



Biosecurity alert: Indian ringneck

(*Psittacula krameri*)

The pest and its impacts

Indian ringneck parakeets (*Psittacula krameri*) are not native to Australia. Because escaped or released birds are very good at establishing populations outside their native range, they are a declared pest in Western Australia.

The bird is also a destructive pest of primary production, damaging a wide variety of fruit and cereal crops.



LOOK for this pest

Indian ringneck parakeets (also called a rose-ringed parakeet or African ring-necked parakeet) are 370–430mm long (including tail) and its feathers are usually green. However, there are over 200 different colour variations, including yellow and blue.

Key points:

- male ringnecks have narrow black and pink collars on their neck
- usually seen in small groups but can form large flocks of hundreds at roosts and food sources
- very vocal with a variety of distinctive screeching calls. Their shrill 'kee-ak' call, in particular, is unlike native parrots.

How you can help: look, act, report

Indian ringneck parakeets are commonly kept as pets and are a prohibited declared pest under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*. The birds can only be held with a permit, including conditions to reduce the risk of escape.

Ringnecks are a major environmental pest, competing with native species for nest hollows, often occupying them before native birds begin to breed.



The bird is an extreme threat to Australia and must be kept in secure (preferably double-door) cages.



Large groups of ringnecks raid crops and grain storage facilities, causing enormous losses.



REPORT suspected sightings

- Be aware of any new or unusual birds
- Note the date, time and location of the bird
- Take photographs, if possible



Report your observations

MyPestGuide® Reporter
via app or online
mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au

Pest and Disease Information Service
(08) 9368 3080
padis@dpird.wa.gov.au

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