

Species Fact Sheets

Order: Coraciiformes
Scientific Name: *Bycanistes bucinator*

Family: Bucerotidae
Common Name: Trumpeter Hornbill

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 [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

Cold Tolerance: To 70° F To 60° F To 50° F To 40° F
 To 30° F To 20° F Other Birds should have access to a heated barn at 50 degrees or below and locked into heated barns at below 40 degrees.

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Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other

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

Captive Dietary Needs:

Trumpeter Hornbills are primarily frugivorous, eating small fruits and berries. They have been known to eat small insects, nestling birds and bird eggs when they can be found.

Life Expectancy in the Wild: Males: unknown Females: unknown

Life Expectancy in Captivity: Males: In studbook, oldest living male is 29 years Females: In studbook, oldest living female is 29 years old.

BREEDING INFORMATION:

Age at Sexual Maturity: Males: 3 years Females: 3 years

Courtship Displays: The male's loud wailing call may influence mate-attraction as well as short energetic display flights. The male also courtship-feeds the female before nesting. There may be some nest entrance sealing and allopreening as well.

Nest Site Description: Trumpeter Hornbills nest in natural holes in trees as low as 2-3 meters up to 13 meters. In captivity, they will readily nest in wooden boxes. After eggs are laid, the entrance is sealed to a narrow vertical slit by the female with mud brought to her by the male. The female also uses food and droppings for sealing the hold from within.

Clutch Size, Egg Description: Clutch size is 2-4 eggs which are laid every 2-3 days and incubation begins with the first egg that is laid. Eggs are laid 10-15 days after the female enters the nest cavity. Chicks hatch over several days. The female undergoes molt while in the nest box. The whole nesting cycle last 88-117 days.

Incubation Period: Incubation is 28 days.

Fledgling Period: After approximately 50 days, both the chicks and the female break the seal on the nest and emerge. The male continues to bring food to the chicks until they are strong enough to join the parents in foraging.

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Parental Care: Female remains in the nest cavity with the chicks until time to fledge. The male brings food to the female and chicks in the nest cavity.

Chick Development: [Click here to enter text.](#)

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: Pairs are monogamous and may stay together in these pairs even past the breeding season, foraging and roosting together at night. They will sometimes stay together in family groups with young from the previous year staying to help at the nest.

Social Structure in Captivity: Best kept in pairs, but many are kept singly in bird show settings. They have been kept in family groups for longer periods when nesting opportunities are absent.

Minimum Group Size: Can be housed singly in smaller indoor/outdoor holding cages.

Maximum Group Size: Normally kept in pairs only, but offspring can stay with the parents if nesting opportunities are not provided.

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits:

Yes

Comments:

They have been successfully housed with different ibis species, pigeons, turacos, guineas, waterfowl, cranes, Abdim's storks, hamerkop with minimal problems. They can be hard on smaller passerines birds and will steal eggs and nestlings if the opportunity presents itself.

Optimal Habitat Size: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Management Challenges: [Click here to enter text.](#)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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REFERENCES:

del Hoya, J., Elliot, A., & Sargatal, J. editors 2001. Handbook of the Birds of the World. Volume 6: Mousebirds to Hornbills. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.

Fry, Hilary C., Keith, Stuart. Urban, Emil K. editors 1988. The Birds of Africa: Volume III. Academic Press, California.

Kemp, Alan. 1995. Bird Families of the World: The Hornbills. Illustrated by Martin Woodcock. Oxford University Press, New York.

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COMPLETED BY:

Name: Yvonne Stainback

Date: 8/31/2017