



Pest birds

Indian mynas were brought to the ACT in 1968 and their numbers have increased exponentially. This species actively competes with the native hollow-nesting birds (parrots and Kookaburras) by destroying chicks and eggs and taking over the hollow. In 2006 the Canberra Indian Myna Action Group formed and volunteers within the community began trapping the mynas. In the years following Indian mynas went from the 3rd to the 14th most common bird in the ACT (Canberra Ornithologist Group Garden Bird Surveys).

How to help reduce their numbers:

- Do not leave dog and cat food out as Indian mynas are attracted to the coloured, meat-flavoured food. Feed your pets inside or for a limited time each day outdoors.
- Plant vegetation at all levels - groundcovers, shrubs and trees - to give habitat for different species of animals. Thickest shrubs will attract fairy-wrens, finches, spinebills and silvereyes. Native trees like Eucalyptus Euky Dwarf will give shelter /nesting sites for bigger birds. Indian mynas prefer open spaces.
- Indian mynas will nest in roof spaces. Their nests are messy and beside being a fire hazard may also harbour parasites. Close up holes around your gutters if you see mynas constantly entering and leaving the roof space.
- Do not have dense trees such as pencil pines because they will attract roosting mynas at night.
- If you have poultry or livestock do not leave food lying around - only feed out as much as the animals need and keep containers covered.
- Join the Canberra Indian Myna Action Group and actively trap the birds.

Did you know?

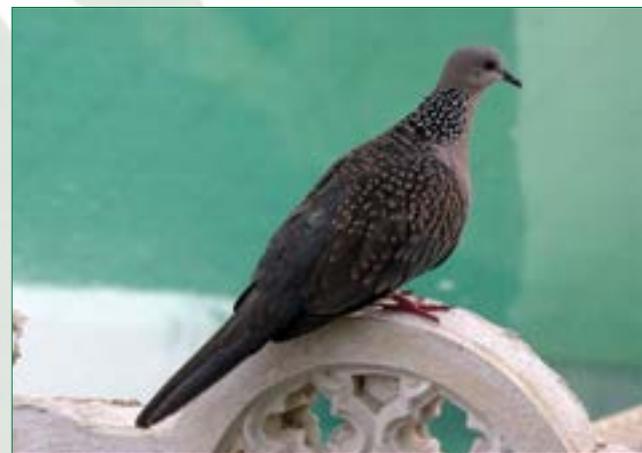
Other pest birds are Starlings, Spotted doves and Rock pigeons. They were all brought to Australia by migrants who wanted to have familiar birds and sounds in their new homes. Pest birds are considered feral and, once in the possession of a person, cannot be released (ACT Nature Conservation Act 1980).

For information about Indian mynas and Spotted doves:
www.indianmynaaction.org.au

For more information or advice contact ACT Wildlife Inc.
on **0432 300 033** or visit our website
www.actwildlife.net



Indian Myna



Spotted Dove

