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RAINBOW LORIKEETS

N response to the brief note in WW 7/4, several readers rang to say that Rainbow Lorikeets are definitely expanding both their breeding and their foraging range. Records from all around the outer edge of the Metropolitan area, including both Coastal Plain and Hills, have been passed on to David Lamont.

CALM has declared the species to be acclimatised fauna (fauna in a wild state because of escape or release) and has gazetted an open season, allowing the species to be shot or live-trapped on private land without the need to obtain a licence.

In order to prevent new populations from establishing in the wild, any lorikeets sighted outside the metropolitan area should be reported to the Department of Agriculture.

Anyone keeping rainbow lorikeets must have a licence and should ensure that the birds are securely housed, preferably in a double-doored aviary. Anyone who sees rainbow lorikeets outside of the metropolitan area should report the sighting to the DoA's Pest and Disease Information Service on 9368 3666.

More information is available from Farmnote 08/2002 'Rainbow Lorikeets' on DoA's website at www.agric.wa.gov.au

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