



Blue-bellied Roller

Coracias cyanogaster

FAMILY: Coraciidae

ORDER: Coraciiformes

AZA MANAGEMENT: Signature

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

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

HABITAT

- FOREST Savannah, woodlands
- DESERT
- GRASSLAND
- COASTAL
- RIVERINE
- MONTANE
- OTHER

CIRCADIAN CYCLE

- DIURNAL
- CREPUSCULAR
- NOCTURNAL
- OTHER



TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE



From 50° F to 90° F

DIET

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

Rollers are fed insects, pinkies, anoles, meat products, and soaked pellets.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

	Median Life Expectancy	Maximum Longevity	
Within AZA	X	15 years	♂
In the Wild	X	unknown	
Within AZA	X	15 years	♀
In the Wild	X	unknown	

BREEDING INFORMATION

AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY



Males: 1 year



Females: 1 year

Incubation period: 22-24 days

Fledgling Period: Approximately 4 weeks

CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION

2-4 eggs.



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.



NEST SITE DESCRIPTION

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



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.



PARENTAL CARE

Both of the parents help rear the chicks.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION



SOCIAL STRUCTURE

In the wild: Occurs in pairs or trios, often with two to 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.

Within AZA: 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 breeding season.

Minimum Group Size: 1

Maximum Group Size: Depends on exhibit size



MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS

Compatible in mixed species exhibits? YES

NO

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 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.

REFERENCES

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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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