



FOOD PREPARATION

WHAT ARE THE PITFALLS?



"AT VETAFARM, WE RECEIVE MANY CALLS FOR HELP DURING ANY GIVEN BREEDING SEASON. 95% OF THE PROBLEMS PEOPLE FACE ARE THE RESULT OF INCORRECT FEEDING TECHNIQUES."

GETTING TEMPERATURE ALL WRONG:

Food temp needs to be spot on and replicate the temperature of feed regurgitated by the parent bird. Feed too cold and you risk slowing digestion, or worse causing crop stasis/infection. Feed too hot and you can cause burns to the crop. These burns are often fatal. Even a minor crop burn can create complications that go on for weeks, costing you money and causing you heartache. Control and monitor the temperature of your feed by using a thermometer! The ideal temp is generally between 36-38°C.



REUSING PRE-MIXED FOOD:

Don't cut corners by recycling previous batches of mixed formula. When Vetafarm Neocare or Hand Rearing Food remain in our sealed packages, the product is essentially sterile. When you add water, mix and leave in the refrigerator, the formula becomes the ideal breeding ground for bacteria and other contaminants. Now the next feed is a cocktail of scientific award winning nutrition with a small splash of infectious pathogens.

PRO TIP: ALWAYS MIX YOUR FORMULA WITH A FORK – NOT A SPOON!



PRO TIP: NEVER USE A MICROWAVE TO HEAT FORMULA. MICROWAVES CREATE "HOT SPOTS" IN FOOD WHICH CAN LEAD TO SEVERE CROP BURNS!



MIXING FOOD INCORRECTLY:

It is amazing to see just how many people get it wrong. Common mistakes include not adding the correct amount of water to formula, rushing the mixing process and/or not allowing formula to finish absorbing water. These slip ups contribute to digestive issues in the crop of the bird. Whether formula is too thin (causing malnutrition), too thick (causing crop stasis and dehydration) or not mixed correctly (again causing crop stasis and dehydration) the simple art of mixing is VERY important.



PRO TIP: MIX FRESH BATCHES OF YOUR FORMULA FOR EVERY FEED AND DISCARD LEFT OVERS. DON'T RISK CONTAMINATION!