

The Magpies The Ecology And Behaviour Of Black Billed And Yellow Billed Magpies

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magpies are unmistakeable in their appearance voice and extrovert arrogant manner while their persecution at the hands of gamekeepers over the last hundred years has made them wary and difficult to approach a number of recent field studies both in europe and north america have successfully revealed the intricacies of the magpie way of life two species of magpie feature in this book the black billed magpie familiar to most europeans which occurs throughout much of the northern hemisphere and the yellow billed magpie which is confined to california tim birkhead has studied both species and has produced a fascinating account of their ecology and behaviour many of the results from his ten year study of magpies in northern england are published here for the first time particularly revealing however is his comparison of the two species and of their different races magpies occur in a wide range of habitats including english farmland the deserts of north america the mountains of saudi arabia and the windswept plateaus of tibet as this book explains magpies are able to exploit this diversity of habitats largely through their remarkably flexible

social behaviour the magpies covers all aspects of their lives including their marital relationships food hoarding behaviour longevity and survival nesting behaviour breeding success and their controversial relationship with man the text is supported by numerous photographs diagrams and tables and superb illustrations by david quinn illustrated by david quinn

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the twenty seven contributions authored by leaders in the fields of avian and urban ecology present a unique summary of current research on birds in settled environments ranging from wildlands to exurban rural to urban

the book consists of three parts environment plants and animals the papers in the first part aim to describe the environment of sofia climate water and air in order to provide a basis for present day and future research on the biota and to outline some recommendations for improving the human comfort in the city the botanical part consists of nine papers ranging from inventories bryophytes vascular plants to studies on the soil moisture regime and lead transformation in city parks in the third part eleven papers summarize data on several animal groups nematodes myriapods terrestrial gastropods opilionids spiders carabid beetles ants aphids scuttle flies and birds the book is intended for urban ecologists conservationists environmentalists urban planning specialists zoologists botanists and anyone interested in ecological and environmental issues

the warbling and carolling of the australian magpie are familiar to many although few of us recognise that it ranks among the foremost songbirds of the world its impressive vocal abilities its propensity to play and clown and its

willingness to interact with people make the magpie one of our most well known birds this insightful book presents a comprehensive account of the behaviour of one of australia s best loved icons it reveals the extraordinary capabilities of the magpie including its complex social behaviour in a highly readable text the author brings together much of what we know about the magpie s biology and behaviour including her latest research on magpie vocalisation as well as aspects of anatomy physiology development and health not published previously australian magpie is ideal reading for all those interested in australian natural history including amateur and professional ornithologists and undergraduate students

examining globally invasive alien birds the first part of this book provides an account of 32 global avian invasive species as listed by the invasive species specialist group issg it acts as a one stop reference volume it assesses current invasive status for each bird species including details of physical description diet introduction and invasion pathways breeding behaviour natural habitat it also looks at the environmental impact of each species as well as current and future control methods full colour photographs assist with species identification and global distribution maps give a visual representation of the current known distributions of these species the second part of the book discusses the biogeographical aspects of avian invasions highlighting current and emerging invasive species across different regions of the world the third section considers the impact of invasive species on native communities problems associated with invasive bird management and the use of citizen science in the study of invasive birds

wherever people live in australia magpies tend to be found there too these very familiar birds are one of our most loved and admired wild birds yet during the breeding season many magpies become extremely aggressive toward people sometimes causing serious injury or distress especially to children the fact that this is a very common well loved yet sometimes dangerous neighbor makes solving the magpie human conflict very complicated this book provides for the first time a comprehensive guide to everything that is known about this bird why it attacks and what we can do about it

for millions of americans birdwatching is nothing less than an obsession for enthusiasts the excitement of sighting a rare species the pleasure of watching a bird in flight and the satisfaction of being able to spot and identify different birds constitute a burning passion that travels with them wherever they go the birdwatcher s handbook provides a marvelous resource for these dedicated hobbyists offering a compendium of information about european birds that will be a delight to armchair readers and vacationers alike in the birdwatcher s handbook authors paul ehrlich david dobkin darryl wheye and stuart pimm provide in depth information about british and northern european birds not found in standard guides unlike quick reference spotter s guides this volume combines helpful identification aids with thorough descriptions of the birds behavior and characteristics here you can find out where a bird nests what type

of nest it builds and which partner builds it how many eggs it lays what they look like which parent incubates them and for how long how it cares for its young what it likes to eat and its foraging habits this comprehensive volume also provides details about displays mating wintering and migration conservation status and guides to further reading for the dedicated birdwatcher on the go in one of the most popular vacation destinations for americans this information will constitute invaluable help for locating and following different birds and for identifying them by their behavior as well as their appearance and both bird loving travelers and homebound enthusiasts will delight in the comprehensive background this book provides on 515 separate species including 150 short essays on avian natural history bird watchers form a remarkable group dedicated to following their passion from the backyard to the most distant places the birdwatcher s handbook provides the information they need for both at a glance reference in the field and hours of reading pleasure at home the perfect companion to a trusted identification guide

it is generally expected that predators affect the breeding biology of prey species but most studies have had a prey biased view of the predator prey relationship without studying the predator one may draw erroneous conclusions of how predators and prey interact and conservation strategies for prey species could therefore be misleading

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