

29/1/2017

RE: BIOSECURITY AMENDMENT (SCHEDULES TO ACT) REGULATION 2016

The Canary and Cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc. (CCBFA) is a national body representing a broad range of avicultural clubs including most clubs operating within NSW. We have contacted representatives from these clubs as well as the wider avicultural community to assist in the accurate preparation of this submission.

We make recommendations in three areas.

- 1. Remove all Aves species from the prohibited list, namely Schedule 3 Clause 3 (1).**
 - a. All unlisted species are prohibited by default.
 - b. We see no justification for specifically prohibiting the species listed on the draft prohibited list. In any case any such evidence would equally apply to numerous other unlisted species.
 - c. Many of the species on the prohibited list are currently present in aviculture, some we suspect may still be present in small numbers and others were recently present in aviculture (refer recommendation 3). None of these species have established feral populations despite their long-term presence in Australia.
 - d. We note that our argument above likely applies to all species, not just birds.
- 2. Retain or create an advisory committee to advise on non-indigenous animal issues, including the maintenance of the species lists within Schedules 2, 3 and 4 of the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015*.**
 - a. The Non-Indigenous Animals Consultative Committee (NIACC) is a statutory committee under the soon to be repealed *Non-Indigenous Animals Act 1987* Section 7.
 - b. CCBFA has legislated representation on the NIACC as a prescribed organisation interested in the keeping of birds in aviaries.
 - c. We request written confirmation that our inclusion on the NIACC or similar advisory committee will continue.
 - d. Biosecurity issues are currently occurring in many states. It is critical that stakeholders have a conduit to government regarding non-indigenous species.
 - e. Committees such as NIACC economically simplify the consultation process for government as they provide a readymade means of communicating with significant representative bodies who in turn communicate with individual stakeholders.
 - f. One possibility is for aviculture to have representation on the Pest Advisory Committee (not sure if that is the correct name).
 - g. The Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee continues to operate and there is good reason for a similar structure for private captive animals.
- 3. Edit the lists as detailed below to ensure the Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 lists accurately reflect the species currently present in NSW aviculture.**
 - a. There are numerous non-indigenous Aves species present in Australia including many held in small numbers.
 - b. Our intention is to ensure the allowed list (Schedule 3 Clause 3 (2)(c)) includes all Aves species currently held in NSW and that no species currently held by our members are on the prohibited lists.

- c. The suggested edits below have been verified by experts from our affiliate clubs representing the specialist areas of finches, lovebirds, pheasants and waterfowl, parrots and softbills. We can assist with contacts if further expert advice is required.
- d. Edits to the Permitted exhibition purposes list (Schedule 3 Clause 2 (1), p8).
- i. *Lonchura atricapilla* is known as the Black-headed Nun or Black-headed Munia in aviculture and is common and widely kept in all states of Australia. The common name Chestnut Munia is not used in Australia to avoid confusion with our native Chestnut-Breasted Mannikn *Lonchura castaneothorax*.
 - ii. Move *Lonchura atricapilla* to the allowed list (Schedule 3 Clause 3 (2)(c)) and use common name Black-headed Nun.
- e. Edits to the prohibited list (Schedule 3 Clause 3 (1), p14-15).
- i. Note recommendation 1 above to remove this list completely.
 - ii. Note edits to some of the common names in the lists that follow.
 - iii. These species are on the prohibited list but are currently present in NSW Aviculture in reasonable number. These species must be moved to the allowed list (Schedule 3 Clause 3 (2)(c)).
 - *Agapornis canus* - Grey-headed Lovebird, Madagascan Lovebird
 - *Pionus menstrus* – Blue-headed Parrot, Blue-headed Pionus
 - *Pyrrhura rhodoccephala* – Rose-crowned Conure
 - *Pyrrhura roseifrons* – Rose-fronted Parakeet, Rose-fronted Conure
 - iv. The following species may exist in Australia in small numbers or have recently become extinct in Australian aviculture. We recommend moving these species to the allowed list (Schedule 3 Clause 3 (2)(c)). Note there are many species currently on the allowed list in the same situation as these species.
 - *Alectoris rufa* – Red-legged Partridge
 - *Gallus varius* – Green Junglefowl
 - *Lohura ignita* – Crested Fireback
 - *Perdix perdix* – Grey Partridge
 - *Polyplectron emphanum* – Palawan Peacock-Pheasant
 - *Estrilda coerulescens* – Lavender Waxbill
 - *Vidua paradisaea* – Paradise Whydah
 - v. The following species appear to have been misidentified as they are close relatives to common avicultural species. We advise deleting these from the prohibited list.
 - *Geopelia striata* – Zebra Dove, confused with native Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida*. These were considered the same species until recently.
 - *Lonchura leucogastra* – White-bellied Munia. Very closely related to the Javan Munia (*L. leucogastroides*). It would not be surprising to learn our aviary Javan Munias are hybrids of the two species (if they are in fact separate species).
 - *Streptopelia decaocto* – Eurasian Collared Dove. Common name on the prohibited list is incorrect and suggests confusion with the common Barbary Dove *Streptopelia roseogrisea*.
 - *Pytilia afra* – Orange-winged Pytilia. This species is in aviculture overseas but is unknown in Australia. We suspect it has been misidentified as it's close

relative the Yellow-winged Pytilia *Pytilia hypogrammica* which is relatively common in Australian aviculture.

- f. Edits to the allowed list (Schedule 3 Clause 3 (2)(c), p22-29).
- i. Move species from the prohibited list as specified in e. iii. and e. iv. above.
 - ii. Add the following species present in low numbers.
 - *Euplectes ardens* – Red-collared Widowbird/Whydah.
 - *Lonchura nigriceps* – Rufous-Backed Mannikin.
 - iii. Move *Vultur gryhus* – Andean Condor to the Permitted exhibition purposes list (Schedule 3 Clause 2 (1), p8).
 - iv. Add the following common names to the indicated species.
 - Napoleon Weaver to *Euplectes afer*.
 - Queen of Bavaria Conure to *Guaruba guarouba*.
 - Jacarini to *Volatinia jacarina*.
 - Aberdeen to *Amadina erythrocephala*.
 - Red Strawberry Finch to *Amandava amandava*.
 - Green Strawberry Finch to *Amandava Formosa*.
 - Red-faced Parrot Finch to *Erythrura cyaneovirens*.
 - Senegal Waxbill to *Estrilda troglodytes*.
 - Blue-billed Firefinch to *Lagonosticta rubricata*.
 - Ruddy to *Lagonosticta senegala*.
 - Indian Silverbill to *Lonchura malabarica*.
 - Tri-Coloured Nun and Tri-Coloured Munia to *Lonchura malacca*. Delete the common name Black-Headed Mannikin as this is not used in Australia and will be confused with *Lonchura atricapilla*.
 - Violet-Eared Waxbill to *Uraeginthus granatina*.
 - Yellow Hooded Siskin to *Carduelis magellanica*.
 - Himalayan Greenfinch to *Carduelis spinoides*.
 - Green Singing Finch to *Serinus mozambicus*.
 - v. *Streptopelia risoria* and *Streptopelia roseogrisea* are the same species. We believe *Streptopelia roseogrisea* is preferred.

We look forward to further consultation, particularly with regard to recommendations 1 and 2. Please don't hesitate to make contact if you require further assistance or explanation.

Sincerely,



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