

## NIMBY...THANK YOU!!

There is currently a photo doing the rounds of the internet of a Golden Orb Weaver Spider, *Nephila edulis*, devouring a Chestnut-breasted Mannikin, *Lonchura castaneothorax*, caught in its web in a backyard in Cairns.



These spiders weave a very strong web in which they catch their usual prey of large insects, but a spokesman for the Queensland Museum has expressed the opinion that cases of Golden Orb Weavers eating small birds are "well known, but rare". He also said: "If a spider gets a bird, it's a very lucky spider". I doubt if the bird would be of the same opinion!

As there are also photos on the internet of a Lewin's Honeyeater, *Meliphaga lewinii*, and a Double-barred Finch, *Poephila bichenovii*, caught by the same species of spider, the incidence of this happening probably isn't as rare as stated by the museum spokesman.

Just as well this is in Queensland and not in my backyard, Thank You!!!!