

February - March 2016

#Q

CAPTIVE BREEDING

The last two months showed the breeding season of the Javan Green Magpie at its best peak! Three juveniles from two pairs successfully fledged in mid-March! Both parents were showing model behavior to raise their chicks, all movements being strongly recorded by CCTV. One of the pairs is actually breeding for the first time in Cikananga, meaning that the two offspring are very valuable for the team and the studbook. The total population of Javan Green Magpie in CCBC is now of 20 individuals.



Picture 1. One of the fledglings Javan Green Magpie

One pair of Sumatran Laughingthrushes raised also two chicks until fledging and they are still under care of the parents and the team. The breeding of Sumatran Laughingthrush, like the Javan Green Magpie and the Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush, is monitored only by CCTV. The team does not go inside the aviary to check the nest and this protocol is actually showing positive results.



Picture 2. The two new fledgling Sumatran Laughingthrushes, waiting for the parents to feed them

The birds are not the only ones to breed. In February, the first three piglet Javan Warty Pigs were also born. With another female currently pregnant, the breeding for the Javan Warty Pig is again promising for this year. The main concern is now the lack of space in CCBC and agreement was already done with Taman Safari Bogor that will receive 10 individuals in June. We also hope that other institutions in Indonesia could receive some of the offspring to start satellite populations.

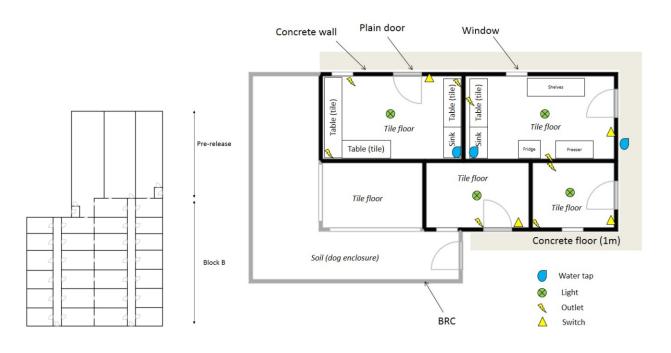
After finding out that the best period to pair the Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush and the Blackwinged Starling are in April/May (based on the historical data in CCBC), new pairs of these two species will be formed soon. Based on the studbook data, 14 new pairs of Black-winged Starlings and 4 new pairs of Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush could be made. However, the population of Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush is still quite small so there is a necessity to acquire new individuals to increase the genetic diversity in CCBC.







In the near future, all the birds of the Block B will move to the three other blocks since the construction of the new building will start soon. Indeed, the team has the final design of the building (made with the kind help of Chester Zoo during their visit to Cikananga) and the workers and materials start to be arranged. We hope that the project will start in May with the demolition of the old building and the project will be finalized at the end of August. CCBC Team is looking forward sharing the first pictures of the construction!



Picture 3. Design of the new building (Left: Aviaries and pre-release cages; Right: Keeper building)

INTERNATIONAL STUDBOOK

Cikananga Conservation Breeding Centre is very proud to hold the International Studbook for the Black-winged Starling! The application was recently approved by the WAZA Committee for Population Management and Anais Tritto will be in charge of the Studbook. It is a big commitment but we are convinced that positive results will come out of this International management, in terms of maintaining the purity of the subspecies and giving valuable recommendations linked with the Reintroduction efforts. CCBC, and especially Anais, would like to thank all the bird experts that were asked for references and gave positive feedback on the capability of CCBC to hold this Studbook!









Picture 4. Chester Zoo with the CCBC Bird Team

VISIT OF CHESTER ZOO IN CCBC

In March, our partner Chester Zoo came to Java to visit CCBC!
Scott Wilson (Head of Conservation Dpt), Andrew Owen (Curator of birds), Javier Lopez (Head of Veterinary Dpt) and Johanna Rode-Margono (Field Programme Coordinator – South-East Asia) spent two weeks with the CCBC Team to help in the management of some projects.

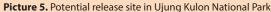
The first week started with the visit of potential new release sites for the Black-winged Starling. With the kind help of Bas Van Balen, Chester Zoo Team and the CCBC Field Team visited several sites in Ujung Kulon National Park. Two potential release sites were highlighted, both of them being also the place where the Banteng is found. Though the accessibility of these sites could be challenging for future programmes, the CCBC Field Team will assess deeply their potential to hold a Black-winged Starling population. The team also visited Pulau Dua Nature Reserve which houses one of the last populations of wild Black-winged Starlings. Only two individuals were observed during this short visit but future study on the site could assess the exact population size and the ecology of the birds in this particular mangrove environment.













Picture 6. The group of Banteng and the Green Peafowls on the grassland in Ujung Kulon National Park.

After the field trip, Chester Zoo Team came to CCBC to help with different projects. The design of the new building received the first interest, to ensure that it will be suitable for the bird species in Cikananga, the materials will be strong and long-lasting and the space available is maximized. Javier Lopez spent a lot of time with micro-chipping the birds, performing necropsy with the vet and advising on different health issues found in Cikananga. Andrew Owen helped a lot Anais and Ajle on the daily husbandry of the birds, advising on the diet for the Sumatran Laughingthrush and management of the species. It was also the very first time that Scott Wilson came to Cikananga and we hope that he enjoyed it and that we will see him again soon!

CCBC Team is very grateful of its partner Chester Zoo for the help and kind visit and we hope that it strengthened even more our partnership and we are looking forward to seeing them again soon in Cikananga!



Sponsorship

Our work is made possible by your support and material donation. Thank you from all Cikananga Conservation Breeding Center Team!

















































