International Loriidae Society (ILS)

The International Loriidae Society’s goals were reaffirmed as follows:

1. To the building of self-sustaining captive bred populations of all the Loriidae species possible.
2. To disseminate avicultural and scientific information on the family Loriidae to all the members, and other interested parties through the newsletter (which is sent to members four times a year).
3. To take an annual census of the captive population of the family Loriidae.
4. To assist, where possible, the preservation of the family Loriidae in the wild.

Since 1985, the membership has continued to increase; information about breeding lories, housing, diets and diseases affecting lories is published in the quarterly newsletter; the society has an annual meeting of members during AFA’s convention; an annual census is taken and results published in the newsletter yearly; and study books have been set up for many species of lories. As with other societies, articles are always in demand.

During 1986, ILS had 60% of their membership reporting on the census indicating 667 pairs of birds in captivity with 576 young being produced. However, in 1987 the census figures were down with one species showing a reduction of 25 pairs in captivity. Did birds die, did members lose interest and not report, did people sell their birds to non-members who did not report, or did the ILS fail to keep the members’ interest?

Late in 1988, the ILS reorganized with new officers being elected. Fresh ideas emerged and interest again grew in the lory society. With the threat of bird importation coming to a close, ILS is working harder to reach lory owners and obtain husbandry data on all species of lories and lorikeets in captivity and in the wild. We urge participation in the annual census and the stud books, ask that each person raising lories close band all offspring and keep accurate breeding data, and strongly oppose the hybridization of lory species.

Dues are $12 per year. For further information, contact Sharon Casmier, secretary/treasurer, ILS, 17704 S. Tapps Drive East, Sumner, WA 98390.

New book soon to be published . . .

"Lories & Lorikeets in Aviculture"

by Dale R. Thompson
Canyon Country, California

This upcoming lory book is due around Christmas of this year. This 80-page (9" x 12") book will be large format and deals mainly with those lory and lorikeet species now found in captivity. The author has maintained and reproduced up to 30 species and subspecies of lories and lorikeets for many years. He was the first to manufacture, test, and perfect a dry lory diet that can also be used as a nectar. This book came about primarily as a request from many people who asked about the proper identification of the family Loriidae and as an answer to numerous questions regarding their maintenance and breeding. This book will be interesting reading for most bird enthusiasts, but it is mainly written for those aviculturists interested in propagating this group of birds. There are several chapters at the beginning of the book that deal with aviary and cage design, nestbox size and design, diet flexibility, proper pairing, fostering of eggs and babies, medical, anatomy and other pertinent information.

The most outstanding quality and certainly the most notable are the full page paintings which accompany each species. There are 34 species that are done with watercolors. These illustrations are second to none and all are originals painted by Gamini Ratnavira, one of the finest wildlife artists in the country today. Exquisite likenesses of those species of Loriidae now found in aviculture are painted with all natural backgrounds.

Several books on lories and lorikeets are presently available but they mainly deal with history and early breedings of given species. John Vanderhoof's Lories and Lorikeets in Aviculture fills a need for lory lovers with up-to-date avicultural information on this beautiful group of parrots.

Gamini Ratnavira's painting of Black-capped Lories, reproduced here in black and white, is one of 34 accurately detailed full-color illustrations for the new book, "Lories and Lorikeets in Aviculture."

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