

Nothing positive has been recorded about the food of this strange finch, although the suggestion that it "may feed on flower buds" (Mayr 1945: 148) seems to be confirmed by this most recent sighting. In the past the bird was usually described as inhabiting the mountain forest, but it would appear more accurate to say that it is found in rugged rainforest regions at both high and relatively low altitudes.

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SUNBATHING BY THE FIJI GOSHAWK

On the glary noon of 14 April 1971 I saw an immature Fiji Goshawk (*Accipiter rufitorques*) perched four feet off the ground in a tree in Government House grounds, Suva. When harassed by a Wattled Honeyeater (*Foulehaio carunculata procerior*), the goshawk flew some fifty yards to perch in a densely foliated tree. A few minutes later an adult goshawk flew from deeper in the grounds, and landed in the shade about thirty yards from where the young bird was sitting. It pecked about at the grass, apparently in search of insects. At this point the immature hawk flew down and, landing on the sun-lit lawn, lay on its belly and spread its wings to their full extent. The adult walked out into the sunshine and lay down in a similar position. Both birds remained like this for several minutes, after which the immature walked about a little, then stretched out again, while the adult flew into a nearby tree. The young hawk soon flew up to join the older one in the tree.

At 10.15 a.m. five days later, at the same place, an adult goshawk landed on a grassy bank below a low soapstone embankment, and lying on its belly, fully extended its wings. The hawk sunbathed for about ten minutes on this occasion.

Sunbathing was again witnessed on 24 April 1971 at 8.00 a.m. The night had been wet and stormy, but it was a fine morning. I saw an immature goshawk chasing an Indian Mynah (*Acridotheres tristis*) low over the lawns in the Suva Gardens, losing the mynah when it dived into some shrubs. Baulked of its prey, the goshawk flew from tree to tree, eventually being closely harassed by a pair of Vanikoro Broadbills (*Myiagra vanikorensis*), when it flew off to a breadfruit tree in Government House grounds, near where the other sunbathings were seen. Perched on an exposed branch about ten feet from the ground, with its back to the sun, the goshawk spread its wings and sunbathed for about fifteen minutes, before flying off deeper into the grounds.

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LIZARD KILLING BY THE FIJI WATTLED HONEYEATER

The Wattled Honeyeater (*Foulehaio carunculata procerior*) of Viti Levu, Fiji, feeds largely on nectar and insects (Mayr 1945: 122; Mercer 1965: 22), but small reptiles may well be included in its diet.

On 4 June 1971 I saw a Wattled Honeyeater attack a six inch (152 mm) long green skink in a breadfruit tree outside Fiji Museum, Suva. The bird pecked at the skink several times, but the lizard managed to escape around the trunk.

At 7.45 a.m. on 20 October 1971 I saw a Wattled Honeyeater in a small mango tree in Gladstone Road, Suva. In its beak the bird held a struggling gecko by the midriff. It flailed the gecko's head violently against a branch several times, then flew off with the now limp reptile dangling from its beak.

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