

Firetail Finch Sightings

In the first edition of Volume eight of S.W.A.N.S. a revised list of protected rare fauna was published in accordance with Ministerial approval. The list included various bird, mammal, reptile, and amphibian species. The significance of this information must be emphasized in relation to, not only Australia's heritage but her ecological balance as well, and it seems that certain members of the public are aware and do care about this. An example of this interest was expressed by H. B. Gibbs of Dardanup when he wrote to the Department informing us of observations he had made over the past two years of the Red-eared Firetail (*Emblema oculata*). He noticed the birds in localities of Donnybrook, Wellington, Sue's Bridge (between Nannup and Augusta) and Pemberton where a pair were observed building a nest.

It is pleasing to receive information from readers, especially on rare and endangered fauna.



Red-eared Firetail (*Emblema oculata*) in captivity.

Photo by A. Pepper