

## Family : Nectariniidae

115. Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>
116. Small Sunbird	<i>N. minima</i>
117. Loten's Sunbird	<i>N. lotenia</i>
118. Purple Sunbird	<i>N. asiatica</i>

## Family : Ploceidae

119. Yellow-throated Sparrow	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>
120. House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
121. White-backed Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>
122. Black-headed Munia	<i>L. malacca</i>
123. Spotted Munia	<i>L. punctulata</i>

## Family : Fringillidae

124. Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
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## NOTE

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## A CASE OF OBSTRUCTIVE ASPHYXIA IN PYTHON (*PYTHON MOLURUS*)

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The Apex Centre, Jaipur received a carcass of python in the month of January 1998 from the Zoological Park, Jaipur. With the animal going off-feed during the winter months on account of hibernation, the zoo authorities apparently could not note of the deteriorating health condition of the snake. The general body condition of the carcass was good and the animal measured about 8 feet 6 inch in length. The carcass had no external marks of injury.

All the visceral organs presented white foci of variable size on the exposed surfaces. The gastro-intestinal tract when opened for examination, was found to be totally empty except for the presence of thick mucigenous mass in the posterior part of the intestine. The anterior part of small intestine had numerous round worms attached to the mucosa of the lumen. However, no pathognomonic lesions could be detected in the gastrointestinal tract.

The respiratory tract was explored from mouth to lung through

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trachea. About 6 inches posterior to mouth the lumen of trachea was found completely occluded with a mass of growth (more than 2 inches long). An incision on the mass revealed the presence of thick pus. Abscesses of variable sizes were found scattered throughout the trachea and in the lung. The lung was found to be totally collapsed. Heart was found empty.

The pus samples along with piece of lung and mucus from intestine were collected for further laboratory investigation. Gram's stained smears of the pus and impression smear of lung revealed the presence of Gram negative non-sporulated rods.

The pus sample was inoculated in blood agar medium. The bacterial growth appearing after incubation at 37°C for 24-36 hours was subjected to purification by subculturing and generic identification tests as per usual microbiological techniques of identification (Carter, 1967). The bacterial isolate recovered from pus sample was identified as *Corynebacterium (Actinomyces) pyogenes*.

The mucus sample was inoculated in Mac Conkey and S S agar media. The bacterial growth appearing on the media were identified as *Estreuria coli*, *Proteus* sp. and *Salmonella* sp.

The clinical history, post mortem examinations and laboratory investigation were suggestive of obstructive asphyxia as the cause of death in the Python. Rao *et al.* (1980) reported concomittant occurrence of *Corynebacterium pyogenes* and *Pseudomonas aruginosa* in mouth lesions of cobra. Kaura *et al.* (1972), Sethi *et al.* (1980a&b) and, Mishra and Verma (1981) have also reported the presence of enteric bacteria in python and other snakes.

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