

# SEASONAL TRENDS IN FOOD CONSUMPTION AND BODY MASS OF CAPTIVE REGENT HONEYEATERS *Xanthomyza phrygia* (MELIPHAGIDAE)

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In this study, the seasonal changes in food use and body mass in captive Regent Honeyeaters *Xanthomyza phrygia* between April and September were examined. Regent Honeyeaters had a higher body mass in autumn and early winter (April-June) than in late winter and spring (July-September). Nectar consumption varied significantly over the study period and reached an overall peak in July. Fruit consumption was considerably higher between April and July than between August and September. Hawking for insects was very low in autumn and early winter (April to June), but was pronounced in late winter and spring (August and September). These results suggest a seasonal change in dietary preferences from a carbohydrate-based diet to a more protein-based diet.