

Black Crowned Crane

Balearica pavonina



Range: Egypt and Sub-Sahara Africa

Size: :104 cm (36in)

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Weight : : 3.6 kg (8 lbs)

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Wing: : 61cm (43 in)

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Habitat: freshwater marshes

Incubation: 28-31 days

Eggs: 2-5

Fledge: 8-12 weeks

Sexual maturity: 36-48 months

Nest: circular on ground

Social: pairs

Breeding: monogamous

Movement :generally sedentary

Food: Grass seeds insects

IUCN: Vulnerable

Subspecies : 2

Longevity: captive: 30 yrs Wild: n/a

Order: Gruiformes Family: Gruidae

There are two subspecies of Black Crowned Crane. The West African subspecies lives from Senegal to Chad in north-central Africa while the Sudanese subspecies lives in Eastern Africa, mainly in Sudan.

The black crown crane lives in pairs with one or two young. They forage for insects by following large hoof stock or stamping their feet. Like other members of this family the black crown crane performs an elaborate courtship dance accompanied by vocalizations.

The major threat to the species is the pet trade. Cultural tradition in western Africa to keep a crowned crane in the residential compound. However the trade has increased and become international.