

The Great Crowned Pigeon (Goura cristata) of New Guinea, adult and nestling, in the collections of the Zoological Society of San Diego.

This spectacular pigeon is the largest of the species in the family Columbidae. Its coloration is blue-gray, except for a chestnut mantle and white wing-patch. The juvenile is similar. The photograph shows a nestling 24 days old. In this first nesting of the species at the San Diego Zoo, the one egg laid was incubated for 28 days, and incubation proceeded as in other pigeons, with both sexes sharing care and relieving each other twice a day. The photograph, taken on August 5, 1954, was contributed by Kenton C. Lint, Curator of Birds at the San Diego Zoo.