

Species Fact Sheets

Order: Gruiformes
Scientific Name: *Grus japonensis*

Family: Gruidae
Common Name: Red-crowned Crane

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 Savanna

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 Offer supplemental heat source and shelter below freezing

Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other Offer shade, water source for bathing in extreme heat

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

Captive Dietary Needs:
 Pelleted crane diet with supplemental insects, fish, and vegetables. Increase protein items during chick rearing.

Life Expectancy in the Wild: Males: 20-30 years Females: 20-30 years

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Life Expectancy in Captivity: Males: Average Mid 30's Females: Average Mid 30's

BREEDING INFORMATION:

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

Courtship Displays: Dancing and unison calls.

Nest Site Description: In tall vegetation around water is ideal

Clutch Size, Egg Description: 1-2, egg averages 101.2mmx64.9mm

Incubation Period: 26-31 days

Fledgling Period: 50-90 days

Parental Care: Both male and female take care of chick. Parent reared chicks preferred. Cross fostering an option if with another red-crowned crane.

Chick Development: Precocial.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: Pairs, singletons, and family groups will forage together, but will roost together in flocks.

Social Structure in Captivity: Generally kept in pairs

Minimum Group Size: 1.1 or 0.2

Maximum Group Size: 1.1.2 Juveniles need to be separated from parents by January of the next breeding season or the adults will injure/kill chicks from the previous season.

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes **Comments:** Can be kept with various hoofstock and waterfowl

Optimal Habitat Size: Minimum for 2 birds is 2150 sq ft with a shelter of 100 sq ft per bird

Management Challenges: Holding juveniles separate from adults for 2 years is necessary to allow time for the SSP to find placement. It is strongly advised to not hand-rear birds and not cross-foster with a different

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species of crane.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Need to look into holding all female flocks.

REFERENCES:

AZA Red-Crowned Crane SSP Sustainability Report

Cranes: Their Biology, Husbandry, and Conservation

Cranes: A Natural History of a Bird in Crisis, Janice M Hughes

Cranes of the World, Paul A. Johnsgard

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COMPLETED BY:

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