animals not only pet but also food, medicine, decoration and export goods (Martin and Phipps 1996).

CONCLUSION

Though in Bangladesh exotic cage birds not our indigenous one but remember with this there is a chance to extinct our local birds. Eighteen species of wildlife including birds have been extinct from Bangladesh in last hundred years (Sarker 2006). If this situation continues with cage birds; there is no doubt that Bangladesh is losing some of valuable indigenous wildlife especially birds. Therefore, people have to be conscious about the wildlife, cage birds, nature and moreover conservation of nature. It is our moral responsibility of such departments to implement the laws and control illegal trade of that animal.

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