

Species Fact Sheets

Order: Charadriiformes
Scientific Name: *Vanellus spinosus*

Family: Charadriidae
Common Name: Spur-winged lapwing

AZA Management: Green Yellow Red None

Photo (Male):



Photo (Female):



NATURAL HISTORY:

Geographic Range: Europe Asia North America Neotropical
 Africa Australia Other Middle East

Habitat: Forest Desert Grassland Coastal
 Riverine Montane Other Marshes, freshwater lakes, Savanna, wetland

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 [Click here to enter text.](#)

Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other Will need water to bathe and wade in higher temps

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

Captive Dietary Needs:

Generally accepting of mixture consisting of soaked cat kibble, softbill mix, commercial meat diet and insects. Mealworms, bloodworms and other live insects can be used for training and for calming nervous/flighty birds. During breeding season, the amounts of live insects should be increased and sprinkled with Calcium carbonate

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

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Life Expectancy in Captivity:	Males:	Median expectancy is 5.8 years, but can live over 15 years	Females:	Median expectancy is 5.8 years, but can live over 15 years
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BREEDING INFORMATION:

Age at Sexual Maturity:	Males:	1 year	Females:	1 year
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Courtship Displays: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Nest Site Description: Nest on bare, dry ground, usually in a hollow scrape, unlined or lined with grasses or other plant material and debris, or with a rim of earth and small shells or stones.

Clutch Size, Egg Description: 2-4 cream to clay colored eggs

Incubation Period: 22-28 days

Fledgling Period: Precocial; Young are independent soon after leaving natal area, but sometimes stay with parents until the next breeding season.

Parental Care: Both adults care for chicks.

Chick Development: Chicks are precocial and grow rapidly, reaching adult size at only one month of age, but recommended to keep with parents about 6 months.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Social Structure in Captivity: Most often kept in pairs as adults, but same sex birds have been kept in small groups.

Minimum Group Size: Generally kept in pairs but in some situations, multiple single-sex birds can be compatible.

Maximum Group Size: Generally kept in pairs but in some situations, multiple single-sex birds can be compatible.

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes **Comments:** Small waterfowl, turacos, weavers, starlings, mousebirds, rollers

Optimal Habitat Size: Min. 20'Lx 8' W'x 8'H

Management Challenges: Head trauma if flighty birds contact the ceiling of their exhibit. Clipping individuals when introduced to a new exhibit may prevent head injuries. Angel wing and leg issues are common in captive lapwing species and should be watched for.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

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They generally have carpal spurs that can sometimes be sharp and cause minor cuts/scratches to humans when the birds are caught

REFERENCES:

<http://www.hbw.com/species/spur-winged-lapwing-vanellus-spinosus>

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COMPLETED BY:

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Date: 8/9/2017