

Waddesdon Manor Hand-rearing Protocol
Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*
Andrew Owen June 2006

Day	Temp	Freq/Diet	Description	Comments
3	34.5°C	Feed 60% Pinkie mouse/40% Papaya mix every 1½ hours 10x/day. The mixture is chopped to a creamy consistency. Add small amount Nutrobal multi-vitamin every 2 nd mix	Pink skin, wispy dark grey down, white gape flanges, pink gape, dark pins emerging from under skin.	Kept in ceramic pot, lined with kitchen roll and a nest of coco-fibre to help feet to grip and prevent splayed legs
4	34°C	Feed every 2 hours 10x/day. First feed at 05.00hrs Last feed at 23.00hrs		Begs in response to repeated quick 'kissing' sounds. Faecal sacs produced usually every second feed
6	33°C		Eyes starting to open. Pins emerging on wings, breast and back	Faecal sac produced & removed after first morsel of food given
7	33°C	Add a pinch of ACE high Multi-vitamin to food mixture	Eyes start to open. Speckled brown pins starting to erupt on flanks	
9	32°C	1 st feed at 06.00. Last feed at 22.00	Eyes partially open. Speckled brown feathers emerging on breast, back and flanks	Begging response much reduced during evening feeds
10	32°C		Eyes more than half open, speckled dark and pale golden brown feathers emerging on underside	Emitting grating call and snapping bill defensively when disturbed
11	32°C		Dark feathers emerging all over body, these are tipped with rich chestnut, giving dotted appearance	
12	32°C	Soft-bodied insects and pieces of papaya and blueberry added to diet	Able to distinguish birds' sex as wing feathers begin to emerge. Males have black/blue feathers, females have pale chestnut brown feathers	

14	30°C Brooder turned off during day	1 st feed 06.30. Last feed 22.00. Pinkie and Papaya mix removed from diet		Emitting high pitched call
16	Room Temp.	Feed every 3 hours 6x/day Offered a dish of adult diet with a large amount of live insects		Moved to small fledging cage.
16		Wax moth larvae, white mealworms, crickets, papaya, blueberries		Able to fly very well
18				Moved to larger cage on quarantine. Starting to peck at insects and bits of papaya
19				Seen eating wax moth larvae
21		Reduce tweezer feeds to 3x/day		Self feeding, chasing crickets, pecking at Papaya. Still begging for food
22				Took first bath in shallow dish of water
24		Stopped tweezer feeds. Still offering wide variety of live insects 4 times a day in addition to adult diet		
26				Chicks independent, although continuing to occasionally beg for food