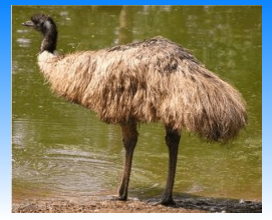


Emu

D. Novaehollandiae



What is the history of my relationship to man?

Man use the Emu as a type of livestock. Emu oil is use as an industrial graphite oil
The skin is very popular but is so thin
It has to be wrapped around cow leather to use.

Habitat / Climate

Forest and savanna woodland

They avoid arid areas

Where am I from?

I am from Australia. My family was very important in the countries history. We are even the National bird. I am the largest bird in Australia and the second largest bird in the world.



Other family members:

Penguins



Who are my relatives?

Other types of Ratites are in my family. Such as the Ostrich, Rheas and Cassowary.



Breeding Potential

Clutch size/litter?

female will lay several clutches

How am I born?

I am hatched from an egg. I am incubated for 56 days. I leave the nest within a few days of hatching. I am a little over 9 ½ inches tall at this time.

How long does it take me to grow up and how long do I live

My Dad stays with us until we are 18 months old. He protects us and shows us how to find food. We are full grown at 12 to 14 months old and will stand around 6 ½ feet tall.

Breeding Season

A	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
N	E	B	R	Y	U	U	U	E	C	O	E

What kind of family life do I have?

Emus are mostly solitary. They sometimes form large flocks mainly to look for food sources. My parents will pair up during the summer months to breed. Dad incubates the eggs once Mom lays them in the nest. He takes his job very serious and does not eat or drink while he is sitting on the nest. Once the female has laid her eggs and the male is brooding the female mates with other males.

Names for:

Adult male- Male
Adult female- Female
Young- Chicks
Group:- Flocks

What do I eat and when do I eat?

I eat a variety of seeds and insects native to Australia. In captivity I am given seeds and grains. I also like crickets, grasshoppers and caterpillars. I will graze all day, but I like you to feed me first thing in the morning.

Who are my predators?

In the wild, when we are young we are hunted by foxes, feral dogs and wild pigs. As adults we have problems with loss of habitat and collisions with cars.



Comments:

The male Emu has more blue color on the face and neck . The booming sound that you hear comes from an inflatable neck sac that the female emus have. Lucky one of our Emus here at the Ranch is imprinted with humans. She gets very protective of us and won't let other Emus near when we are in the enclosure.