

THE CRIMSON-WINGED PARROT...AN INTRODUCTION



Photo: David Cook

The Crimson-winged Parrot, *Aprosmictus erythropterus*, also known as the Red-winged Parrot, occurs in both Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Typical adults are about 30 to 33cm (12-13 inches) in length. Both sexes have bright red wings and a green body. The males have a black nape; blue lower back and rump and a yellow tip on the tail; an orange beak and grey feet. The female has a yellowish-green body; the wings have reddish-pink edges; dark iris, and the lower back light blue. Juveniles have orange/yellow beaks and pale brown irises, but otherwise resemble the female. Full adult plumage is attained at two years by males and females at the age of about a year and a half.

Their Australian range is from the Pilbara, Western Australia, to Cape York Peninsula, most of Queensland and as far south as northeast South Australia. They frequent riverine forests, forest edges, acacia scrub, savannah, mangroves, and farmlands, and are often found in pairs, or flocks, near water. Their diet consists of seeds from eucalyptus and acacia, berries, flowers, and insects. Their vocalisation is "ching-ching", "chink-chink" or a thin screeching.

Breeding usually occurs in spring and summer. A hollow tree limb up to 11m from the ground is usually selected for nesting. Three to six white eggs are laid per clutch. The female incubates while the male searches for food. Fledged juveniles stay with their parents for about five weeks.

R.V.C. with help from Wikipedia 

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BIRD KEEPING IN AUSTRALIA