

1. It is in 1998 I first interviewed you and we change the way we do things over time. For those readers who did not read the first article maybe we should touch on a few basics first. How long have you been breeding budgies and how did you start?
2. What do you feed your birds in the way of seed mixture, soft food etc. Do you throw any branches, grasses etc into the flights? Has your soft food mix changed over the years - it was **Budgie Starter** is in granular powder form and has a minimum crude protein content of 22%. It is a product that is recommended to use without additives but I do add 3 hard-boiled eggs to 3 cups of the granular powder and further to that I add 3 cups of sprouted seed that has been rinsed and left to drain for approximately 5 minutes. All of this is mixed together and fed to the birds ? whatever is mixed is used. I find that most of the birds consume the majority of what is on offer. This mix is fed each morning and sprouted seed is fed each evening. **All breeding cages and aviaries** have separate containers of Plain Canary, Jap Millet, White French Millet, Red Panicum, Bandicoot Oats (Garlic oil or Combi oil [a blend of 8 seed oils] is added to this-these two products are available from **Mineral Energy** in Victoria) and Grey Striped Sunflower. The birds are also given an even mix of Canary, White French and Jap Millet to which Cod Liver Oil and Wheatgerm is added. Finger drawers supply (a) 2 types of hard grit, one from Broken Hill and the other from Adelaide, **Budgie Bill from Broken Hill** grades and sells these grits. (b) wild seeds from **Pepper's Millet Spray Supplies** of N.S.W., (c) Linseed and Rape seed
3. Do you give any preventative medication and if so, what is it and how often and why? In 1998 it was I usually treat all of the birds with **Psittavet** (Doxycycline hydrochloride 40mg/g) a **Vetafarm** product, twice a year, once prior to the breeding season and once midstream of the breeding season. This treatment is for 7 days at a time and appears to have reduced chick mortality considerably.
4. How many birds do you have and what colour varieties are they
5. Please describe your aviary to us and how and why the changes since 1998.
6. Please describe the construction of your nesting boxes.
7. How do you prepare your birds for the show season.
8. On a judging point of view, you are a National Judge and have judged overseas on a number of occasions, what changes would you like to see brought into the Disqualification and Penalty Points and why?

9. What is your opinion of Spangles winning classes that have no black spangling on their wings at all and how do you prevent this problem from occurring in your aviary?
10. Do you feel the birds have declined in quality at the Nationals over the past ten years and if so, what varieties and what do you contribute this to?
11. Consistently, I am finding now that no matter who I speak to, breeders have not got enough Normals in their bird rooms. What is your feelings about this and how important do you think good Normals are and why.
12. When we first joined the fancy in 1974, we had 44 judges in South East Queensland and now we only have thirteen - With fewer judges available to clubs these days, how do you think we can encourage fanciers to take on this important role.
13. What is the main feature you are looking for in your birds now and how do you go about embedding it into your birds.
14. How closely would you breed your birds and do you pair up visually or by pedigree. What sort of records do you keep (computer, books etc).
15. Do you trim the birds feathers when you pair up? If so how much and if not, why not.
16. How long do you wait after pairing up to put the nest box on and why?
- 18: To improve the quality of birds, I believe fanciers should share nests more, what is your opinion of this and do you experience it now?
- 19: What is your opinion of the ring issue change to September instead of January?
- 20: Do you see the Nationals rising in strength or lessening due to lack of numbers of fanciers
21. is there any other topic you would like to touch on or any advise you can give to my readers.
- 22: On a personal level,
  - a) What is your favourite food
  - b) What is your favourite drink
  - c) What is your favourite sport and name of team
  - d) What sort of music do you like

