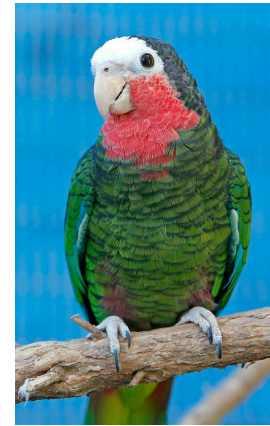




CUBAN AMAZON

PSITTACIFORMES
Family: Psittacidae
Genus: *Amazona*
Species: *leucocephala*



Range: Cuba, the Bahamas, and Cayman Islands in the Caribbean

Habitat: woodlands and dry forests, limestone forests, savannah with pine and palm trees

Niche: Arboreal, herbivorous, diurnal

Diet: Wild: fruits and seeds (inc. the fruits of palm trees and West Indian mahogany seeds)
Zoo:

Life Span: Wild:

Zoo:

Sexual Dimorphism:

Location in SF Zoo: South American Tropical Rainforest and Aviary

APPEARANCE & PHYSICAL ADAPTATIONS:

The Cuban Amazon is a medium-sized mainly green parrot with some blue feathers in its wings. The green feathers are edged with a black rim giving it a scaled appearance. The head is a distinctive combination of pinky-red on the throat and cheeks, and white on the forecrown and around the eyes. The eyes are pale olive-green, its beak is horn-colored, and the feathers over the ears are blackish. The legs are pink.

They have zygodactylous feet for climbing.

Weight: 8.4 – 9.1 oz
Length: 11–13 in
Wingspan:
Tail Length:

STATUS AND CONSERVATION:

Due to ongoing habitat loss, occasional natural disasters and trapping for the wild parrot trade, the Cuban Amazon is evaluated as Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List. It is listed on Appendix I of CITES. It has a small range, but this is not yet severely fragmented or restricted to few locations.

CUBAN AMAZON

COMMUNICATION AND OTHER BEHAVIOR:

In the winter Cuban Amazons gather in flocks, and disperse into pairs during the breeding season. They are very noisy, especially when they occur in flocks. Their calls are described as loud shrieks, whistles, screeches and some trumpet-like sounds. Some notes are drawn out and resonant. In flight, they utter harsh *squawk-squawk* sounds.

COURTSHIP AND YOUNG:

Breeding occurs from March to June. Throughout most of their range, they nest in tree cavities, such as abandoned woodpecker nest holes, and dead palms that have lost their foliage. The Abaco Island (Bahamas) population, however, has adapted to nesting underground in limestone crevices, where they are protected from wildfires.

The male assumes responsibility for feeding the brooding female. The altricial young hatch about 12 - 72 hours apart. Their eyes open when they are about 2 - 3 weeks old. These amazons have been known to double-clutch given the right conditions.

Incubation: 26 – 28 days	Sexual Maturity:
# of Eggs: 2 - 5	Fledging: 56 - 60 days

MISCELLANEOUS:

Four subspecies of the Cuban Amazon are recognized:

A. l. leucocephala, *A. l. bahamensis*, *A. l. caymanensis* and *A. l. hesterna*

SOURCES:

The Handbook of the Birds of the World Vol IV © 1996, Lynx Edicions, p 467

http://www.parrots.org/index.php/encyclopedia/profile/cuban_amazon/

<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/speciesfactsheet.php?id=1660>

<http://www.avianweb.com/cubanamazon.html>

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