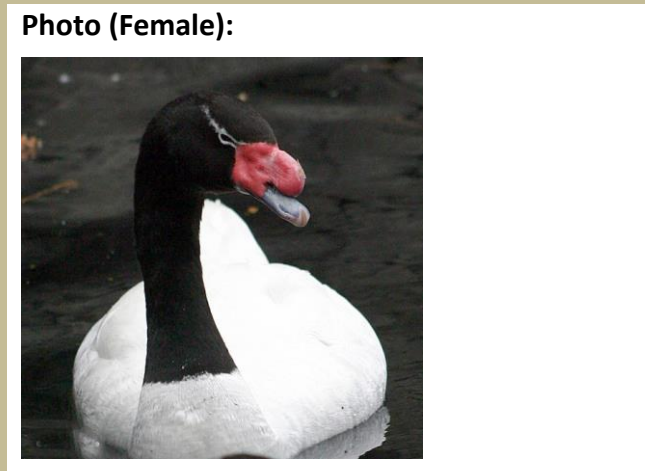
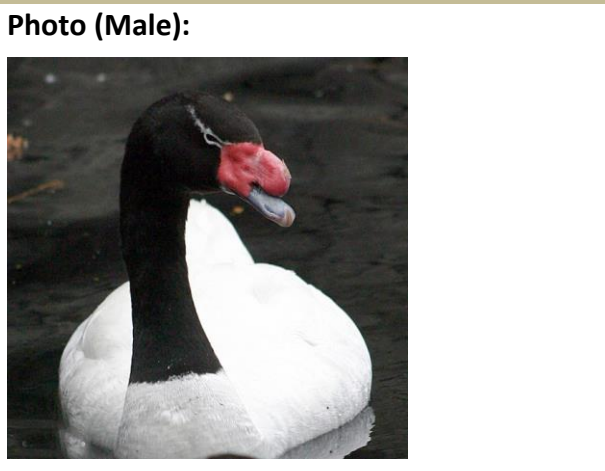


Species Fact Sheets

Order: Anseriformes
Scientific Name: Cygnus melanocorypha

Family: Anatidae
Common Name: Black-necked Swan

AZA Management: Green Yellow Red None



NATURAL HISTORY:

Geographic Range: Europe Asia North America Neotropical
 Africa Australia Other

Habitat: Forest Desert Grassland Coastal
 Riverine Montane Other Swamps, freshwater marshes, lagoons of brackish water, shallow lakes and sheltered coastal sites.

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 Below 40F Provide shelter and open water.

Heat Tolerance: To 30° F To 50° F To 70° F To 90° F
 To 110° F Other Above 90F provide shade

Diet: Frugivore Carnivore Piscivore Insectivore
 Nectivore Omnivore Folivore Other (Add Below)

Captive Dietary Needs:
 Waterfowl pellet (Mazuri waterfowl maintenance/breeder) and plenty of fresh greens (Kale, endive).

Life Expectancy in the Wild: Males: ~30 years Females: ~30 years

Life Expectancy in Captivity: Males: ~30 years Females: ~30 years

Species Fact Sheets

BREEDING INFORMATION:

Age at Sexual Maturity: Males: 3-4 years Females: 3-4 years

Courtship Displays: Highly vocal when breeding, both sexes produce repeated, melodious whistles.

Nest Site Description: Nests in large mound of vegetation, in reedbeds or partially floating, on small islets.

Clutch Size, Egg Description: 4-6 cream-colored eggs

Incubation Period: 36 days

Fledgling Period: 100 days

Parental Care: Males are attentive while females incubate. Both parents carry chicks on their backs, almost continuously for the first three weeks.

Chick Development: Chicks have greyish white down. Juvenile lacks knob and has varying amounts of greyish and brownish-tipped feathers.

CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

Social Structure in the Wild: Social except during breeding season, when pairs become highly territorial and aggressive. Large flocks gather in the molting grounds, reaching up to 5,000 individuals.

Social Structure in Captivity: Capable of being in mixed species exhibits, although pairs can become territorial during breeding season. Size of pool can determine social groupings. Female-female pairs are an option for mixing waterfowl.

Minimum Group Size: 1.1 or 0.2

Maximum Group Size: 1.1 or 0.2

Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits: Yes

Comments:

Aggression can occur between multiple pairs during breeding season and displacement may be observed towards other waterfowl in their territory.

Optimal Habitat Size: Exhibit ideally with a grass bank and large pool for swans to patrol in. This species is highly aquatic and only comes to land to nest.

Management Challenges: Challenge to place offspring. Group should be reproductively managed. Bumblefoot can be an issue with birds that are dry docked for a significant period of time; birds are barely capable of walking on land.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Species Fact Sheets

Species Fact Sheets

REFERENCES:

Todd, Frank S. (1996). Natural History of the Waterfowl. Ibis Publishing Company, California.

del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. eds. (1992). Handbook of the Birds of the World. Vol. 1. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.

Photo: Judy Wolfe

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COMPLETED BY:

Name: Jamie Ries

Date: 1/1/2015