

Species Fact Sheets

Order: Columbiformes
 Scientific Name: *Ptilinopus porphyrea*

Family: Columbidae
 Common Name: Temmnick's Fruit Dove or sometimes Pink necked fruit dove

AZA Management: Green Yellow Red None

Photo (Male):



Photo (Female):



NATURAL HISTORY:

Geographic Range: Europe Asia North America Neotropical
 Sumatra, Java, Bali (forested areas in mountains 1400-2200m)
 Africa Australia Other

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 [Click here to enter text.](#)

Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

Species Fact Sheets

Captive Dietary Needs:

In captivity the diet should consist of a variety of fruits (figs, berries, apple, papaya, banana, grapes and melon), a variety of vegetables (shredded carrots and cooked sweet potato, peas), and commercial protein source such as soaked Mazuri© parrot pellets or similar, should be added.

Life Expectancy in the Wild: Males: [Click here to enter text.](#) Females: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Life Expectancy in Captivity: Males: 20 years Females: 20 years

BREEDING INFORMATION:

Age at Sexual Maturity: Males: 8 months Females: 1 year

Courtship Displays: Due to the species' reclusive nature, no information is available on their courtship in the wild. In captivity it has been noted that their courtship is a typical bow/coo display seen with wing movements similar to those of a begging chick. This species does have a highly modified tip to their outer primary feathers that could be used for areal courtship (J. Sailer pers. comm.), but smaller exhibits with limited flight space could hinder the display.

Nest Site Description: Flimsy nest of twigs on a rock outcrop or between tree branches.

Clutch Size, Egg Description: Single, off white colored egg

Incubation Period: 18 days Fledgling Period: As little as 35 days

Parental Care: Both male and female take part in incubation of the eggs.

Chick Development: Chicks fledge at 15-16 days. Chicks are quite small at fledging and parents continue to feed and brood after leaving the nest. Chicks have been seen eating on their own in as little as 35 days after hatching and can be reproductive at one year of age and may mature slightly earlier (Gibbs, Barnes & Cox 2001).

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: A rather quiet inconspicuous dove usually seen singly or in pairs (Gibbs, Barnes & Cox 2001), but a group of 17 birds in two loose flocks has been noted (Van Balen & Nijman, 2004).

Species Fact Sheets

Social Structure in Captivity: Males will not tolerate other males and will generally fight and chase constantly. Mixed aged pairs can be problematic with an older male chasing a younger, not sexually mature female. Pairs can do well in mixed species exhibits with soft bills and ground birds. There can be aggressive towards other fruit dove species and even larger pigeon species (Bohmke 1990).

Minimum Group Size: 1.1

Maximum Group Size: 3.5

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes

Comments:

Non-breeding Temmnick's fruit doves are compatible with a wide range of softbills and ground birds. Breeding has taken place with aviary companions such as hooded pitta, Bleeding Heart doves, Magpie robin, Thicknee Plover, Small-billed Tinamou and Yellow-vented bulbul. Aggression towards Temmnick's has been instigated by other larger pigeon species such as Nicobar pigeons and Black-necked fruit doves (Bohmke, 1990). It was also noted that one male Temmnick's being the aggressor towards Indian green-winged doves and female Temmnick doves (J. Sailer, per. comm.)

Optimal Habitat Size: Temmnick's do not seem to tolerate close quarters (Bohmke, 1990). Larger, either well planted aviaries or areas with privacy for nesting seem to have the most success.

Management Challenges: A major difficulty in maintaining Temmnick's fruit doves is the propensity for females to die. When pairs are set up, males have a tendency to drive the females. This can be particularly dangerous if the female is not sexually mature and cannot respond properly (Bohmke, 1990). Chick mortality has been another management challenge for this species in captivity. Of the 161 births listing in the Temmnick's Fruit Dove AZA Regional Studbook, 73 chicks died before fledging (Sincage 2013).

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

The Temmnick's fruit dove population was at an all time high in the late 1980's and into the early 1990's. But with the loss of individual birds and a low chick survival rate, the population quickly dropped to just 19 birds in various AZA institutions. With the challenges in importing new breeding stock and private breeders turning their attention to other species, this species was in dire need of a radical change in management. In 2013, The Toledo Zoo offered to dedicate space for a large breeding group. All institution holding either pairs or individual birds were invited to include their birds. The Toledo Zoo currently houses 3.5 fruit doves in their breeding complex in enclosures measuring approximately 4' x 8' x 8' and in early September of 2013 reported two successful pairs producing healthy chicks.

Species Fact Sheets

REFERENCES:

Bohmke, B. 1992. Breeding the Pink-necked Fruit Dove at the St. Louis Zoo. AFA Watchbird. 19(2) 31-34.

Gibbs, D, E. Barnes, and J. Cox. 2001. Pigeons and Doves. Yale University Press. New Haven. Pages 457-458.

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Del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A.& Sargatal, J. eds. (1997) Handbook of Birds of the World. Vol 4. Sandgrouse to Cuckoos. Lynx Edittions, Barcelona

Van Balen, S. and V. Nijman. 2004. Biology and conservation of Pink-headed Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus porphyreus*. Bird Conservation International. 14:139-152.

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COMPLETED BY:

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