The yellow-faced parrotlet is a small, dimorphic South American parrot of the coastal regions of northern Peru and southern Ecuador. The sexes are similar except the male's rump is cobalt blue, while the female's rump is turquoise.

Two pairs of these birds were obtained from Aves International on September 2, 1980. After a one month quarantine, one pair was placed in an 18" square cage and the other in a 2' x 2' x 4' long cage. Each pair had an English parakeet nest box on the outside of the far side of the cage allowing for easy access to the nest. The nests had a two inch layer of pine wood shavings.

The pair of birds that bred were in the 4' long cage, which is in a series of three cages. The center cage houses a breeding pair of Senegal parrots and the cage on the far end contains a breeding pair of maroon bellied conures. These cages are raised three feet off the ground under a dense coral tree giving the birds a sense of being suspended in the tree. The cages have a wide, heavy sheet of cardboard hung between them to give the breeding birds a slight barrier.

The first egg was produced on February 23, 1982. This was also the first time either bird was ever observed in the nest. The female was the only bird ever seen in the nest and once laying started, she remained in the nest. No courtship was ever observed because the cage is in a position where the birds were able to hear us approaching before we could observe them.

This pair laid seven eggs, six of which were fertile. The eggs were laid on 2/23, 2/24, 2/25, 2/27, 2/28, 3/1 and the last one on 3/3. The first egg hatched on 3/17 and the next two on 3/18. The rest hatched on 3/21, 3/23 and the last one on 3/25. The seventh egg was clear. Incubation appears to be 21 to 22 days.

The weather conditions at the time of breeding were no frosts, scattered rains, night and morning clouds, and sunny, warm days.

The male, though usually a very calm bird, became very upset whenever the cage was approached from the time the hen laid the first egg until the last baby was removed. He would fly back and forth uttering a very frantic cry. The female was never observed out of the nest until the fifth chick had hatched. Because of the tremendous size difference of the
youngsters, the three oldest chicks were removed for hand feeding.

The hand feeding formula we used is:

Add to approximately 4 cups of boiling water:
- 2 tablespoons trout chow
- 1/2 cup wheat hearts
- 2 tablespoons dark Karo syrup

Boil three to five minutes. Put into a blender and add one egg yolk, 1/2 ripe papaya, 1 leafy green, 1/2 cup hulled sunflower, 1/2 cup masa harina, 1/2 cup Geveral protein. In place of the Geveral, sometimes we used baby lory premix from Zeigler Brothers. Drugstores usually carry Geveral or a similar high protein mix. All of these ingredients were well blended, adding as much water as necessary to achieve a smooth fluid. This mixture was then fed with a spoon.

The remaining three chicks were taken from the nest on 3/30. We hoped this would encourage the pair to recycle and produce another clutch. They did! Two weeks after the first clutch of youngsters were completely independent, the hen went back to the business of laying eggs.

The cage is constructed of 1/2" x 1" welded wire with two natural eucalyptus perches. The length of the cage runs north/south with the feeding station at the south end and the nest at the north end. The cage is under the outer branches of a coral tree so that, at the start of breeding, there was a great deal of light and as spring progressed the leaves provided a shade cover for the cage.

We feed a lot of fresh fruits and vegetables as well as a 40% parakeet mix, sunflower, horse ration, and brown bread with powdered vitamins. We also feed sprouted sunflower daily. We do all the feeding with the same diet all year round, though the fruits and vegetables change with the seasons. Fresh water is provided daily in a flat, 12" diameter bowl.

The nest box is checked weekly or when either bird is not in sight. It was checked daily when the first egg was found. Although the parents did not seem to mind the interference, we handled the birds as little as possible. These birds have not needed worming since we got them nor have antibiotics been needed.

