

# Nutritional Requirements for Hand rearing Chicks

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## Research

- Protein 13.2% Budgie.
  - Angel 1995.
- Protein 20% Cockatiel.
  - Roudybush 1986.

## Research

- Fat budgie's fed Kaytee Exact failed to thrive had to add 25% peanut butter.
- Moore *et al* 2001

## Research

- Cockatiel babies feed to water ratio.
    - 1-4 days = 7% solids, 93% water.
    - 5+days = 30% solids, 70% water.
- Roudybush, Grau 1986.

## Research

- Ullrey, et al J Nutr. 1991.
  - Pellets vs. Seeds Fledging success was greater in pelleted diet 90% vs. 66%.

## Nutrition of Birds in the Order Psittaciformes: A Review

- Koutsos, et al JAMS 15(4):257-275, 2001
- ME

## Practical

- Parents need to be on formulated diet to see results maximized.
- Fruits, vegetables and seeds/nuts.
- Incubation and thus day one feeding is avoided if parents are fed correctly.
- Hand feeding can be postponed if the parents are fed correctly.

## Growth Rate

- Maximum is not ideal.
- Three times a day feeding is possible.

### **Formulated Diet Chicks**

- No physical deformities.
- No feather problems.
- No infections from secondary invaders, i.e.. coliforms, yeast.
- Fewer man hours.
- Chicks hardier.
- Chicks more valuable.