

Species Fact Sheets

Order: Gruiformes
Scientific Name: *Grus monacha*

Family: Gruidae
Common Name: Hooded Crane

AZA Management: Green Yellow Red None

Photo (Male):

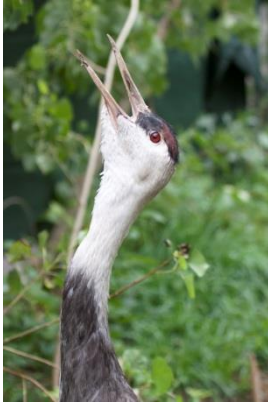


Photo (Female):



NATURAL HISTORY:

Geographic Range: Europe Asia North America Neotropical
 Africa Australia Other [Click here to enter text.](#)

Habitat: Forest Desert Grassland Coastal
 Riverine Montane Other Wetlands

Circadian Cycle: Diurnal Crepuscular Nocturnal Other [Click here to enter text.](#)

To 70° F To 60° F To 50° F To 40° F

Cold Tolerance: To 30° F To 20° F Other
 Winter hardy but should be provided with running water and shelter in severe winter weather. Cranes will roost in pools at night and this will protect toes from frostbite. May have difficulty navigating through deep snow

Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other Heat tolerant but provide areas of shade, misting, and pools in hot climates.

Diet: Frugivore Carnivore Piscivore Insectivore
 Nectivore Omnivore Folivore Other (Add Below)

Captive Dietary Needs:

Nutritionally complete pellet (Ziegler, Mazuri), Supplement with gut-loaded insects, fish and meat items can be given as training reinforcers.

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Life Expectancy in the Wild: Males: 20 – 30 yrs. Females: 20 - 30 yrs.

Life Expectancy in Captivity: Males: 40 – 50 yrs. Females: 40 – 50 years

BREEDING INFORMATION:

Age at Sexual Maturity: Males: 2-3 years, but behaviorally older for maturity. Females: 2-3 years, but behaviorally older for maturity.

Courtship Displays: Complex vocalizations, bugling, dueting, dancing. Breeding season in North America is March through July.

Nest Site Description: Nest found in wetlands, and constructed of damp moss, peat, sedges stalks.

Clutch Size, Egg Description: 1-2 eggs: off white with brown blotches

Incubation Period: 27-30 days

Fledgling Period: 75 days

Parental Care: Dual parental care, Parent raising or fostering to other Hooded cranes preferred.

Chick Development: Precocial downy chick, attains juvenile plumage and flight by late summer in order to migrate with the parents. Attains adult coloring by the end of the 2nd summer.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: In small flocks and pairs

Social Structure in Captivity: Can only be kept in pairs.

Minimum Group Size: 1 Pair

Maximum Group Size: 1.1.2 Young need to be removed by January or the adults may injure/kill the chicks at the beginning of the next nesting season; as early as February of the next year.

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes **Comments:** Can be exhibited with waterfowl and geese. Cranes will become much more aggressive to keepers and other species when nesting and chick-rearing.

Optimal Habitat Size: 20' X 30' Enclosures can be larger to allow cranes their own space and to get away from keepers and other species.

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Management Challenges: Extremely shy, needs privacy regardless in public or non-public exhibit. More zoos need to have space and staff for AI program. Staff should learn artificial insemination-a fairly basic procedure-so they can do at their facility if there is a need. This species benefits from having extended artificial light exposure to enhance breeding success and will be strongly suggested by program leader for new facilities.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Click here to enter text.

REFERENCES:

Ellis, D., Gee, G. & C. Mirande. Cranes: Their Biology, Husbandry, and Conservation. U. S. Dept. of the Interior. 1996.

Hoyo J. del, Elliott, A., & D. Christie. Handbook of Birds of the World Alive. On line Internet.

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COMPLETED BY:

Name: John Azua

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