

Budgerigar Health And Related

Quarantine Program

Quarantine is the best way in protecting your existing birds from the introduction of infectious disease. It is also to determine whether or not the new bird or birds are diseased and then to treat the problem. The quarantine cage is where all new birds are housed and ideally it should be in a completely different room where there is no airborne or physical contact.

Recommend days for quarantine are at least 30 days (1 month). Avian Vets recommend 90 days (3 months) for best results as many illness can lay dormant.

It is strongly recommended you quarantine! If you don't, you could lose all your budgies!

Budgerigar Quarantine Program The following list outlines the steps that should be taken to safely and effectively quarantine new arrivals to protect your existing flock from potential infection. Most steps can be applied to any species. The main difference is in the size of the quarantine cages used.

Bird Quarantine Program

Bird Treatments

1. External Parasites (Lice and Mites)

Spray thoroughly with A.I.L. before putting in quarantine cage.

2. Internal Parasites (Worms)

Treat with Wormout Gel on day one of quarantine

- CROP NEEDLE DOSE:

Fill a 1mL syringe with Wormout Gel and deliver. Administer 0.05mL per 100g body weight, once. Repeat every three months.

- IN WATER:

All aviary birds add one mL to 80mL of drinking water, for two days. Pigeons - use only half the dose by adding one mL to 160mL of drinking water. Treat birds for 2 days. Remove all other water supply. Each pump delivers 2mLs. Aviaries should be treated at least four times a year.

3. Protozoa (Canker/Coccidia): Treat Canker with Ronivet-S; mix 4g per 4L drinking water daily for 5 days. Treat Coccidia with Coccivet; mix 1.5mL per Litre drinking water for 5 days.

4. Psittacosis: Use Psittavet in water; mix 4g per 800mL of drinking water (mix fresh solution daily) daily for 45 days.

5. Megabacteria: Treat with Megabac-S; mix fresh solution daily for 10 days.

6. Nutrition: Supply extra vitamins (Soluvet), minerals (Tracemin), probiotics (Probotic) and protein for the entire quarantine period.

Quarantine Conditions

CAGES

Size

- Budgie/small parrot; Breeding cabinet (600mm x 450mm x 350mm)

- Finch/canary; Budgie breeding cabinet

- Medium/large parrot; 1200mm x 900mm x 900mm

- Cockatoo; 900mm x 900mm x 900mm.

Position

- Inside conditions; separate air space

- Outside conditions; At least 5 meters from other birds.

Preparation

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- Cleaned and disinfected with Avi Safe
- Treated for insects with Avian Insect Liquidator (A.I.L.)
- Paper on bottom of cage.

Hygiene: Clean cages and feed birds in quarantine AFTER normal aviary maintenance

Wash hands with Avi Safe Scrub after attending to quarantine birds

Be careful not to carry droppings, feathers or other waste back into existing aviary

Wash and disinfect food and water containers with Avi Safe daily.

Observation During Quarantine What Should you look for?

The purpose of quarantine is to detect or eliminate potential problems before they can enter your aviaries. You must observe all birds in quarantine for any signs of disease. Common signs are;

- Prolonged inactivity
- Eye or nasal discharge
- Weight loss
- Soiled vent or diarrhoea (cages lined with paper make observation of droppings easier)
- Wheezing or gasping.

If any of these signs occur, keep the infected birds separate from your current stock.

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We always advise before any home treatment to make an appointment with your Avian Vet.

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