

unless it changed its habits. It seems to be dependent on food being made available and when this is provided will readily enter buildings to obtain it. One, for instance, comes regularly to the kitchen window, which is then opened for it to come inside and have a feed on the bench. Up to a dozen, if doors are left open, march boldly into the kitchen for food. One which was nursed with a wing injury and released allows itself to be picked up.

This dove appears prone to suffer injury. We have had several with ruptured crops, in one case requiring surgery, though all seemed to recover after "hospital" care. Another turned up with a foot dangling but after a week or so at rest in a cage, the fracture had mended and the dove was released in good shape.

Liberated initially by private individuals, the doves have become feral in a restricted area in Masterton Park and in the suburban region to the west of the town, where there is an abundance of trees and shrubs.

According to Goodwin (1964; 1969) the Barbary Dove is regarded as the domestic form of the African Collared Dove (*Streptopelia roseogrisea*) which is now considered as a subspecies of the Collared Dove (*S. decaoto*).

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MATING BEHAVIOUR OF BROWN KIWI IN CAPTIVITY

A pair of North Island Brown Kiwi (*Apteryx australis mantelli*) housed in the Otorohanga Zoological Society's nocturnal house have been under observation for approximately three hours daily since 1 October 1972.

Mating behaviour was first seen on 19 July 1973. The female subsequently laid two eggs — the first on 6 August and the second 196 days later on 18 February, 1974. Regrettably, both eggs were found broken shortly afterwards.

Both birds are relatively young, the female being estimated at two years old and the male at three years old. It is thought that both were mating for the first time. In addition to the apparently successful copulations, the male frequently abandons the attempt at any stage of the procedure often to return moments later to continue. The birds have mated, or attempted to mate, virtually daily since the first

observation up to the present time (8/3/74) and on one occasion, three apparently successful copulations occurred in the three hour period. The submissive attitude of the female during mating was in sharp contrast to her aggressive behaviour toward the male prior to this period. Slight variations were apparent during the different matings and the following notes, based on observations by Society members, describe the usual sequence.

The male approaches at right angles to the female and with his bill, taps on the centre of her back. This tapping may extend to stroking. She responds by crouching low — her feet tucked up under her belly and her neck and bill extended anteriorly along the ground. Latterly a single tap on the back will evoke this response. The male then mounts and, lacking the stabilizing role of wing movements, often grasps the female's lower neck or back feathers while treading. The bill is also used at this point to thrust through the feathers on each side of the hen in sharp probing movements. The female, who has her eyes closed throughout, has her plumage all awry through the treading, but does not appear to lose many feathers. The male then lowers himself posteriorly, his feet sliding down the hen's flanks. The female simultaneously elevates her cloaca and copulation occurs for a brief moment at this point. There is no post-copulatory contact — the male wanders off while the female continues to remain prostrate for up to five minutes.

Mating displays do not occur, but this is hardly surprising considering the poor vision and lack of suitable display apparatus (wings, external tail, colour flashes, etc.) in this species. On several occasions however, the mating has been preceded by apparent excitement on the part of the male (e.g. calling, or the irregular behaviour often exhibited when rain falls on the roof).

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AVIFAUNA OF CAPE BIRD, ANTARCTICA

Cape Bird (lat. 77° 13' S, long. 166° 30' E) is on the northern end of Ross Island in McMurdo Sound. This coastal area may be ice and snow free for several weeks in the summer. Sea-ice conditions are variable. Pack-ice is common and fast-ice may be present for up to five months of the year. During the summer season a 20 metre wide pebble beach is exposed. Behind this are moraines deposited by the Mt Bird ice cap. The University of Canterbury Antarctic Research Unit has maintained a station at Cape Bird since the summer of 1966-67. I was at the station from 11 November 1971 to 30