


Laughing Kookaburra (*Dacelo novaeguineae*) ^{4,9}

Adult Weight	310-380g (females heavier). Blue-winged Kookaburra 260-340g.	
Natural Diet	Insects, spiders, skinks, small reptiles.	
Secondary Diet	Worms, snails, crustaceans, fish, frogs, small mammals & birds.	
Captive Diet	Insectivore Meat Mix (Appendix 1). Crickets, mealworms, woodies, whole or chopped mice, pinkie rats.	
Juvenile Diet	As per adult diet. Insectivore may be made up as moist pellets (Appendix 1).	

Age = 3 weeks

Growth & Feed Chart

May be used as a guideline for **Blue-winged Kookaburra**.

Age (weeks)	Developmental Stage	Wing (mm)	Weight ^a (g)	Feed ^b (g/day)
Hatch	Blind, pink & naked. Egg tooth present.	15	25	8
1	Eyes closed. Pin feathers emerging along tracts.	21	80	18
2	Eyes open. Spiky pin feathers covering body.	40	160	30
3	Pin feathers unsheathing on body.	80	240	40
4	Fully-feathered, with remnants of sheaths.	120	270	45
5	Fledging - short tail.	160	290	40
10	Independent, self-feeding. Prepare for release.	190	310	40
Adult	Size varies between individuals. Females larger.	210		
		220	380	45

a. Weight is not an accurate indicator of age. Average weight gain from 1-4 weeks is 7-13g/day.

b. Feed rate is based on Insectivore Meat Mix, should be adjusted for calorific density of other foods.

Adult Maintenance Diet

350g adult requires 40g/day (320kJ)

- 30g **Insectivore Meat Mix** (3 tablespoons).
- 6g Crickets (approx. 20 x crickets).
- 4g Mealworms (approx. 30 x mealworms).

Other invertebrates or mice may be substituted for part of the diet.