

Red-cheeked Parrot
Brown Lory
Rufous-bellied Kookaburra (h)
Rainbow Lorikeet
Eclectus Parrot
White-throated Pigeon
Pied Imperial Pigeon
Lesser Black Coucal (h)
Uniform Swiftlet
Sacred Kingfisher
Rainbow Bee-eater
Dollarbird
Cicadabird
Variable Pitohui (feeding young at nest)
Black Sunbird
Plain Honeyeater
Helmeted Friarbird
Streak-headed Mannikin
Grand Mannikin
Brown Oriole
Spangled Drongo
Hooded Butcherbird
White-breasted Wood-Swallow
Twelve-wired Bird of Paradise

BONAHOI VILLAGE AREA
Brahminy Kite
Crested Hawk
Grey-headed Goshawk
Collared Sparrowhawk
Brown-collared Brush-Turkey
Rainbow Lorikeet
Western Black-capped Lory
Brown Lory
Eclectus Parrot
Red-cheeked Parrot
Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove
Wompoo Fruit-Dove (h ?)
Brush Cuckoo
Papuan Frogmouth (h)
Papuan Boobook (h)
Uniform Swiftlet
Rufous-bellied Kookaburra
Sacred Kingfisher
Lesser Black Coucal
Yellow-billed Kingfisher
Rainbow Bee-eater
Dollarbird
White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike

Black-browed Triller
Blue Jewel-Babbler
Variable Pitohui
Black Sunbird
Helmeted Friarbird
Spangled Drongo
Brown Oriole (h)
Yellow-faced Myna
Metallic Starling
Lowland Peltops
Hooded Butcherbird
Fawn-breasted Bowerbird (h)
Glossy-mantled Manucode
Lesser Bird of Paradise

KOIL ISLAND
Lesser Frigatebird
Brown Noddy
Pied Imperial Pigeon
Sacred Kingfisher
Brush Cuckoo (h)
Yellow-bellied Sunbird
Metallic Starling

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THE NEST AND NESTLING OF THE CRESTED BERRYPECKER *PARAMYTHIA MONTIUM*

GEORGE E. CLAPP

Few detailed descriptions of the nesting of the Crested Berrypecker *Paramythia montium* have been published. They are summarized in Coates (1990) but consist of descriptions of nests, eggs and nestling in the Snow Mountains (Rand 1942) and unpublished records supplied to Coates by C.B. Frith, D.W. Frith, and T. Palliser from the Tari Gap area. It is therefore still of value for further records to be published to enable a clear picture of nesting by Crested Berrypeckers to be established.

On 18 February 1989 at 08:00 I discovered an active nest of the Crested Berrypecker at 2725 m on the Hides Anticline in the Karius Range, Southern Highlands Province. The two adult birds were sighted first. One attended the nest and took food (unidentifiable) to a nestling. I examined the nest as best I could without handling the nestling.

The nest was situated in a small, rather densely foliated, broadleaved tree, which I presumed to be a sapling. The nest was approximately 2.25 m up, and was very securely held in the centre of the sapling by a multi-fork formed by four or five upwards pointing main branches. The nest tree was situated right at the edge of a clearing with forest on two thirds of its edge. The nest was a cup, the measured dimensions being: external diameter 13.5 cm; internal diameter 7.0 cm; external depth 10.0 cm. The nest was composed externally of coarse vegetable matter, lined with fine vegetable matter and with fairly fresh, still green moss hanging all around the exterior and forming wisps on the bottom.

There was a single nestling, quite large with downy feathers none of which were in pin. The eyes were fully open and the nestling uttered a "skrss" call. It had a pinkish gape and a grey beak. Those feathers visible were a mixture of brown and green. The eye was dark.

The adult birds were silent when viewed through binoculars but it was probable that a cross between a hissing and rasping noise just before they appeared was in fact uttered by them.

On 19 February I was again able to observe this nest, albeit briefly. Both adults attended, but I could not distinguish what was fed to the nestling. Each adult bird appeared to swallow something when attending the nest, presumably faecal sacs.

The nest tree and its situation, nest type, materials and placement, as well as the single nestling, all accord well with the previous observations. Nest size is obviously variable. Time of breeding is also variable, even in the same general area, but this agrees with the general observation in Coates (1985) that frugivorous birds in P.N.G. breed at any time.

Coates, B.J. 1985. **The Birds of Papua New Guinea. Vol. I.** Dove Publications.

Coates, B.J. 1990. **The Birds of Papua New Guinea. Vol. II.** Dove Publications.

Rand, A.L. 1942. Results of the Archbold Expeditions No. 43. Birds of the 1938-1939 New Guinea Expedition. **Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.** 79.

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