In AFAmily Way
(tips from one bird lover to another)

by Linda Sun
Riverside, California

Several years ago I began using a new brew in my hummingbird feeders which you might want to try. Many birds in the nectar sector seem to give it a 4-star rating and it is inexpensive and easy to prepare. It consists only of purified, boiled water, sugar and Grenadine and my neighborhood hummers hover a few feet above my head and chirp indignantly if they find their ambrosia absent.

During the first year of trial, my feeder was also visited by a pair of glorious, all-yellow birds which had long, dark, slender bills curved downward as in some of the hummingbirds. These birds were the size of a robin or slightly larger than a Western Mockingbird. She was the color of summer butter and he the golden yellow of a jonquil. The female apparently liked the fare so well she flew inside an open cage and set up housekeeping. Although the cage door was propped open and her mate remained at the feeder, she refused to be urged out (a nest box was still attached). Since we are not allowed to keep native birds, I kept trying to discourage her and she finally flew out. Every spring that pair returns for a few days, but there are no more open cage doors. Eventually it occurred to me that the golden birds must be some form of a Sunbird or Honeyeater, since there are no North American birds remotely resembling them. Possibly they are escapees who changed their minds and have decided that life inside the wires is more satisfying than outside. Other kinds of birds also visit the feeders, but the hummers fiercely defend their feast; one little brown and orange fellow is too fast to even identify; however, I have since learned that when the feeder starts dripping its red juice, it is not due to faulty equipment, but simply because the feeder (I insist on the perch-type) is rocking after a visit by a bird heavier than a hummingbird. This makes me wonder if other captive, nectivorous birds might delight in this liquid.

There is a water-purifying set-up beneath the kitchen sink and I use this “good” water, boil it, then let it cool. For a two-cup feeder, the mixture (by volume) is three ounces of granulated sugar, three ounces of Grenadine syrup and 12 ounces of water. Just stir and serve. For a one-quart feeder, the recipe is doubled. For some reason, this mix never seems to grow that black, yukky stuff in the bottom of the feeder. While the best place to find Grenadine syrup is in the liquor department, Grenadine itself is non-alcoholic; it consists primarily of corn syrup, water, citric acid and pomegranate juice.

Not long ago, I saw a quintet of hummingbirds sitting on the utility wires at the back of the property. The two birds on each end were normal sized and the three in the middle were slightly smaller. After watching them a while, I began to smile, realizing that my ruby rations may have contributed to the success of that happy family.

First time ever! ... entire printed Convention ’91 Proceedings available

For $22.50 price includes ship/handling
Foreign: $25 (price includes ship/handling)
Please remit in U.S. funds

Send check and order to:
American Federation of Aviculture
P.O. Box 56218, Phoenix, AZ 85079-6218
(602) 484-0931
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE, INC.
A.F.A. LOGO BANDS

EVERY BIRD BRED SHOULD BE BANDED

Members of the AFA indicate the difficulty they have found in attaining traceable bands. Others reveal they do not band their birds because they only have one or two babies and to order bands anywhere they must order a minimum quantity of ten or twenty-five.

To alleviate these problems and to provide yet another service to the AFA Membership, the Board of Directors has established this new program.

AFA now has available single or multiple bands in sizes suitable from Canary sized birds to Hyacinth Macaw sized birds.

All bands will be imprinted with AFA's logo (the bird in the circle) and have the letters AFA vertically imprinted on the band.

All bands will be closed, coded and traceable; made of aluminum.

BANDS ARE AVAILABLE TWO DIFFERENT WAYS:

1) If you only need one, two, three, etc. bands, you may purchase only what you actually need, in any size or combination of sizes.
   There will NOT be a year imprinted on the band. Color is Silver. The bands are traceable through a special coding and numbering system formulated by AFA and each band will have AFA and the AFA logo imprinted on it.

2) If you need ten or more of a specific size (25 or more of canary, parakeet, lovebird, cockatiel and exotic), you may purchase the minimum, or more, of the specific size with the AFA logo and the letters AFA imprinted on the band, plus choose your own coding and numbering system (on a first come basis), have the year and your state imprinted, if desired, and for an additional fee, choose a color.

WHICHEVER WAY YOU CHOOSE,
BAND YOUR BIRDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BAND SIZE</th>
<th>I.D.</th>
<th>WALL</th>
<th>ANY QUANTITY AFA CODING</th>
<th>PRICE EACH</th>
<th>TOTAL PRICE</th>
<th>CUSTOM QUANTITY YOUR CODING</th>
<th>CUSTOM PRICE PER MINIMUM</th>
<th>CUSTOM COLOR SPECIFY **</th>
<th>CUSTOM COLOR CODE</th>
<th>CUSTOM CODE XXX XXX</th>
<th>CUSTOM NUMBER SEQUENCE (4 maximum)</th>
<th>CUSTOM YEAR ***</th>
<th>CUSTOM STATE</th>
<th>CUSTOM TOTAL PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CANARY**</td>
<td>7/64</td>
<td>0.022</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARAKEET</td>
<td>9/64</td>
<td>0.030</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOVEBIRD</td>
<td>3/16</td>
<td>0.036</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COCKATIEL</td>
<td>7/32</td>
<td>0.032</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXOTIC</td>
<td>17/64</td>
<td>0.042</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #9</td>
<td>17/64</td>
<td>0.042</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #8.5</td>
<td>9/32</td>
<td>0.034</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #10</td>
<td>5/16</td>
<td>0.058</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #12</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>0.065</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #14</td>
<td>7/16</td>
<td>0.072</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #16</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>0.090</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #18</td>
<td>9/16</td>
<td>0.095</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #20</td>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>0.110</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #22</td>
<td>11/16</td>
<td>0.118</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE #24</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>0.125</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CA RESIDENTS ADD SALES TAX $1.00
POSTAGE & HANDLING $1.00
TOTAL $1.00

CA RESIDENTS ADD SALES TAX $1.00
POSTAGE & HANDLING $1.00
TOTAL $1.00

** Sizes 8-34, Red or Blue. All other sizes, Black, Blue, Yellow, Green, Red, Orange, Violet

*** Bands dated succeeding years will be shipped after 12/26

** BAND MANUFACTURER IS CLOSED DURING JULY; ORDER ACCORDINGLY

If each individual state may have its own banding requirements for exotic birds, AFA cannot warranty that these bands comply with those requirements. Each aviculturist should independently verify this.

NAME: ____________________________
ADDRESS: _________________________
CITY: ___________________ STATE: ___ ZIP: ____
TELEPHONE: (____) __________

My check/money order is enclosed for $___________
Charge my Mastercard or Visa account $__________

MEMBERSHIP #: ___________________
SIGNATURE: ______________________

Mail your band order along with payment to: AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 56218 PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85079-6218