

# Cotton Pygmy Goose

Scientific Name : *Nettapus coromandelianus* Gmelin, 1789  
Common Name : Asian Cotton Pygmy Goose or Cotton Teal  
Local Name : Hari Hansh

## General description:

It is the smallest waterfowl on earth, as little as 160 g and 26cm, White predominates in this bird's plumage. The bill is short, deep at base and goose-like. Male in breeding plumage is glossy blackish green crown, with white head, neck and underparts; a prominent black collar and white wing-bar. the wings of the male during flight look green with a white back, making the male conspicuous even amongst the huge flying flocks of the Lesser Whistling Duck, which share the same habitat. Female is paler without either black collar and only a narrow or nonexistent strip of white wing-bar.



## Call/ Vocalization:

They make peculiar clucking noises.

## Distribution:

Native to Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Papu New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam while Vagrant to Bahrain, Iran, Jordan, Maldives and United Arab Emirates.



# Cotton Pygmy Goose

## Habitat:

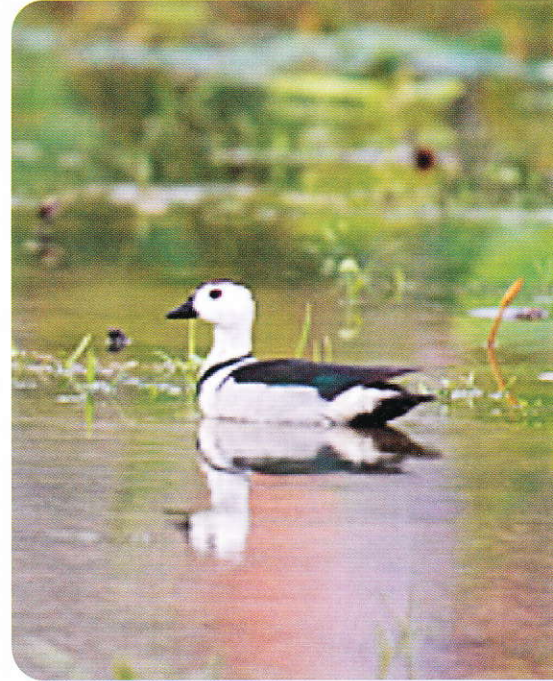
It inhabits Freshwater lakes (over 8 ha)

## Feeding behavior:

It feeds on seeds and other vegetation, especially water lilies, also insects, crustaceans, etc.

## Breeding/Nesting:

The breeding season is from July to September (South west monsoon). It nests in tree holes-in a trunk standing in or near water. The nest is sometimes lined with grass, rubbish and feathers. The hen lays 6 to 12 ivory white eggs.



## Status in Ghodaghodi Lake Area:

The project has identified this as an indicator species. The first baseline study conducted in summer 2009 has recorded a total of 188 species, including the nesting site for the first time, which generally used to breed in Pokhara valley. The above increase of number could be attributed to the habitat management undertaken by the project.

Status: IUCN Red List: Least Concern  
NP&WC Act 1973: Non Protected  
CITES: Not included



Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands in Nepal (CSUWN)  
Training Section Building, Second Floor, Forestry Complex  
Babar Mahal, Kathmandu  
Phone: 977-01-4226230/4229669 Fax: 977-01-4229670  
Email: [info@wetlands.org.np](mailto:info@wetlands.org.np)  
URL: [www.wetlands.org.np](http://www.wetlands.org.np)