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Feeding Behavior of Rainbow Lorikeet (Trichoglossus haematodus haematodus) in The Hookbill Aviary of Animalium National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) Cibinong

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Abstract

The rainbow lorikeet (*Trichoglossus haematodus haematodus*) is a brightly colored nectarivorous bird known for its high adaptability, often bred in captivity. This study aimed to analyze feeding behavior, palatability and food preferences, feeding frequency and duration, and drinking intake of rainbow lorikeets at the Hookbill Aviary of Animalium BRIN Cibinong, to support optimal nutritional management. The study was conducted over 45 days using scan sampling and cafeteria feeding methods on 14 individuals. Results showed group feeding behavior, with a sequence of approaching, selecting, and consuming food. The highest feeding frequency reached 140.6 times, with a maximum feeding duration of 65.9% of daily observation time. Peak water consumption was 719 mL. Corn had the highest palatability and preference (31.4%), likely due to its high carbohydrate content and easy digestibility. Environmental factors such as temperature and humidity showed no significant correlation with feeding activity, while visitor presence caused some disturbances though statistically insignificant. It is recommended to provide semi-liquid corn-based feed and locate feeding areas away from visitor disturbance to optimize feeding behavior and captive management success.

Keywords
Trichoglossus haematodus haematodus, feeding behavior, palatability, food preference, Rainbow Lorikeet