

Golden-breasted Starling

Cosmopsarus regius



Range: Northeastern Africa

Size: ♂: 35cm (13.8 in)

♀: 35cm (13.8 in)

Weight: ♂: 45-65 g (1.5-2.5 oz)

♀: 45-65 g (1.5-2.5 oz)

Wing: 11.5-13 cm (4.4-5 in)

Habitat: Scrublands

Incubation: 11-14 days

Eggs: 3-5

Fledge: 21 days

Sexual maturity: an/A

Nest: Tree cavity

Social: gregarious

Breeding: monogamous

Movement: generally sedentary

Food: Insects

IUCN: least concern

Subspecies: 3

Longevity: captive: 24 yrs Wild: N/A

Order: Passiformes Family: Sturnidae

The Golden-breasted Starling is one of the beautiful passerines in the world, with both sexes possessing a yellow belly, iridescent purple wings and a green head. It is also known as the Royal Starling. There is some dispute as to the generic name of the species with the older system using the name *Cosmopsarus*.

This species lives in family flock with up to twelve individuals. The entire flock helps in the raising of the chicks. Nests are cavities in trees abandoned by woodpeckers.

Widespread this species inhabit eleven countries in the northern part of Africa. Although there have been no formal population studies the white-crowned robin chat is quite common throughout its range.

Black vultures have keen eyesight but lack the marvelous sense of smell that its close relative the turkey vulture possesses. Since the two are sympatric, share the same geographic area, over much of their range the black vulture will often follow a turkey vulture to a carcass. Although smaller than the turkey vulture the black vulture

will usually travel in larger groups and are able to chase off the turkey vulture. In urban areas the black vulture can often be seen feeding on garbage and are a frequent visitor of garbage dumps.