5



INDIAN CROWS— WORLD OCCURRENCE

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AGRICULTURE PROTECTION BOARD ADVISORY LEAFLET No. 5

INDIAN CROWS

NOT WANTED: Indian Crows are not wanted in W.A. because they could introduce exotic diseases of poultry and livestock. The occasional birds reaching here on ships have all been destroyed. The birds are sometimes called Ceylon crows. They are found naturally throughout southern Asia. Indian crows are scavengers like local crows. When introduced to East Africa, they became pests, destroying the nests and eggs of native birds, taking young poultry and feeding on growing crops and soft fruits. Indian crows are prohibited in Western Australia.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR: The Indian crow is 35cm long, some 10cm smaller than the local crow or raven. It can also be distinguished from the local bird by a ring of grey or brownish feathers around the neck, a more arched beak and a different call. The ring of grey feathers can vary from a faint strip to a large band from the top of the head to the beak. Both sexes look alike.

SIGHTINGS OF SUSPECT BIRDS SHOULD BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY.

Report sightings to the Agriculture Protection Board, telephone 367 0111 or to any country officer of the Agriculture Protection Board or Department of Agriculture.