



Lory/Lorikeet Care Sheet

Lories and lorikeets probably have the shortest digestive track of all parrots. Consequently, they are unable to absorb nutrients from their food as easily as other parrots. This means, Lories and lorikeets need to eat often in the wild, therefore, in captivity, these birds will need to have a constant food supply comprised of a variety of foods.

As in the wild, nectar and pollen makes up the major portion of the Lory/lorikeet diet. We can mimic this by using nectar/pollen mixes. We can also provide a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables and edible flowers.

Lories and lorikeets should be fed nectar as the primary food source, followed by fresh foods and finally pellets.

Below is a recommended food list:

Fruits	Veggies	Misc.	Pellets/Nectar	Avoid
Apple	Asparagus	Edible Flowers***	Pretty Bird Lory Pellet	Human Food w/Preservatives
Apricots	Beets	Dandelion Leaves - Organic	Goldenfeast Nectar Mix	Human Food w/added Iron
Banana	Broccoli	Mealworms	Roudy Bush Nectar Mix	Caffeine
Blueberries	Brussel Sprouts	Pasta - Cooked	Blessings Nectar Mix	Soda
Cantaloupe	Cabbage		Kaytee Exact Lories Pellet	Alcohol
Coconut	Carrot & Carrot Tops			Eggplant
Dates	Chick Peas - Cooked			Stems/Leaves of Tomato Plants
Figs	Chinese Vegetables			Mushrooms
Grapes	Corn-Moderation			Fruit Pits/Rinds
Kiwi	Cucumber			Tobacco
Melons	Endive			Avocado
Mango	Kale			Chocolate
Nectarines	Kidney Beans - Cooked Only			Seed
Orange - Moderation	Lentils - Cooked Only			Dairy - All
Papaya	Lima Beans - Cooked Only			Fried Foods
Peaches	Mung Beans - Cooked Only			Uncooked Rice
Pear	Peppers			Olives
Pineapple - Moderation	Potato - Boiled			Uncooked Beans
Plum	Pumpkin			Parsley
Pomegranate	Rice - Cooked Brown Only			Salty/Sugary Foods
Raspberries	Romaine Lettuce - Organic			Garlic
Rhubarb	Spinach - Organic			Onion
Strawberries	Sprouted Seeds**			Raw Meats
	Squash			Raisins (high iron)
	Sweet Potato - Cooked			Seed
	Zucchini			

**Sprout these seeds - sunflower, pumpkin, mung beans, wheat berries, lentil, adzuka beans, corn

***Dandelions, nasturtiums, clovers, hibiscus, rose of sharon, roses, pansies & honeysuckle - all organic, pesticide/herbicide free



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Lory/Lorikeet Overview for the Potential/New Parent:

Life Span: 15 – 30 years

Origin: Southeast Asia, Indonesia, Polynesia, New Guinea and Australia.

About the Lory/Lorikeet: There are over 50 different species of Lories and Lorikeets. There isn't a way to tell a Lory from a lorikeet. The simplest way is by looking at their tails. If the tail is more square or round, then the bird is a Lory. If the tail is longer and more tapered, the bird is a lorikeet.

Because these birds feed primarily off nectar, pollen and fruit, they have developed a papillae on their tongues. Papillae are projections on their tongue makes it easier for these birds to eat. Papillae give their tongue a brush like appearance. Like other birds, Lories and lorikeets have a gizzard. However, their gizzard is no way strong enough to digest seed, therefore, seed should not be given as part of their diet.

Lories and lorikeets do not have the ability to talk but don't let that stop you from getting one of this birds. Lories and lorikeets are very playful and energetic. Lories and lorikeets are extremely intelligent birds. They have a tendency to be quieter in comparison to other parrot species. Because of this, they can be better suited to apartment living than say, a cockatoo or Quaker parrot. These silly birds are also known for being stubborn.

To help keep your Lory or lorikeet happy and use up that energy, it is important to have toys everywhere – i.e. in their cage, on their cage, your floor. These are busy birds. They will find things you thought were safe. They have an insatiable curiosity.

Toys: Fortunately, lories and lorikeets consider just about anything to be a toy. Here are some suggestions: swings, ropes (watch for fraying), bells, whiffle balls, cardboard paper towel tube, cardboard paper toilet tube, plastic key rings, plastic tops to jars, plastic infant key toys, a plastic bottle filled with beads and capped tightly, rattles, large lego pieces, rawhide knots, balsa wood items, kabobs, hanging toys were they can also hang on the toy.

Recommended sites for further learning:

www.petuniversity.com/birds/parrots-and-parakeets/lories-lorikeets.htm

www.vcahospitals.com/main/pet-health-information/article/animal-health/lories-and-lorikeets

www.lorywebsite.com/About_Us.html

Thank you for reading this care sheet. All the information provided is a snapshot of the care a Lory or lorikeet requires. Please note, you may come across conflicting information, it is best to error on the side of caution.

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