By May 1, 1982 all six chicks were weaned, when the parents began a second clutch. The first two chicks were males, the third a hen and the last three males.
Colorado Cage Bird Association presents its 4th Annual Show October 14, 1989 Colorado Springs City Auditorium 221 E. Kiowa, Colorado Springs, CO For information call or write: Terry Rustuck 2520 N. Weber Colorado Springs, CO 80907 (719) 632-2142 Kansas Avicultural Society will be holding its 8th Annual Caged Bird Show October 14, 1989 at the Ramada Hotel Broadview Place, 400 W. Douglas Wichita, Kansas For information call: Nancy Presler, (316) 263-0850 Sunshine State Cage Bird Society will host its 18th Annual Show October 14, 1989 Altamonte Springs Hilton & Towers (near Orlando, FL) 350 S. North Lake Blvd. Altamonte Springs, FL 32701 Wisconsin Cage Bird Club, Inc. announces its 12th Annual All Bird Show October 20 & 21, 1989 Holiday Inn / Holodium Oshkosh, W. Wisconsin For information contact: Jane Brickham 505 McKinley Ave., Omro, WI 54963 (414) 685-2242 Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society invites you to its 13th Annual All Bird Show October 21, 1989 Howard Johnson Motor Lodge I-70 at Noland Rd. Independence, MO For information call: Dale Hunsburger, show manager (816) 461-5582 Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club is hosting its Fall Bird Show and Fair October 21 & 22, 1989 Judged show on Sat., Fair on Sunday Rodeway Inn I-40 at Briley Parkway Nashville, Tennessee For show information contact: Ed Dittmar, Rt. 3, Box 469 Lovers Lane, Lebanon, Tenn. 37087 For fair information contact: Jean Michael, Rt. 2, Box 33C Cedar Hill, Tenn. 37032 (615) 696-2786 Gold Coast Exotic Bird Club, Inc. presents its 14th Annual Bird Show & Raffle October 28, 1989 Embassy Suites Hotel North Cypress Creek Rd. and I-95 Fort Lauderdale, Florida For information contact: Roger Heroux, 2213 Bermuda Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 (407) 964-4414 Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture is presenting its 27th Annual Bird Show October 28 & 29, 1989 Oasis Club at El Jebel Temple 4625 W. 58th, Denver, Colorado Saturday: competition judging and banquet Sunday: pet contest, bird care class, hand-feeding class, taming class Both days: commercial exhibits, raffle, bird sale, educational exhibits For information contact: Mary Kaye Buchtel, show manager P.O. Box 3663 Englewood, CO 80155 (303) 369-4804 Tropical Cockatiel Club presents its 4th Annual Cockatiel & Lovebird Show ACS Florida Regional October 29, 1989 Embassy Suites Hotel North Cypress Creek Rd. and I-95 Fort Lauderdale, Florida For information call: Judy Cook (305) 595-8594, evenings or contact Suzanne Myers, 9875 Southwest 183 Street, Miami, FL 33157 (305) 235-4281 Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society Annual All Bird Show November 4, 1989 Century Plaza Inn Washington, PA Information: (412) 795-1904 Affiliations: NCS, SPBE, ALBS, NIROC Missouri Cage Bird Association 43rd Annual Fall Show November 4, 1989 Days Inn 15 Hill Top Village, Eureka, Missouri Show secretary, MCBA: Sandra Zak Central California Cage Bird Club 36th Annual All Bird Show November 4 & 5, 1989 American Legion Hall 1001 S. Santa Cruz Ave., Modesto, California For Information call: Darlene Cortese (408) 923-1178 P.O. Box 3000J, San Jose, CA 95156 Milwaukee Bird Society, Ltd. announces its 6th Annual All Bird Show November 10-11, 1989 (judging on the 11th) The Quality Inn Airport 5311 South Howell Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53207 For more information contact or write: Judith E. Marshall, club president 16585 West Melody Drive New Berlin, WI 53151 (414) 797-9904 or Sue Bender, show secretary 423 East North West Street Milwaukee, WI 53207 (414) 481-8056 Delaware Valley Bird Club of Pennsylvania announces our 34th Annual Show November 11, 1989 Creamery 4H Center Creamery, Pennsylvania For information contact: Larry Weider (215) 234-0280 Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143 433 Houston Road, Ambler, PA 19002 Mid-West Cage Bird Club will hold its 54th Annual Cage Bird Exhibition November 11 & 12, 1989 at the Friendship Center 1119 Newbury, Westland, Michigan For additional information: Jean Wiley, show secretary P.O. Box 982, Wayne, MI 48184 (313) 326-2242 Rose City Exotic Bird Club 3rd Annual Show November 11 & 12, 1989 Red Lion Inn 1225 N. Thunderbird Way Portland, Oregon For show information contact: Sue DeSart 288-1928 4137 N. Colonial Ave. Portland, OR 97217 North Florida Tri-Club Bird Show November 25, 1989 Jacksonville Marriott Southpointe 4670 Salisbury Road, Jacksonville, FL For information contact: Bobby Nipper, show chairman Route 10, Box 147, Gainesville, FL 32605 (904) 772-0299 or Nancy Browne, show secretary 7809 Bilken Dr. S., Jacksonville, FL 32210 (904) 772-7970 Sponsored by: Jacksonville Avicultural Society, The Gainesville Bird Fanciers & The Ocala Cage Bird Society South Jersey Bird Club Annual Show December 2, 1989 Edgely Fire Hall Bristol, Pennsylvania For information contact: Rick Szlachta 7221 Oak Avenue, Melrose Park, PA 19126 (215) 635-2097