

BABY AND JUVENILE PSITTACINES

PROTOCOL FOR FORMULA FEEDING

During the stage of baby growth, the parrots gain weight more slowly than during the infant neonatal stage, until they reach their peak weight. With the introduction of solid food and the reduction of formula feedings, at the beginning of the juvenile stage, the birds lose a little bit of weight until they reach the weight they will approximately have as adults.

The hand-feeding formulas *PSITTACUS Alta Energía*, *PSITTACUS Alta Proteína* and *PSITTACUS Mini* are continuation formulas. They are to be used from the moment the first wing feathers start to show and up to the parrot's emancipation.

We recommend giving the formula in a solid concentration of 25%. To do that, the formula will be prepared by adding 3 parts of water (in weight) for each part of product. The proportions will be measured by weighing both components. The texture of the mix should be similar to that of shaken yoghurt. With this level of concentration, the use of the nutrients is maximized, the chick is well hydrated and the best possible speed of the digestive transit is ensured. The formula prepared this way, although its fluid texture does not make it obvious, is extremely rich in nutrients and favours excellent growth rates without the need for overfilling the bird's crop. A higher concentration of solids will not bring any added advantage, and it could, however, slow down the process of emptying the crop and produce an excessive feeling of satiety.



BABY AND JUVENILE CARE OF AFRICAN GREY PARROTS

- From 28 days of age, the African Grey should be fed the formula *PSITTACUS Alta Energía*. The bird will be offered 4 feedings a day until it is 50 days old.
- At that point (50 days of age) one feeding will be suppressed, and so the bird will be fed 3 times a day. Simultaneously, solid foods will be introduced. It is time to start making *PSITTACUS Omega* extruded food and fresh fruit and vegetables available.
- Around 75 days of age, one more feeding will be suppressed (now the bird will have 2 feedings a day). We recommend suppressing the midday feeding and keep giving the morning and evening/night feeding. Now, water will be made available to the bird.
- At 90 days of age, the morning feeding will be suppressed. Now the bird will be given 1 feeding a day. We recommend to keep the evening feeding.
- We will suppress the formula feedings completely when the parrot is 4 months old.

