

# CASE

*Curriculum for Agricultural  
Science Education*

**Principles of Agricultural Science – Animal**

# Principles of Agricultural Science – Animal

Presented by:

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## HUNGER PAINS OF THE African Grey

# Nutrient Requirements

**Energy**- This animal doesn't require too much energy/attention to keep it healthy but does require some attention so it can be trained.

**Protein**- The African Gray doesn't eat meat, so they typically get all their protein from seeds including, Sunflower seeds, nuts, Etc.

**Vitamins**- The African Gray needs All Vitamins but most importantly Vitamin A, because this is their predominant Vitamin that helps with their muscles, feathers and other body parts like the heart, lungs, Etc.

**Minerals**- All common parrot Minerals

# Common Feeds

## Vegetables

- Sweet potatoes
- Carrots
- Butternut
- Squashes
- Collard greens
- Broccoli
- Kale
- Peppers
- Celery

## Fruits

- Melons
- Kiwi
- Apples
- Mango and Papaya
- Grapes
- Oranges
- Berries

### Common Manufactured Feeds

- Fruit flavored blend, this blend includes fruits and some vegetables to provide all nutrient requirements

# Common Disorders

- Macaw Wasting Disease
- Aspergillosis
- Hypocalcaemia

# Macaw Wasting Disease

- **Causes**

A contaminated environment or contact with an infected bird's droppings are both ways of contracting the proventricular dilatation disease.

- **Effects on Production**  
n/a no production

# Macaw Wasting Disease

## • Description

Digestive disorders in birds are due to various reasons, including infection, low immunity and injury. One such digestive disorder in birds is the macaw wasting disease, or proventricular dilatation disease, which is due to a viral infection and can be fatal.

Despite its name, any pet bird can be infected with this disorder. Other birds who are susceptible to macaw wasting disease are cockatoos, conures, and African, Asian and Eclectus parrots.

## • Symptoms

- Increase in appetite followed by continuous weight loss
- Undigested food in the *droppings* (i.e., whole seeds are passed out)
- Regurgitation of food

# Macaw Wasting Disease

- **Prevention Measures**

The bird's environment should be regularly cleaned and disinfected. Also, all birds suspected of infection should be quarantined.

# Hypocalcaemia

- Hypocalcaemia, also spelled hypocalcemia, is low calcium levels in the blood serum.
  
- Symptoms

# Hypocalcaemia

- Description
- Symptoms

# Hypocalcaemia

- Causes
- Effects on Production

# Hypocalcaemia

- Prevention Measures

# References

- <http://www.african-grey-parrot.com/African-Grey-Diet.aspx>