

**Hand-rearing Javan Banded Pitta, *Pitta quajana*, Waddesdon Manor Aviary**

**Gavin Harrison**

Chick hatched in brooder at 36.5°C and 70%+ humidity.

Date	Day	Weight grams	Temp°C	Hum%	Notes
10/08/13	0	4.4	35.5	70+	Chick hatched at 11.00, vocalising faintly from hatch (unlike previous two chicks). First feed at 17:00 (6 hours after hatch), one small drop of fluid CCF & Avipro drop touched to roof of mouth when gaping and 1 very small piece of pinkie organs (no bigger than a drop of water). Then one small piece of pinkie organ and drop of fluid with CCF & Avipro offered every 90 minutes until 22:00. Chick stretched neck forward gaping, slight head rotation. Tapping the side of the brooder and kissing noises provoked begging response. Chick fed without removing from brooder, very reactive throughout rearing to surrounding environment. Keep brooder in quiet place without movement and loud noise! Keep chick in tissue lined cup at 40° angle to allow easier position for chick when feeding, as does not beg upright like other species. Wet tissue paper in bottom of brooder changed regularly.
11/08	1	4.8	35.5	70	First feed at 06:00 - one drop of CCF & Avipro and one small piece of pinkie organs. Then the same was offered every 90 minutes till 22:00. The first faecal was passed at 09.30 (23 hours after hatch). Another faecal was passed at 18:30, faecal very large and well formed.
12/08	2	6.9	35.5	70	First feed at 05:30, faecal passed at second feed 07:00. Feed remained the same - 1-2 drops of CCF & Avipro and 1-2 small pieces of pinkie organ (slight increase in size of feed) every 90 minutes. Further faecal passed at 14:00, 17:00 and 21:00 - faecal large and well-formed each time.
13/08	3	10.0	35.5	70	First feed at 05:30, chick a little sluggish, faecal passed. Second feed at 07:00. Pins breaking through on wings and bumps visible on head and spine. Continued to feed every 90 minutes - still just 1-2 drops of CCF & Avipro solution and 1-2 small pieces of pinkie organ. Nutrobal added to pinkie organs at feed, and as with previous feed a drop of fluid placed on pinkie organ before feeding. At 15:00, some whole pinkie (with milk feed removed) incorporated into feed: 60% organ 40% whole pinkie finely chopped into slurry. 1-2 drops of fluid added to mix before feeding. Faecal passed 07:00, 15:00, 18.30. Last feed at 21:00 as would not feed at 22:30. Occasional handling every 3-4 hours may encourage faecal.
14/08	4	15.3	34.8	70	First feed at 05:30, again seemed a little sluggish to feed, hot water steam bath placed in brooder (important to monitor temperature as hot water can super heat brooder). Feed consisted of 60:40 pinkie organ and whole pinkie finely chopped into slurry, nutrobal added. Still offering 1-2 drops of CCF & Avipro solution at each feed. Pin feathers breaking though on head and spine. At 08:30, feed changed to 40 : 40 : 20 pinkie organ, whole pinkie, papaya with Nutrobal. Faecal passed at 07:00, 12:00, 15:00, 18:00. Stomach seemed to be bulging at 19:30 so fluids given.
15/08	5	22.1	34.6	70	Fairly sluggish however stomach reduced, 1-2 drops of CCF & Avipro solution offered and small feed at 05:00, eyes partly open. Large faecal passed at 07:00, subsequently more responsive. At 08:30, feed and closed band placed on right leg size L. After 08:30, time between feeds increased to 120 minutes. Papaya was removed from feed since first feed, only whole pinkie with occasional cricket abdomen and mealworm innards offered. Approximately 1g of food per feed at this point. Faecal passed at 07:00, 12.30, 18:30. Last feed at 22:30, stomach swollen at this point but chick still

