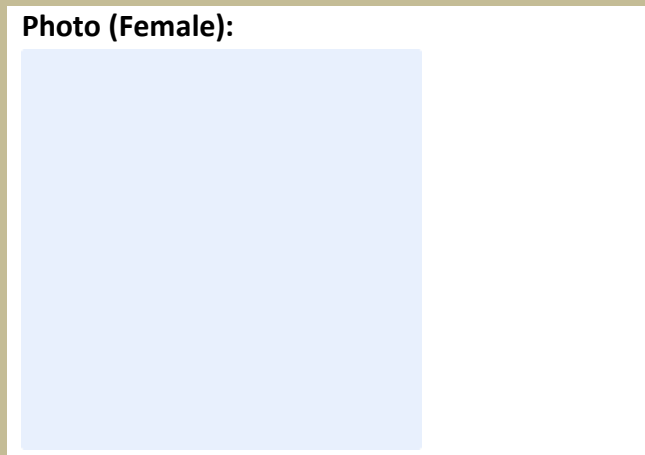


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Order: Passeriformes
Scientific Name: *Entomyzon cyanotis*

Family: Meliphagidae
Common Name: Blue-faced honeyeater

AZA Management: Green Yellow Red None



NATURAL HISTORY:

Geographic Range: Europe Asia North America Neotropical
 Africa Australia Other [Click here to enter text.](#)

Habitat: Forest Desert Grassland Coastal
 Riverine Montane Other
 Blue-faced honeyeater live throughout rainforest, dry Eucalyptus forest, open woodland, mangroves, watercourses, and wetter areas of semi-arid regions, as well as parks, gardens, and golf courses in urban areas.

Circadian Cycle: Diurnal Crepuscular Nocturnal Other [Click here to enter text.](#)

Cold Tolerance: To 70° F To 60° F To 50° F To 40° F
 To 30° F To 20° F Other
 In temperate climates with relatively mild winters, honeyeaters can be exhibited outdoors year-round. They are capable of weathering short bouts of freezing weather down to the low 20s F or high teens, although offering protective shelter and supplemental heat is recommended.

Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other Dependent upon many variables, but species is generally very heat tolerant. Over 90 deg F, sufficient shade and

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or misting should be provided for relief from heat.

Diet:	Frugivore <input type="checkbox"/>	Carnivore <input type="checkbox"/>	Piscivore <input type="checkbox"/>	Insectivore <input type="checkbox"/>
	Nectivore <input type="checkbox"/>	Omnivore <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Folivore <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Add Below) <input type="checkbox"/>

Captive Dietary Needs:

Honeyeaters feed mainly on fruits, insects and nectar from flowers of native and exotic plants. They often forage in small groups. In the wild, the bulk of their diet consists of insects, including cockroaches, termites, grasshoppers, bugs such as lerps, scale and shield bugs, beetles as well as flies, moths, bees, ants and spiders. Birds have been reported preying on small lizards. Prey are caught mostly by sallying, although they also probe and glean. The remainder of their diet is made up of plant material such as pollen, berries, nectar and cultivated crops such as bananas or grapes.

Blue-faced honeyeaters sometimes join mixed-species foraging flocks, but they may also aggressively exclude other species from feeding areas.

In captivity, captive diets include: mealworms, commercial meat, nectar, fruit/veggie salad, commercial pelleted products, and spiked fruit (Woodland Park Zoo)

Life Expectancy in the Wild:	Males:	No published information for wild birds	Females:	No published information for wild birds
Life Expectancy in Captivity:	Males:	The 7 oldest males in the historical AZA captive population ranged from 16 to 25 years of age.	Females:	The 3 oldest females in the historical AZA captive population range from 18-22.5 years of age.

BREEDING INFORMATION:

Age at Sexual Maturity:	Males:	1-2 years	Females:	1-2 years
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Courtship Displays:	No published information
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Nest Site Description:	Blue-faced honeyeaters often use abandoned nests of other bird species. Such nests may or may not be modified, but some new nest material and a new nest lining are often added. When constructing a new nest, honeyeaters make a rounded cup with bark, and line it with softer materials such as finer bark and grass. Captive birds are known to build cup-shaped nests out of grasses and other plant fibers in open-faced wood nest boxes.
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Clutch Size, Egg Description:	Females usually lay 2-3 eggs. In the wild, the breeding season occurs from June to January. In North American zoos, breeding occurs April thru July.
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Incubation Period:	Incubation lasts about 16 days by female only.
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Fledgling Period:	Fledge at ~23-24 days of age.
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Parental Care:	Both adults, and helpers if in a family group, care for young.
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Chick Development: Like those of all passerines, the chicks are altricial; they are born blind and covered only by sparse tufts of brown down on their backs, shoulders and parts of wings. By four days, they open their eyes, and pin feathers emerge from their wings on day six. At fledging, juveniles resemble adults but have green-colored orbital skin. The skin becomes blue as the birds age.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: Blue-faced honeyeaters form monogamous pairs and are known to be cooperative breeders by forming extended family groups comprised of close relatives- primarily offspring of various ages from previous years. Offspring that remain with their parents often act as helpers and assist with raising subsequent broods and defending the family territory.

Social Structure in Captivity: Monogamous pairs, but in some circumstances, offspring (especially males) can remain with the adults for several years. Maintaining same sex groups (pairs, trios, etc.) has also been successful in several AZA institutions.

Minimum Group Size: 1 pair

Maximum Group Size: Dependent upon exhibit size, design and other bird species sharing the space.

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes

Comments: In some collections, honeyeaters have been maintained with a wide array of bird species (lapwings, kookaburras, pigeons/doves, ibis, lorikeets, waterfowl, etc.).

Optimal Habitat Size: Large, well-planted aviaries are preferable. A space of 15'L x 15'W x 8'H might be considered as a minimum in the author's opinion.

Management Challenges: Due to their gregarious nature, honeyeaters can be portrayed as "aggressive" and antagonistic towards cage mates. However, more often than not, such interactions typically do not lead to physical harm to other species. In the author's opinion, honeyeaters are very effective "supervisors," and they can be successfully exhibited with other bird species depending the size and design of the exhibit and the temperament/tolerances of all species involved. When breeding, parents will dive at and harass intruders to drive them away from nest site.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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REFERENCES:

<http://www.hbw.com/species/blue-faced-honeyeater-entomyzon-cyanotis>

<http://ibc.lynxeds.com/species/blue-faced-honeyeater-entomyzon-cyanotis>

<http://ibc.lynxeds.com/family/honeyeaters-meliphagidae>

<http://www.oiseaux-birds.com/card-blue-faced-honeyeater.html>

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COMPLETED BY:

Name: Mark Myers

Date: 5/30/2013