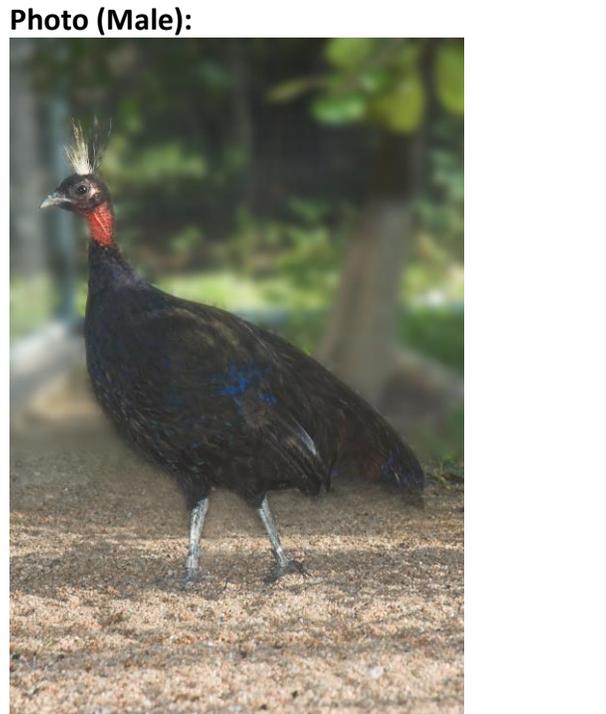


# Species Fact Sheets

**Order:** Galliformes  
**Scientific Name:** *Afropavo congensis*

**Family:** Phasianidae  
**Common Name:** Congo Peafowl

**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 [Click here to enter text.](#)

**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

There is variability in the outdoor climate that Congo Peafowl reside in for zoo populations. For colder or winter conditions, a heat source should be provided at temperatures at or below 55-60 degree F. Additionally, wind

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breaks and covers that provide shelter from storms or wind should be provided.

	To 30° F	<input type="checkbox"/>	To 50° F	<input type="checkbox"/>	To 70° F	<input type="checkbox"/>	To 90° F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Heat Tolerance:</b>	To 110° F	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	There is variability in the outdoor climate that Congo Peafowl reside in for zoo populations. They have been held in areas where the summer temperatures approach 100 degree F with moderate to high humidity. In these areas, shade/ cooling areas should always be provided.				

<b>Diet:</b>	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:**

A simple pelleted pheasant diet with added vegetables/fruits and greens is appropriate for this species.

Suggested pellet: Mazuri Gamebird pellets (maintenance in non-breeding season, breeder in breeding season). Chopped fruits, vegetables, and greens can include grapes, papaya, apples, peas, carrots, beans, steamed yam, romaine, kale, or endive. Insects can be provided for enrichment items or when raising chicks. Birds should be offered food on the ground.

Chick diet is composed of finely chopped fruits/vegetables/greens mixed with Mazuri Gamebird starter pellets. Pellets can be softened by soaking in water. Molted mealworms and small crickets can be offered in the first week post hatch.

Clean, fresh water should always be available.

<b>Life Expectancy in the Wild:</b>	Males: unknown	Females: unknown
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<b>Life Expectancy in Captivity:</b>	Males: 20	Females: 20
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**BREEDING INFORMATION:**

<b>Age at Sexual Maturity:</b>	Males: 1-2 years	Females: 1-2 years
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<b>Courtship Displays:</b>	Male display to hens by puffing up feathers slightly and fanning tail while vocalizing.
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<b>Nest Site Description:</b>	Nest baskets should be mounted approximately 5 feet off the ground; care should be taken to not mount the nest too high as chicks leave the nest at an early age. A perch should be mounted near the nest so the male can perch near or guard the nesting hen without landing on the edge of the nest and upsetting the hen.
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# Species Fact Sheets

**Clutch Size, Egg Description:** 2-3 eggs per clutch; typically lay 2 to 3 clutches per year. There is no defined season in North American zoo environments; breeding can be dependent on increased rainfall. Eggs are a rosy color.

**Incubation Period:** 26-28 days

**Fledgling Period:** ~1 month

**Parental Care:** Males and hens attend to the chicks. Chicks can fly soon after hatch and low perching leading up to the nest should be provided for the chicks.

**Chick Development:** Chicks can be difficult to raise and have a high mortality during the first week of life due to a number of factors that typically present as “failure to thrive”. Chicks are very slow growing. Chicks can fly soon after hatch and low perching leading up to the nest should be provided for the chicks.

## CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION:

**Social Structure in the Wild:** Live in pairs or small family groups. However, very little is known about this species’ behavior or natural history

**Social Structure in Captivity:** Live in monogamous pairs with a strong pair bond. Male sibling groups can be held together, but there has been some difficulty in holding non-related males together for long periods of time. Sub-adult birds have been observed helping with subsequent chicks hatched by the parents. However, in captivity, young is typically separated after 6 months of age or until the parent appear to chase the chick from their care.

**Minimum Group Size:** 1.1

**Maximum Group Size:** 1.1 plus off-spring

**Compatible in Mixed Species Exhibits:** Yes

**Comments:**

Congo Peafowl have been housed in multi-species exhibits with Turacos, Starlings, Pigeons and Doves as well as other softbill species.

**Optimal Habitat Size:** 250 square feet is recommended for a pair of birds. Minimum height for the enclosure is 8 feet. Additional birds can be held in larger areas; it is recommended that 50 square feet be added for each additional bird.

**Management Challenges:** Current Challenges: High chick mortality in first year of life. Skewed population – more males than hens.

# Species Fact Sheets

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

All birds are owned by Antwerp Zoological Society. Application for housing Congo Peafowl must be submitted through SSP coordinator for approval by the Antwerp Zoo. The following information is required for application process:

- The history of the zoo with Galliformes (Including Congo Peafowl if they were housed before)
- Drawings/Blueprints of the breeding spaces (there must be 2 dedicated spaces)
- Drawings/blueprints for holding spaces (noting that all off-spring must be kept for at least 1 year before transfer)
- Heating and cooling information for the enclosures
- The climate information for the zoo
- Picture of all of the above

## REFERENCES:

1. BirdLife International. 2016. *Afropavo congensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2016:e.T22679430A92814166.<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22679430A92814166.en> Downloaded on 25 February 2017.
2. del Hoyo, J., Collar, N.J., Christie, D.A., Elliott, A. and Fishpool, L.D.C. 2014. *HBW and BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World*. Lynx Edicions BirdLife International, Barcelona, Spain and Cambridge, UK.
3. Delacour, Jean, J. C. Harrison, and R. David. Digby. *The Pheasants of the World*. Hindhead, Surrey: Spur Publications, 1982. Print.

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## COMPLETED BY:

Name: Click here to enter text.

Date: Click here to enter a date.