



Common Name Mauritius Pink Pigeon

Scientific Name *Columba mayeri*

FAMILY: Columbidae

ORDER: Columbiformes

AZA MANEGMENT: Unknown

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

- EUROPE Island of Mauritius
- ASIA
- NORTH AMERICA
- NEOTROPICAL
- AFRICA
- AUSTRALIA
- OTHER

HABITAT

- FOREST
- DESERT
- GRASSLAND
- COASTAL
- RIVERINE
- MONTANE
- OTHER

CIRCADIAN CYCLE

- DIURNAL
- CREPUSCULAR
- NOCTURNAL
- OTHER



TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE



From 40° F to 90° F

DIET

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

In the wild they feed on the ground and in trees. They feed mainly on green plants, fruits and various seeds. In captivity they readily eat a commercial pellet, such as Mazuri parrot pellet, that is soaked to increase palatability, along with a seed mix. A variety of fruits (figs, berries, apple, banana, grapes, papaya, melon and cooked sweet potato) can be added to their diet which they readily consume. Mixed softer vegetables like legumes (peas, beans etc.) steamed carrots and others can be fed but not necessary if the birds are consuming the more nutritious pellet. They enjoy eating the foliage in their enclosures especially leathery, shiny leaves and may decimate plantings rather quickly unless the enclosure is well planted.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

Median Life Expectancy	Maximum Longevity
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Within AZA	19 years	
In the Wild	Unknown	

Within AZA	16 years	
In the Wild	Unknown	

BREEDING INFORMATION

AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY



One year



One year

Incubation period: 14 days

Fledgling Period: 21 days



CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION



Birds lay 1 to 2 eggs (rarely a 3rd egg has been laid), eggs are white and laid at 48 hour intervals. Parents will lay again as quickly as 10 days if nests fail or eggs are removed.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION



SOCIAL STRUCTURE

In the Wild: Pink Pigeons appear to be less aggressive in the wild than in captivity. There may be some communal roosting at night and then wide dispersal during the day to forage.

In Captivity: One pair is usually the only option, with the additions of chicks for a short period.

Minimum Group Size: One bird can be housed adequately alone

Maximum Group Size: 1.1.2



COURTSHIP DISPLAYS

Typical, bowing, cooing and billing displays together with flight display may not be observed but generally it involve perch and repeatedly pursue the female usually returning towards each other. Caution should be used when introducing introductions can help determine if aggression will be an other after raising chicks. During courtship the male will constant monitoring needs to be done as this driving behavior quickly. Once this occurs the pair needs to be separated in



NEST SITE DESCRIPTION

Nests can be platforms, open fronted nestboxes, or wove



CHICK DEVELOPMENT

At 2 weeks of age feathers are erupting, at 3 weeks of age enclosure due to parental aggression



PARENTAL CARE

Both parents incubate, switching on and off or sometimes sitting to



MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS

Compatible in mixed species exhibits? YES

NO

Comments: Pink Pigeons tolerate almost all passerines and species. Occasionally a particularly aggressive bird may have mixed aviary but not generally.



OPTIMAL HABITAT SIZE

Pink Pigeons are large and somewhat awkward, suggest at least a 9' X 8' X 12' high enclosure, though single calm birds have been kept in smaller units



MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

Managing aggression can be challenging, but once acclimated Pink Pigeons are hardy birds with few health issues. The most common cause of trauma, usually from their mates. They are tolerant of cold temperatures but should be provided a heat source if the weather is cold, rainy or windy. They can be flighty and as a result of this behavior, they may perch themselves on the roof of an aviary or wire enclosure. If they are

members on the feet of an entry of this character in the, at
housed in quarantine or the hospital, padding the top of the en
reduce the risk of scalping injuries

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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the males flight display. If the enclosure is not large enough this is alternate emphatic wing beats and gliding. Males will fly off a perch to the same perch. Pink Pigeons can be extremely aggressive when introducing new pairs. If possible, housing them side by side before pairing. Even bonded pairs can become aggressive toward each other. Males chase/drive the female, and this is a normal behavior. However, this behavior can turn to wing slapping and aggressive chasing very quickly.

in baskets

When chicks are ready to fledge, at 8 weeks of age, young may need to be removed from the nest.

Together, both parents feed the chicks.

Like most other pigeon species, they have few health issues in a

Pink Pigeons are susceptible to a variety of health issues. The most common cause of death is respiratory disease, often due to poor ventilation and high humidity. They may also suffer from skin issues, such as mites or fungal infections, and may be prone to being

closing
closure can