					interested in feed.
16/08	6	29.3	34	70	First feed at 06:00, gaping for feed and more responsive than previous mornings. Large faecal passed at 08:00, eyes now open. Feed consisted of chopped whole pinkie, cricket abdomens and mealworm innards. Chick still being fed in brooder, just removing lid for short time, keeping wet tissue in brooder bottom but changing daily. Faecal passed at 08:00, 14:00, 18:00, 20:00 and 22:00 - last faecal smaller than previous.
17/08	7	37.0	33.5	70	First feed at 06:00, large faecal passed and more food given after faecal. At 10:00, 20% papaya added to pinkie mix. Pins coming through all over body. Large faecals passed at 12:00, 16:00, 20:00. Last feed at 22:00, fawn coloured feather on belly. Weight 34.6g after faecal AM.
18/08	8	43.2	33.5	70	First feed at 06:00, large faecal passed, feed consisted of pinkie/papaya mix 60:40 and waxmoth larvae with head removed. Faecal passed at 10:00, 14:00, 18:00, 20:00. Partially digested waxmoth in faecal at 20:00 - monitor closely. Faecal passed at 22:00, small and some liquid projectile faecal passed.
19/08	9	55.2	32.5	70	First feed at 06:00. At 08:00, first faecal passed with some partially digested food in faecal. Avipro added to subsequent feeds. Faecal passed at 12:00, seemed normal again, and then 16:30, 18:00, 20:00 with last feed at 22:00.
20/08	10	57.8	31.5	70	First feed at 06:00, pinkie/papaya 60:40, insects and soaked T-16 pellets offered every 120 minutes with occasional CCF & Avipro solution offered (1-2 drops) and dropped over food. Chick wiping bill after feeds and preening very occasionally, feathers still mainly in keratin sheath. Faecal passed at 06:00, 10:00, 12:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00 faecal - at 22:00 a little dry and small and not in sac.
21/08	11	69.6	30.5	70	First feed at 06:00, no faecal passed. Chick out of dish at 12:00, feed same as previous day. Faecal passed at 12:30 and then at each 2 hourly feed.
22/08	12	66.7	30.5	70	First feed 6:30 chick out of dish. Chick standing up on legs flapping wings briefly, feathers still in sheath still not preening yet. Diet same as previous day every 120 minutes.
23/08	13	69.6	30	70	First feed at 06:30, large faecal passed. Regularly hopping out of nest cup, feather sheaths starting to flake away not seen preening regularly as yet. More active in brooder standing up flapping wings. A dog had been in kitchen where brooder was cited and at midday the chick seemed aggravated - crouching down - and subsequently sluggish at feeds. Believed that stress of dog and new people caused subsequent loose faeces. Keeping stress to minimum seems to be very important as chicks easily spooked. Keep brooder in same place all the time.
24/08	14	66.6	29.2	50-60	First feed at 06:00, loose faecal passed, weight down suspected that stress from previous day caused weight loss and loose faecal. Loose faecal at 08:00, preening after feed. Standing up fully on legs jumping out of nest cup continually. Preening feather sheaths of rapidly now. Faecal improved throughout the day.
25/08	15	66.7	28.2	40-55	Loose faecal out of sac at first feed, feathers 80% preened out of sheath. Very active at 13:00, given whole crickets with hind legs removed and white mealworms. Preening and scratching regularly. 18:00 normal faecal passed, reduction in pinkie mix now taking halved whole pinkie and mainly insects and soaked T-16 pellets. Expect this would have been fledged day.
26/08	16	63.3	25.2	40-55	Very active, down in weight - expect normal post fledge weight loss. Feather pattern cream coloured spots getting dense to centre of breast, no bands visible. From description of sexual dimorphism in Marcodes paper, believed to be female. At 14:15, chick moved to isolation cage placed under red light. Rubber mat on floor to reduce potential foot problems. Diet whole pinkie, chopped fruit and T-16 and insects.
27/08	17	60.6	24	Room	Adult diet offered in dish, still tweezer feeding insects, whole pinkie, chopped fruit and T-16 pellet.

					Tweezer feed offered every 180 minutes 07:00 till 20:00.
28/08	18	59.2	Red light	Room	Feed same as previous day. Seen bathing for first time. Blue tail feathers visible.
29/08	19	57.4	Red light	Room	Food offered from adult diet by tweezer, still getting 3-4 whole pinkie daily.
30/08	20	-	Red light	Room	Banded pin feathers visible under juvenile fawn chest feathers.
02/09	23	-	Red light	Room	Starting to pick up insects and pinkie from dish.
04/08	25	-	Red light	Room	Starting to pick food up from floor at tweezer feed. Banded feathers visible on chest.
05/08	26	77.7	Red light	Room	Taking whole pinkie from dish. Still offering 3-4 pinkies daily as well as adult diet.
11/08	32	-	Red light	Room	Stopped tweezer feeding today. To continue whole pinkies daily.



Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



Day 4



Day 5



Day 6



Day 7



Day 8



Day 9



Day 10



Day 11



Day 12



Day 13



Day 14



Day 15



Day 16

