

tion. In their historical review of psittaciform taxonomy, Sibley and Ahlquist (1972) concluded that: '... on the arrangement of groups within the parrots there is little agreement. Some groups, such as the cockatoos, seem to be natural, but their nearest relatives among the parrots are obscure. The parrots have had a complex evolutionary history and their inter-relationships need further study'. From their own studies of egg-white proteins Sibley and Ahlquist declined to draw any conclusions on possible relationships within the order, pending the acquisition of data from many more genera. This picture of wide variability and complex patterns of evolution is confirmed by the karyology. Keeping in mind the above reflections, it is to be expected that in the future karyology will contribute significantly to elucidating the obscure phylogeny of the parrots.

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### Addendum

After this paper was prepared it came to the authors' knowledge that three additional papers on karyotypes of parrots by De Lucca currently are in press. These are:

- De Lucca, E. J., 1983. A comparative study of the chromosomes in five species of birds of the genus *Aratinga* (Psittaciformes: Aves). *Cytologia*. (Dealing with *Aratinga aurea*, *A. cactorum*, *A. leucophthalmus*, *A. solstitialis* and *A. auricapilla*.)
- De Lucca, E. J., 1983. Chromosomal polymorphism in *Forpus xanthopterygius* (Psittaciformes: Aves). *Caryologia*.
- De Lucca, E. J., 1983. The somatic chromosomes of *Brotogeris sanctithomae* and *Brotogeris versicolorus* (Psittaciformes: Aves). *Genética ibérica*.