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Patrick
HUND

My passion for
breeding
Biak Lorikeets

Experience with breeding Horned Parakeets

Guy Sagi on Grey Parrots and Rose-ringed Parakeets

CALCIUM – a life-saving mineral

Jaco Lacs introduces BLUE CAIQUES

Rafael Zamora Padrón: Powerful beaks



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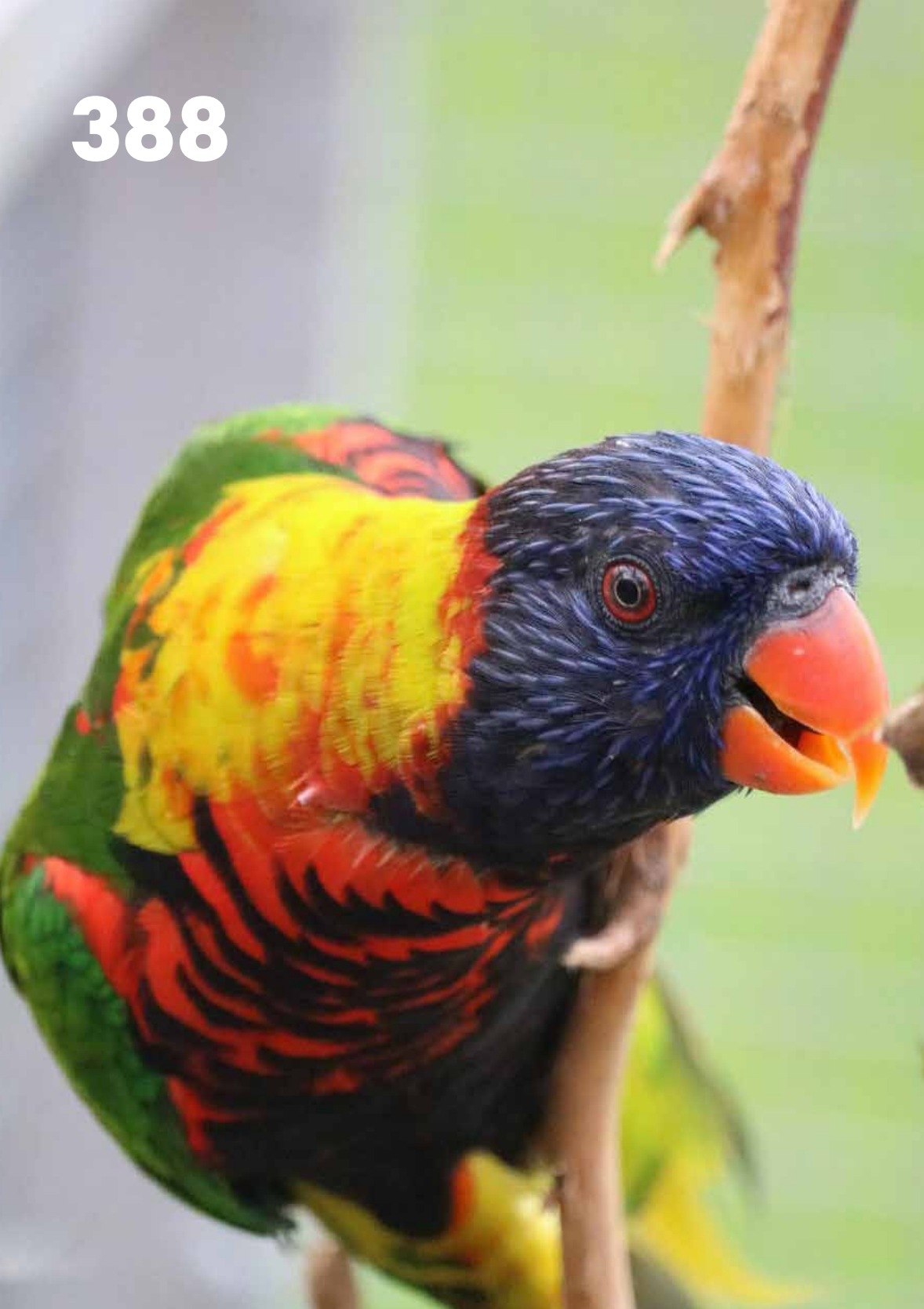
A DIGITAL MAGAZINE FOR PARROT BREEDERS AND FRIENDS



