

BEHAVIOURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET
(*PSITTACULA KRAMERI*) IN THE WILD AT POLONNARUWA, SRI LANKA
II. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BEHAVIOURS 'DEBARKING BY FEMALES'
AND 'AGGREGATES'

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The perch-biting behaviour reported for captive rose-ringed parakeets in the absence of nest boxes¹ and the perch-biting behaviour of the orange-fronted parakeet² is considered as probable explanations for the debarking behaviour of females, recorded for the first time in the wild.

The aggregates showed a 1:1 sex ratio (X^2 25.96, d.f. 8, n.s.),³ and thus differ from 'social groups' of 'units' reported for American parrots⁴ and Cockatoos⁴. It is postulated that these aggregates are a behavioural interaction leading to pair formation.

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References

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2. Hardy, J.W. (1963) Epigamic and reproductive behaviour of the orange-fronted parakeet Ondor 65 169 - 199.
3. Hardy, J.W. (1965) Flock social behaviour of the orange-fronted parakeet Ondor 67 140 - 156.
4. Forshaw, Joseph M., (1981) Parrots of the world. David & Charles (Publishers) Ltd.