

# THE BULLETIN BIRD

SEPTEMBER 2023

HARRISON'S BIRD FOODS NEWSLETTER

You May Not Know...



Potential causes of feather disorders in pet birds may include:

- General malnutrition
- Deficiency of omega-3 fatty acids
- Pain
- Osteoporosis
- Atherosclerosis
- Endocrine disorders
- Parasites
- Hepatopathy (liver disease)
- Granulomas
- Boredom and other behavioral problems
- Excess salt in diet
- Genetic
- Lack of social interaction
- Nesting frustration
- Excessive hormones
- Improper wing clips
- Cage mate aggression
- Uropygial gland impaction
- Aspergillosis in feather follicles
- Giardiasis
- Thyroid disorders
- Pancreatitis
- Malabsorption
- Mycotoxins
- Food allergies (e.g., peanuts, sunflower seeds)
- Dander from other birds
- Panic following traumatic episode
- Lack of exercise
- Lack of bathing opportunities
- Excess dietary selenium (Brazil nuts)



Is it any wonder that feather disorders are difficult to diagnose? Offering Harrison's is a good first step to getting a diagnosis.

## An Interesting Tidbit...

Glyphosate, the most widely used herbicide globally, has been linked to neurological impairments in some occupational studies. These findings provide the first evidence that glyphosate exposure may be associated with neurological health outcomes in the US adult population.\*



\*Hsiao, CCI, Yang A-M, Wang C, Lin C-Y: Association between glyphosate exposure and cognitive function, depression, and neurological diseases in a representative sample of US adults: NHANES 2013-2014 analysis. Environmental Research Vol 237, Part 1, Nov 15, 2023, 116860.



By E. V. Voltura, PhD - Avian Nutritionist, Texas A&M University

Did you know that industry standards for parrots' dietary sodium requirements (1500 to 2200 parts per million [ppm] sodium) are based on poultry nutrition studies? Research on both wild and captive parrots shows that healthy parrots need diets containing closer to between 350 and 600 ppm sodium, while stressed, ill or otherwise health-compromised parrots likely require a bit more (800 ppm sodium). Consuming an excess of sodium on a long-term basis can lead to numerous health problems. When you include Harrison's Adult Lifetime and High Potency formulas in your parrot's diet, they get the amount of sodium they need to keep them healthy rather than amounts high enough to negatively impact their health and well-being. We believe parrots and chickens should not be fed the same way!



## A Brief Focus On...

Scan here for Quick Tips for Converting Your Bird to Harrison's Bird Foods. Some birds will readily eat the new food, while others may require a little encouragement.

If your bird exhibits resistance to eating Harrison's nuggets, try the quick tips available here.

This QR code will allow you to access entertaining pages on how to convince a reluctant bird to try a new food.