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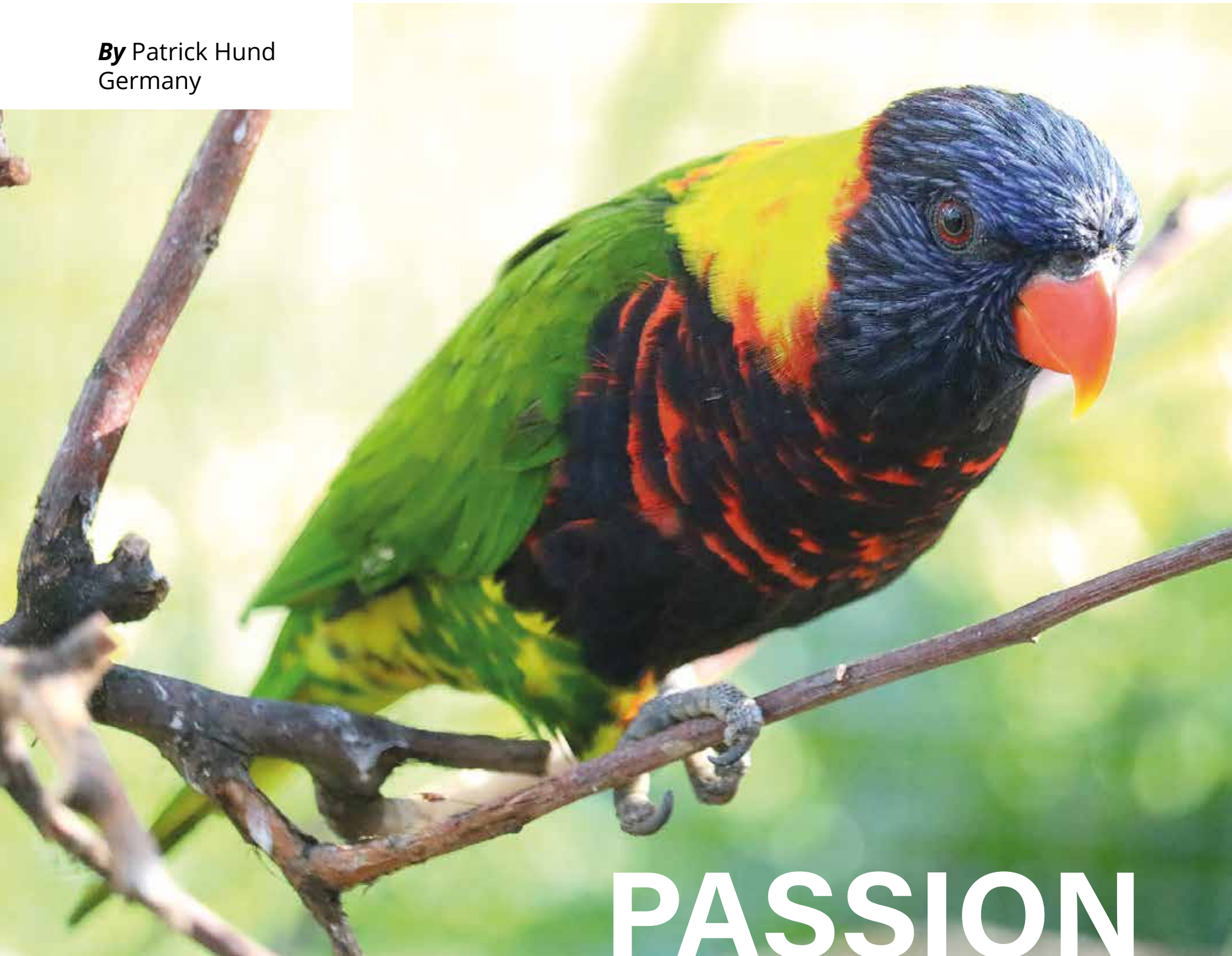
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By Patrick Hund
Germany



PASSION FOR BREEDING BIAK LORIKEETS

My love for Biak Lorikeets (*Trichoglossus rosenbergii*) was awakened about five years ago when a friend of mine told me about the species. These beautiful parrots are native to the island of Biak, which I have not yet visited but plan to. I want to learn even more so that I can provide them with the best possible breeding conditions. That should be the goal of all of us breeders, for that matter.

