PHEASANTS OF THE WORLD

Malay Great Argus

Rheinard's Created Argus

Congo Peacock

Indian Peafowl

Japanese Green Peafowl

Western Tragopan

Satyr Tragopan

Caper's Tragopan

Blyth's Tragopan

Tremminck's Tragopan

Indian Red Junglefowl

Tibetan White Eared Pheasant

Blue Eared Pheasant

Brown Eared Pheasant

Himalayan Monal (Impeyan)

Schrader's Monal

Chinese Monal

Common Koklass

Mikado Pheasant

Elliot's Pheasant

Hume's Bar-Tailed Pheasant

Himalayan Blood Pheasant

Green Junglefowl

Sonora's Junglefowl

Golden Pheasant

Lady Amherst's Pheasant

Cheer Pheasant

Reeve's Pheasant

Chinese Ring-Necked Pheasant

Jim's Copper Pheasant

Scintillating Copper Pheasant

The Malay Crested Fireback

Bornean Crested Fireback

Veilhée's Crested Fireback

La Fayette's Junglefowl

Lesser Bornean Crested Fireback

Simms Fireback

Bulwer's Wattlef Pheasant

Edwards's Pheasant

Nepal Kailij

White-Crested Kailij

Swinhoo's Pheasant

True Silver Pheasant

Imperial Pheasant

Salvador's Pheasant

Germain's Peacock Pheasant

Himalayan Grey Peacock Pheasant

Rothchild's Peacock Pheasant

North Sumatran Bronze-Tailed Peacock Pheasant

Maley Peacock Pheasant

Peach-

Peacock Pheasant

Bornean Peacock Pheasant

Produced and Published by Charles Scribner, New York, U.S.A.

Original Paintings by

CHARLES SHEELIE

by 1921 New York, U.S.A.

Copyright 1921

First American Edition 1921

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publishers.

Printed in the U.S.A.
PHEASANTS OF THE WORLD

Pheasants belong to a group of birds called Gamebirds Galliformes which are without question the most important group of birds to Man. There are 50 species of pheasants as well as many subspecies of which all except the Congo Peafowl, come from Asia.

This large family of birds contains some surprises. For instance one well known pheasant is the Indian Peafowl which is held sacred in many parts of that country. Also from the same part of the world comes the Red Junglefowl.

The Red Junglefowl can justly claim to be the most important bird species to Man since it is the wild ancestor of all Man's domestic chickens which have been developed through the ages to produce today's multi-egg producers. On the way many exotic looking poultry species have also been evolved.

Yet whilst Man has been developing the Red Junglefowl into the commercial bird that it is today, he has been neglecting its wild ancestors and related species. Now over half of the 48 pheasant species you will see illustrated overleaf are at risk in the wild.

Why are so many at risk in the wild? The answer is not so much hunting by Man, for the pheasants can usually survive this, just as they survive other predators in a balanced ecological environment. It is Man's predation of the forest and the habitat that they need for survival, that is the major cause of their decline. Almost all pheasants require forest and woodland, for their daily needs such as roosting, cover from predators and for food. In the Himalayas they require forests for survival in the winter. When the forests go the pheasants go and when they both go Man will not be far behind. The soil of new farmland soon gets washed from the mountainsides of the Himalayas in the monsoon rains which also cause flooding in the plains and worse. The pheasants may be indicator birds of the health of the environment we live in.

To try and redress some of the balance the World Pheasant Association International has dedicated itself to the conservation of all the gamebirds appointed as a Joint Parent Body with BirdLife International (ICBP) of the five Specialist Groups recognised by the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Nature Conservation (IUCN).

WPA has projects in many parts of Asia, South America and Europe and has been helped with a number of these by the British Airways Assisting Conservation scheme. If you would like to contribute to the cost of our projects or learn more about the World Pheasant Association, please write to the address below.

World Pheasant Association,
PO Box 5,
Lower Basildon,
Reading,
Berks RG8 9PF
Tel: 0118 9845140
Fax: 0118 9843369
e-mail 100326.641@compuserv.com