

EAZA Yearbook 2007/2008

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<http://www.eaza.net/activities/cp/Pages/yearbook.aspx>

EAZA Passeriformes TAG

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EAZA Passeriformes TAG Annual Report 2007 - 2008



1. Information on organisation, structure and activities of the TAG

TAG chair:	David Jeggo, Jersey	david.jeggo@durrell.org
TAG vice-chair:	Theo Pagel, Koln	pagel@koelnerzoo.de
TAG members:	Laura Gardner (Chester) Jamie Graham (Whipsnade) Nigel Hewston (Burford) Wineke Schoo (Arnhem) Richard Switzer (Alwabra)	
Current EEPs:	Bali starling (<i>Leucopsar rothschildi</i>)	
Current ESBs:	King bird of paradise (<i>Cicinnurus regius</i>) Blue-crowned laughing thrush (<i>Garrulax courtoisi</i>) Omei Shan liocichla (<i>Liocichla omeiensis</i>) Hooded pitta (<i>Pitta sordida</i>) Chestnut backed thrush (<i>Zoothera dohertyi</i>)	
TAG meeting:	Date of last meeting: 20 September 2008 Last meeting hosted at Antwerpen Zoo (Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp).	
Regional Collection Plan:	Has a RCP been published? Yes Most recent edition published in 2008. Next edition to be published in 2010.	
Publications:	Not specified.	

2. Information on developments during 2007 - 2008

A workshop was held in Koln in March 2008 in order to approach the threat that the import ban might cause to the future diversity of birds in EAZA collections and in particular in Passeriformes. This addressed a number of the issues and in particular reassessed the Regional Collection Plan for Passeriformes. It also highlighted a need to identify monitors for most species included in the plan. As a result many of the species now have monitors but there are still a number where these are required.

An ESB was recommended for the threatened Sumatran laughingthrush (*Garrulax bicolor*).

Including the workshop the TAG organized five TAG meetings during this period.

3. TAG goals for 2009

- Submit a proposal for the Sumatran Laughingthrush to become an ESB programme.
- Continue to develop support for the conservation of threatened Passeriformes.
- Seek individuals for those species in the RCP so far without monitors.



Hooded pitta

ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



1. Programme information

Hooded pitta

Pitta sordida

ESB established in 2006.

Goal(s)

Percentage of gene diversity 90% saved in 100 years.

2. Programme personnel

European Studbook Keeper

Wineke Schoo (Arnhem)

3. Publications

Studbook

Recent edition: 2008

Next edition: 2009

Husbandry guidelines

Not yet published.

4. Status

Status and developments over the year 2007 - 2008

Hooded pitta

Pitta sordida

New	No reply	Participants	Status 1 Jan.	Births (DNS)	EAZA zoos		non-EAZA zoos		Deaths	31. Dec.
					In	Out	In	Out		
		ALPHEN	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.1.0	0.0.0	1.0.0
*		AMSTERDAM	0.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.2.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.2.0	0.0.0
		ARNHEM	7.9.1	6.2.6 (0.0.0)	2.0.0	2.4.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	10.4.7	3.3.0
		BARCELONA-ZOO	1.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0
		BERLIN-TIERPARK	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0	0.0.0
		BERLIN-ZOO	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		BRISTOL	1.2.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0	1.1.0
		CAMBRON-CASTEAU	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.1.0	1.0.0
		DVUR-KRALOVE	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0	0.0.0
		JERSEY	3.4.0	4.5.6 (0.0.5)	1.0.0	1.1.0	0.1.0	3.1.0	1.3.1	3.5.0
		KOLN	0.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.1.0	0.0.0
*		LEIPZIG	0.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	1.1.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0	0.0.0
		LODZ	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		LONDON	2.3.0	0.2.6 (0.0.6)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.3.0	2.2.0
		MECHELEN	2.2.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	2.0.0	0.2.0
		MOSKVA	1.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.0.0	0.0.0
		NEWCHURCH	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.1.0	1.0.0
		PAIGNTON	1.3.5	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.1.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.1.0	0.1.5	1.2.0
		ROTTERDAM	1.1.0	1.0.18 (0.0.4)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.0.14	1.1.0
		WALSRODE	1.1.0	0.0.1 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.1	1.1.0
		WUPPERTAL	3.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.1.0	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	2.2.0
		Total (21)	30.34.6	11.9.37 (0.0.15)	5.5.0	5.5.0	0.1.0	3.3.0	19.20.28	19.21.0



Hooded pitta

ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



Summary

Burgers' Zoo has been monitoring all pitta species within European zoos for many years. In 2007 the hooded pitta was upgraded to the status of an ESB. This resulted in the first studbook being published in September 2008, with data current until 31-12-2007.

