

Eastern Crested Guineafowl

Scientific Name: *Guttera pucherani*

Class: Aves

Order: Galliformes

Family: Numididae



Overall dark gray to black covered with whitish spots. The most recognizable feature is the short curly mop of black feathers on the head. The rest of the head and neck is bare revealing blue skin. There is red skin around the eye and on the neck, eyes are red, legs are dark brown to black. The females are slightly smaller than the males.

Range

Somalia, Kenya, northeastern Tanzania, and on the islands of Zanzibar and Tumbatu

Habitat

Scrub or dense thickets and grass

Gestation

Incubation: 23-28 days

Litter

Clutch size: Normally 4-5 eggs, but up to 7

Behavior

They are monogamous with strong and long lasting pair bonds. They are generally sedentary, but can cover considerable distances during daily wanderings.

Reproduction

Lay mainly during rains, but throughout the year in equatorial zone. The nest is a scrape on the ground with sparse lining, mainly of dead leaves and grass, usually well hidden. Chicks have down that has dark longitudinal stripes. They can fly at about 12 days, and are fledging at about 30 days.

Wild Diet

Insects, seeds, and roots