

PEACOCK

PAVO CRISTATUS

DISTINGUISHING MARKS:

Peacock male is best known from its gorgeous tail formed by 200 glimmering green feathers. Each feather is decorated by a rainbow-coloured sparkling eye-like macula, whose function is to stop and charm female. Neck is blue. Both sexes have fan shaped "crown" already as a chick.

PREVALENCE:

Originally from India, peacock is planted for decoration birds to different parts of world. They are held for embellishment of Indian temples and European gardens up from the time immemorial.

HABITAT:

In the wild species lives in the tropical hardwood forests and eats in the open places, for the example on the forest open and farmland. Regardless of its large size, peacocks fly to the top branches of the trees to stay overnight.

LIFE STYLES:

Peacock lives in the small groups or litter for most part years. Cocks however separate from the groups for the nesting time and create their own territory. Peacock is place bird.

NOURISHMENT:

Nourishment consist of fruit seeds and other plant parts. Also little animals from the insect to mice belongs to the diet.

BREEDING:

At the courtship cock spreads his tail to a magnificent fan, shakes its maroon wings and shows all its splendour to the hen. At the same time it calls out its loud mating cry. The conquered hens form a harem for couple of days, after which they go away to nest. The female scrapes a low dent to the protection of prickly undergrowth, which is coated with sticks, leaves and grass.

SPECIAL FEATURES:

The peacock at the courtship has considered as the antitype of the vain beauty. Each feather of the tail has an ornament with bright colored rings (violet, green, bronze and emerald green ring and in the middle blue violet fleck) which form the eye figure. Cocks could fight with each other sometimes for days and other peacocks gather to watch the event. In some English park the cock used the stage of the outdoor theare as its courtship place.

