

Species Fact Sheets

Order: Coraciiformes
Scientific Name: *Coracias cyanogaster*

Family: Coraciidae
Common Name: Blue-bellied Roller

AZA Management: Green Yellow Red None



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 Savannah, Woodlands

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)

Captive Dietary Needs:
 Roller are fed insects, pinkies, anoles, meat product, and soaked pellet.

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

Life Expectancy in Captivity: Males: 15 years Females: 15 years

BREEDING INFORMATION:

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

Courtship Displays: A fast chasing flight with the following bird breaking away gaining speed in shallow dive. They then roll, along the body axis, left and right several times calling as they fly.

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Nest Site Description: Cavity nester- box measuring 10" by 12" by 20" high and having a nest hole opening measuring 3" in diameter.

Clutch Size, Egg Description: 2-4 Eggs.

Incubation Period: 22-24 days

Fledgling Period: Approximately 4 weeks

Parental Care: Both of the parents help rear the chicks.

Chick Development: Chicks become independent by 40 days. Chicks can often be left in with the parents while they are rearing their next clutch but this often depends on the individuals and the exhibit size.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: Occurs in pairs or trios, often with two or three other pairs nearby. They can be gregarious in parts of their range, sometimes living in groups of three to seven year round. Occasionally, they have been found in groups of 20

Social Structure in Captivity: Typically kept in pairs or family groups. Some institutions have had success housing several pairs together in large spaces. When kept in groups they must be watched closely for signs of aggression during the breeding season.

Minimum Group Size: One

Maximum Group Size: Depends on exhibit size

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes **Comments:** Gets along with most species although there are individuals that tend to be more aggressive. They will defend their nest site from other species.

Optimal Habitat Size: Have been kept successfully in smaller aviaries, as small as 8'x16'x8' tall but do better in larger spaces where they have room to display.

Management Challenges: Can sometimes be difficult to get pairs together, may take several months of introductions but is usually successful. The time of the year introductions are attempted may be critical with increased success being seen after the height of the breeding season, which is generally April through September. Spend most of their time perching/sedentary.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Males can be aggressive to each other even after having spent time in a large exhibit calmly for a period of time. Much of their social interaction and dominance behavior can be in vocal calls and stances as well as in actual flight displays. Hand reared birds have a tendency to pick up the behavior of dive bombing people which often makes them not suitable for walk through exhibits.

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http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/accounts/Coracias_cyanogaster/

<http://www.toledozoo.org/SafarEmail/2012/AR-BlueBelliedRollers.html>

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