Historically hooded pittas were imported by zoos via dealers. In the 80's the first breeding was reported in zoos. The last couple of years breeding is reported by several zoos (also with hand rearing which has proven successful) after Arnhem has practically been the only zoo breeding for some years before. This has resulted in a small genetic basis so far.

At the end of 2007 18 institutions were keeping hooded pitta with a total of 68 birds (29.34.5). At the end of 2008 this amount dropped to a total of only 43 birds in 16 institutions. This is an alarming decrease! Looking at the data this is caused by a drop in breeding (21 hatches in 2008 compared to 36 in 2007) and a steady amount of deaths. Furthermore, and this is the most important cause, 17 animals that hatched in 2008 did not survive till the end of 2008 (8 died within 2 days after hatching). This is a truly bad result! As imports are becoming more and more difficult, breeding is even more important than it has ever been before. I strongly urge holders of this species to maximize breeding efforts (as much as possible parent rearing) and get all animals into a breeding situation, whenever possible. And there are still some birds that are genetically not represented in the population. For example the pair in Lodz, which is a proven breeding pair and the female 293 in Paignton (also a proven breeder).

Some efforts have been made to work together with private holders, also in 2008, so far this has not resulted in breeding results. As imports are becoming more and more difficult, breeding is even more important, and birds kept by private breeders are probably the only good source for "fresh blood" at this moment.



Blue-crowned laughing thrush

ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



1. Programme information

Blue-crowned laughing thrush

Garrulax courtoisi

ESB established in 2006.

Goal(s)

Percentage of gene diversity 90% saved in 100 years.

2. Programme personnel

European Studbook Keeper

Laura Gardner (Chester)

3. Publications

Studbook

Recent edition: 2008

Next edition: 2010

Husbandry guidelines

Not yet published.

4. Status

Status and developments over the year 2007 - 2008

Blue-crowned laughing thrush

Garrulax courtoisi

New	No reply	Participants	Status 1 Jan.	Births (DNS)	EAZA zoos		non-EAZA zoos		Deaths	31. Dec.
					In	Out	In	Out		
*		BELFAST	0.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	4.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	4.0.0
		BERLIN-TIERPARK	1.1.0	0.0.3 (0.0.3)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		BRISTOL	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.0.0	0.0.0	2.1.0	0.0.0
		CHESTER	1.1.0	3.3.4 (0.0.4)	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.2.0	0.0.0	0.2.0	5.4.0
		EDINBURGH	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		HAREWOOD	1.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0
		HAYLE	0.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.1.0	1.0.0
		JERSEY	14.7.0	8.8.14 (3.0.12)	0.0.0	1.0.0	0.1.0	1.1.0	3.3.0	14.12.2
		KOLN	1.2.1	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.1.0	0.1.0	3.4.0	0.1.0	2.1.1	2.4.0
		LONDON	0.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0
		MULHOUSE	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		ROTTERDAM	1.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.1.0	0.2.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		WALSRODE	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.1.0	0.0.0	1.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	2.2.0
		WHIPSNADE	1.1.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.1.0
		Total (14)	24.17.1	11.11.21 (3.0.19)	2.2.0	1.2.0	9.9.0	2.2.0	7.8.1	33.27.2
		Non-EAZA Institutions (6)	12.11.1	4.4.21 (0.0.14)	2.2.0	2.2.0	15.17.1	15.16.1	3.1.3	13.15.5

Summary

Not specified.



Blue-crowned laughing thrush ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



Notes

Taxonomic note

The Blue-crowned laughingthrush (*Garrulax courtoisi*) has been re-classified by Nigel Collar (Birdlife International) in the latest edition of the Handbook of Birds of the World. In this publication the species is considered as *Dryonastes courtoisi*. However this has been contested and may not be formerly adopted. For this reason the species is referred to in the ESB as *Garrulax (Dryonastes) courtoisi*.



Omei Shan liocichla
ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



1. Programme information

Omei Shan liocichla

Liocichla omeiensis

ESB established in 2005.

