



# Common Name

## Spur-winged lapwing

**Scientific Name:** *Vanellus spinosus*

FAMILY: Charadriidae

ORDER: Charadriiformes

AZA MANAGEMENT: Provisional

### GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

- EUROPE
- ASIA
- NORTH AMERICA
- NEOTROPICAL
- AFRICA
- AUSTRALIA
- OTHER

### HABITAT

- FOREST
  - DESERT
  - GRASSLAND
  - COASTAL
  - RIVERINE
  - MONTANE
  - OTHER
- Marshes, freshwater lakes, Savanna, wetland

### CIRCADIAN CYCLE

- DIURNAL
- CREPUSCULAR
- NOCTURNAL
- OTHER

### TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE



From ° 30F to °110 F

Will need water to bathe and wade in higher temps


### DIET


- FRUGIVORE
- NECTIVORE
- CARNIVORE
- OMNIVORE
- PISCIVORE
- FOLIVORE
- INSECTIVORE
- OTHER

Captive dietary needs: Generally accepting of a mixture consisting of soaked cat kibble, softbill mix, commercial meat diet, and insects. Mealworms, bloodworms, and other live insects can be used for training and for calming nervous/flighty birds. During the breeding season, the amounts of live insects should be increased and sprinkled with Calcium carbonate

### LIFE EXPECTANCY

Median Life Expectancy	Maximum Longevity
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Within AZA	Median expectancy is 5.8 years, but can live over 15 years	
In the Wild	unknown	

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# BREEDING INFORMATION

## AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY



Males 1 year



Females 1 year

Incubation period: 22-28 days

Fledgling Period: Precocial; Young are independent soon after leaving natal area, but sometimes stay with parents until the next breeding season.

## CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION

2-4 cream to clay-colored eggs



## COURTSHIP DISPLAYS



## NEST SITE DESCRIPTION

Nest on bare, dry ground, usually in a hollow scrape, unlined or lined with grasses or other plant material and debris, or with a rim of earth and small shells or stones.



## CHICK DEVELOPMENT

Chicks are precocial and grow rapidly, reaching adult size at only one month of age, but recommended to keep with parents for about 6 months.



## PARENTAL CARE

Both adults care for chicks.

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# CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION



## SOCIAL STRUCTURE

In the wild:

In Captivity: Most often kept in pairs as adults, but



## MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS

Compatible in mixed species exhibits?  YES

NO

Comments: Small waterfowl, turacos, weavers, starlings, mousebirds, rollers.



## OPTIMAL HABITAT SIZE

Min. 20'Lx 8' W'x 8'H

same-sex birds have been kept in small groups

**Minimum Group Size:** Generally kept in pairs but in some situations, multiple single-sex birds can be compatible.

**Maximum Group Size:** Generally kept in pairs but in some situations, multiple single-sex birds can be compatible.



## MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

Head trauma if flighty birds contact the ceiling of their exhibit. Clipping individuals when introduced to a new exhibit may prevent head injuries. Angel wing and leg issues are common in captive lapwing species and should be watched for.

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

They generally have carpal spurs that can sometimes be sharp and cause minor cuts/scratches to humans when the birds are caught.

## REFERENCES

<http://www.hbw.com/species/spur-winged-lapwing-vanellus-spinosus>

## COMPLETED BY:

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