

St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park

Palawan Peacock Pheasant *Polyplectron emphanum* Hand Rearing Guidelines

Week 1

Diet:

- Small pellet or crushed gamebird starter
- 12 soft bugs (meal worms, halved waxworms)
- finely diced greens
- sprinkle of vionate

Leave diet with chicks, refresh as needed.

For first week, chicks MUST be offered food (especially live bugs) from forceps or tweezers, as Palawan chicks are very slow to start eating on their own. Hand feeding should occur at least TID (three times a day), more often if chick is reluctant to eat or losing weight.

Week 2:

Diet:

- Small pellet or crushed gamebird starter
- 12 soft bugs (meal worms, halved waxworms)
- finely diced greens
- 1 tsp. finch seed
- sprinkle of vionate

Offer a diet TID. Chicks should be eating on own. Monitor weight gain.

Week 3:

Diet:

- Small pellet or crushed gamebird starter
- 1 tbs. diced fruit mix per animal
- 12 soft bugs (meal worms, halved waxworms)
- finely diced greens
- sprinkle of vionate

Offer a diet TID. Chicks should be eating vigorously on their own. Increase fruit and soaked pellet as required. As chicks grow, it may not be necessary to dice soaked pellet or fruit mix as small.

(We modified this diet as needed as our chicks were growing. I can't remember exactly when we started feeding our adult diet to the chicks, but this is what that diet looks like:

Adult Diet (per bird):

AM:

- 1/4 c. fruit mix
- Finely chopped greens
- 1/4 c. Mazuri Gamebird Maintenance
- 1 tsp cockatiel seed
- 6 bugs

PM:

- 1/4 c Gamebird
- bugs