

Eastern District Budgerigar Club Newsletter



August 2022

Hello Members

A great discussion was held at our July meeting. A few of us brought along some pairs and discussed what the advantages and disadvantages of that pairing could be. We were not looking at the quality of the birds, just what we could do with what we have. About a dozen members discussed the outcomes of various pairings, and then the conversation evolved into the best way to keep breeding records.

We have decided that we will run more of these informal chats where experienced members can discuss ideas and issues with others in the club.

Results of the August meeting mini comp

Best Dominant Pied	S&N Hunt	
Best Crest	Jamie Macafee	
Best Young Bird	S&N Hunt	Spangle
Best UBC	S&N Hunt	Dominant Pied

Next meeting: 25 August

Rob McLean is coordinating a knockout competition.

We need lots of birds for this so make sure you bring along what you have spare from your breeding program. The idea of the night is to put two birds together and choose the best one. The winner then competes with the next one the shelf and loser is "out". Discussion at each point about what makes the winner a better bird on the night. Its an opportunity to bring your birds along to compare directly with others.

Variety awards: Fallow, Lutino, Albino – young birds. And of course any others to compete for best bird on the night!

UBC Championship

Selection Day: 3 September 9-12:00 Forest hill Hall

UBC Championship: 11 September Carwatha College, Browns rd., Noble Park

September meeting (29th): Save the Date!!!!!!

Hamish Barron, Avian vet, will be presenting a forum about diseases in the bird room.

Note this is not a consultative night, so please leave your sick birds at home. But feel free to bring questions and ideas for discussion.

All members welcome, and invite members from other clubs as well. Supper provided.

Christmas get together: 110 December

We have booked limited seating for a gathering at the Dandenong Club on 10 December.

Please let Penny know if you are interested in attending so she can firm up the booking.

Tips for Beginners

Breeding budgies takes patience and time. It may or may not happen; you need to find a breeding pair, because not all budgies that are put together will or breed successfully. If you are having problems, here are some possible reasons to why this might be happening.

AGE: The age of the birds is important. Budgies should be 1 – 1 and a half years before they should be mating and breeding.

PAIRS: Hens will often choose their breeding partner. Usually, they will accept the cocks you put them with however this is not always. Monitor their behaviour to see how she reacts to the male. If she rejects him, you should not keep them together, as they will not breed.

HEALTH: Check the bird's health. You may think that your budgie is healthy because it is not showing any symptoms, but this is a common mistake. And if your birds are not 100% healthy and they do breed, this can be dangerous for the offspring and may cause you more problems later. You may want to get your birds checked out at the vet if they are not breeding successfully. If you want to purchase a budgie for breeding, ensure you go to a good source; this may mean it will be more expensive however it is extremely important.

DIET: Make sure you monitor and limit your bird's food. If your birds are not eating a balanced diet, poor results may be reached. Include fresh fruit & vegetables, egg sometimes and other cooked foods, and always have a good seed blend available. Seeds often only make up around 30% of your bird's diet. Keeping birds healthy will make them happier and happy budgies usually show an increase production of fertile eggs. If their diet is limited this can lead to infertile eggs or eggs that do not hatch as they chick does not receive enough nutrients.

RELATED: Are your budgies related? No? Check again. This is very common and will cause problems how it does in dogs, humans, cats and birds! This may be a reason for your birds not breeding or the eggs produced do not hatch.

CYCLE: Your birds need to be in the same breeding cycle and this can take some time. Birds can only reproduce at certain times of the year. You will need to keep them together and their breeding cycles should sync.

TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY: Too cold? The air is too dry? Eggs may not hatch. Chicks will not thrive. On these freezing cold nights consider putting a heater in your bird room, with a tray of water beside it to slightly increase humidity.

Committee Executive

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