

Scheepmaker's Crowned Pigeon

Coura scheepmakeri



The Scheepmaker's Crowned Pigeon is the largest Pigeon species in the world and are found only in New Guinea.

They inhabit both dry and flooded rain forests in lowland and foothills, locally to 500m. They spend most of their time on the ground and parties of 3 – 7 birds are commonplace, and more rarely groups of 10 – 30 individuals have been reported. They tend to escape danger by running away, but if sufficiently alarmed, may fly and perch on limbs in middle of trees where they are easily shot.

For such a large bird, little is known of their breeding habits in the wild. The nest is a solid, compact mass of sticks, palm fronds or coarse dead herbaceous leaves paced 3.5 – 15m above the ground. They were formerly considered to be fairly common to common, but are now rare anywhere near human settlements.



Lifespan: 25 Years

Weight: 2 – 2.2 kg

Size: 71 - 79 cm

Breeding Season: August - December

Incubation Period: 28 - 29 Days

Number of Chicks: 1

Diet: Feeds on Seeds, Berries and fallen Fruit, especially those knocked to the ground by other pigeons. Also small Crabs

Problems They Face: Habitat destruction, trapping for trade and food.

Conservation Status: Vulnerable – CITES App. II