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APPENDIX 1

The method used to calculate a weighted mean mortality rate for part of the survival curve is fully explained by Caughley (1977, p.104). For example, in the terminology used in this paper, the weighted mean per cent annual mortality calculated for years 1–7 for the Golden Whistler as

$$100 \times \frac{\% \text{KTBA (yr 1)} - \% \text{KTBA (yr 8)}}{\% \text{KTBA (yr 1)} + \% \text{KTBA (yr 2)} \dots \% \text{KTBA (yr 7)}}$$

$$= 100 \times \frac{.255}{1.177} \text{ (from Table 3)}$$

$$= 21.7$$

Per cent annual survival is $100 - 21.7 = 78.3$.

This is equivalent to the mean survival rate calculated in Method 3 of Nicholls and Woinarski (1988), except that it covers only the straight line part of the survival curve for which survival rate is constant, and does not include in the average the period of higher mortality in the first year after banding, part of which is probably due to dispersal. Caughley (1977) uses standard Life Table terminology, so that %KTBA is equivalent to his l_x , and per cent annual mortality is q_x .

REVIEW

Australian Cockatoos: Experiences in the Field and Aviary. S. Sindel and R. Lynn, 1989. Singil Press, Sydney, Australia. 252 pp. \$A49.95.

This is the second of a planned series of six books covering the Australian Psittaciformes, which document the authors' personal experiences in field and aviary. The first of these, 'Australian Lorikeets' (see *Corella* 11: 132), has become a standard reference for aviculturists, and I have little doubt that this book will achieve the same status. Both authors are highly regarded in the aviculture field of ornithology, but sadly Robert Lynn did not live to see publication of this book and appreciate the impact it will have on the aviculture, and possibly conservation, of Australian cockatoos.

The preliminary chapters discuss the housing, diets, management and diseases of Australian cockatoos in the aviary situation. The chapter on diseases was written by the eminent avian veterinarian James Gill. Each of the 13 Australian cockatoos is dealt with in a separate chapter in which such matters as classification, earliest reports, range, habitat, breeding in the wild, avicultural history, sexing,

display, nesting requirements and aviary mutations are discussed. The authors also describe their most memorable personal experiences with each species in their natural habitats. The species accounts include distribution maps and numerous colour photographs which illustrate mature birds, developing nestlings, and some mutations.

Many species of Australian cockatoo have suffered declines in the wild, primarily from loss of habitat and, in some cases, illegal trapping for the pet bird trade and aviculture. The authors have done a most commendable job in documenting the requirements for captive propagation of these birds. This hopefully will inspire aviculturists and result in an improvement in successful captive breeding, and perhaps reduce the demand for wild trapped birds. The wealth of information presented in this book will be of interest and value to anyone seeking to learn more of the biology of Australian cockatoos.

Unfortunately, this is a limited production book which is not available through retail bookshops. Copies have been distributed to the larger avicultural societies for sale to members, but copies may be purchased by mail order from Canley Heights Veterinary Clinic, Shop 6, Haden Street, Canley Heights, NSW 2166.

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