Goal(s)

Percentage of gene diversity 90% saved in 100 years.

2. Programme personnel

European Studbook Keeper

Nigel Hewston (Burford)

3. Publications

Studbook

Recent edition: Not yet published.

Next edition: 2009

Husbandry guidelines

Not yet published.

Summary

Accurate numerical data is not currently available, but this species is held at the following EAZA member institutions: Burford, Chester, Jersey, Harewood, London, Waddesdon, Tierpark Berlin, Praha, Plzen, Roma, and at c.25 participating non-member institutions and private collections.

Breeding occurred in a small number of institutions during the period of this report, the population stands at c.150 individuals, with the majority held in non-member collections.



King bird of paradise

ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



1. Programme information

King bird of paradise

Cicinnurus Regius

ESB established in 2008.

Goal(s)

Percentage of gene diversity 90% saved in 100 years.

2. Programme personnel

European Studbook Keeper

Richard Switzer (Alwabra)

3. Publications

Studbook

Recent edition: Not yet published.

Next edition: N/A

Husbandry guidelines

Not yet published.

4. Status

Status and developments over the year 2007 - 2008

King bird of paradise

Cicinnurus Regius

New	No reply	Participants	Status 1 Jan.	Births (DNS)	EAZA zoos		non-EAZA zoos		Deaths	31. Dec.
					In	Out	In	Out		
		ALWABRA	16.10.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	2.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	2.1.0	12.9.0
		WALSRODE	0.3.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	2.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	2.3.0
		WUPPERTAL	1.0.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	1.0.0
		Total (3)	17.13.0	0.0.0 (0.0.0)	2.0.0	2.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	2.1.0	15.12.0

Summary

Rationale for an ESB

Limited source of founder birds

The European Union enforced a permanent ban on the importation of wild-caught birds, enacted on 1st July 2007. Additionally, many countries have restrictions on the importation of birds from South-East Asia due to disease concerns, particularly Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1).

Therefore a European population of *Cicinnurus regius* is likely to have minimal input of new founders in the near future. For the sake of maintaining a viable population of this species in EAZA institutions, it will be vital to have a cooperative breeding program.

Secondly, the Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation (AWWP) is the world's major holder of *C. regius*. In 2007, AWWP became an associate member of EAZA. It has also recently developed a new plan for managing its Birds of paradise collection, which involves the potential transfer of birds to other EAZA collections. A cooperative programme with other EAZA institutions (e.g. Vogelpark Walsrode and Wuppertal Zoo) provides a solid foundation for maintaining *Cicinnurus regius* long-term in Europe. An ESB would facilitate this cooperative programme.

Management of *Cicinnurus regius* at species level

No subspecific division is made in this proposal for an ESB and the subsequent management of the species, for the following reasons:

1. The distinctions of the subspecies are not currently ascertained or genetically validated.
2. Many of the birds currently held in EAZA institutions derive from uncertain sources.
3. No subspecific division is made in ISIS data.
4. Any attempt to separate the management of different subspecies may split the gene pool and inherently threaten the long-term future of each subsequent population in captivity.
5. The status of the species in the wild is currently optimistic, so it is unlikely that a reintroduction effort will be justified in the near future, so there is minimal risk of genetically polluting the wild populations of any subspecies that may be ascertained in the future.



King bird of paradise

ESB Annual Report 2007 - 2008



Captive considerations

Cicinnurus regius has intensive and demanding aviary requirements, due to its aggressive nature and requirement for privacy during nesting. Haemosiderosis is also a factor which necessitates strict nutritional management. Guidelines need to be written to outline the husbandry requirements for the proposed ESB.

Proposal for an ESB for Cicinnurus regius

For the proposed ESB for Cicinnurus regius, it is recommended that:

1. Richard Switzer (Bird Curator, AWWP) shall be the studbook holder.
2. Simon Bruslund Jensen (Zoological Director, Vogelpark Walsrode) shall write the husbandry guidelines.

Breeding status 2007 and 2008

AWWP - there has been no breeding at AWWP on 2007 and 2008 due to re-pairing of the birds. The female which is the parent of most of the chicks at AWWP has been stop form breeding. One old female was set up for breeding but did lay any eggs within that period.

Notes

Thanks to Dean Tugade (AWWP) for providing us with a report.