Experience with breeding Horned Parakeets

By Martin Rasek **Photos by** Alena Winner

First of all, it must be mentioned that the Horned Parakeet is subject to CITES registration. Thanks to the statistics, we know that there are just under 200 of them in the Czech Republic, which is not that many. For comparison, the number is about the same as of Hyacinth Macaws and Moluccan Cockatoos, about a third less than of Yellow-crested Cockatoos, and only three times more than Palm Cockatoos. Yet its price, like that of many other species, has recently become affordable.



Nestboxes for
Amazon parrots
and Mini Macaws.

By Alycia and Eric
Antheunisse, USA



NESTBOXES

**that have proven
effective in the
"CEDAR HILL BIRDS"
breeding facility**

The topic of "NESTBOXES" is very contradictory of course, as each breeder has experience with his/her own style of nestboxes, promoting his/her own proven way. Therefore, please do not take the photos below as a 100% recommendation – just as a tip and an introduction to the way we find successful.



The Conservation Center Zoologico del Istmo is a zoo with 720 aviaries. 50 species of mammals and 450 species and subspecies of birds are cared for here. Its location is, I would say, almost romantic, as it is situated on the picturesque Caribbean coast of Panama in Puerto Lindo. Jaco Lacs, the zoo's founder and a very experienced breeder, has a fondness for all kinds of animals and also for parrot mutations, to which a part of his facility is dedicated.

From my journalistic perspective, the topic of mutations is still somewhat controversial. The colouring of parrot plumage different from the natural one has its lovers and opponents. In my opinion, mutations belong to the breeding world and their breeding is interesting. Of course, knowledge of the basic genetics is necessary to keep this breeding correct. It is undoubtedly necessary to concentrate on the preservation of the original natural forms of parrots in breeding, but mutation breeding can also be carried out with the same responsibility. This is

the philosophy that Jaco follows as well. At the zoo, he focuses on breeding **natural forms of parrots and raising pure species and subspecies**. And at the same time, he breeds mutations and takes great care to ensure **that they are only pure mutations**.

Jaco explains how he started breeding the blue mutation of the Black-headed Caique (ssp. *pallidus*): *"My era of breeding the blue mutation of this species began in the late 1990s. I was fortunate enough to acquire a blue female in Peru, which I paired with a natural individual of Pionites melanocephalus pallidus. It took me seven years to rear the first blue chick. It is a recessive mutation, so we had to wait to rear a blue male, which we paired with the mother. This opened up the bloodline, giving us the opportunity to gradually start rearing and adding non-native individuals as well. We currently rear one blue caique per year"*.

So far Jaco has reared five caiques in the blue mutation and many split birds. The pairs are always made up of a blue individual and a bird capable of

My practical experience with breeding Grey Parrots and Rose-ringed Parakeets

By Gai Sagi, **Gm Breeders, Israel**

At the beginning I must say that I started breeding parrots quite romantically. It was 1996 and my girlfriend bought me some Lovebirds. They were beautiful! Figuratively speaking, at that moment I was forever captured and since then I have never let the breeding hobby go. I knew nothing about parrots then, so I set off on a journey of finding out all the information, which resulted in very long years of studying their needs.

Grey parrot (*Psittacus erithacus*)



I come from Israel, namely from the kibbutz community - an agricultural settlement that farms in the form of collective ownership. All people there live together, work for each other and help each other. I worked there with cows and in the fields, my father

worked with poultry. My family was very agricultural. Nevertheless, I was more and more attracted to parrot breeding. After a while I moved to another community where I came across a South African man who had had experience with parrot breeding and put me

CALCIUM

the life-saving mineral

By Rosemary Low

Many of the additives that people offer their birds are not necessary if they provide a balanced diet. The important exception to this is calcium. As a general rule, my own birds receive all the nutrients necessary from their diet – with this exception. My bird cupboard is never without calcium supplements – liquid and powder – made specifically for birds.



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