



## TOTTOT (Mariana fruit-dove)

*Ptilinopus roseicapilla*

**Endangered Species**  
**Endemic to the Marianas**  
**Extinct on Guam**

Called "tottot" in Chamorro, the Mariana fruit-dove once graced Guam's forests with its smooth cooing call and beautiful bright colors. Brown tree snake (kulepbla) predation, however, has caused its extinction on Guam, although an occasional sighting is still reported, especially after a storm hits Rota. The tottot is still found on other Mariana Islands, from Rota to Saipan.

The tottot has a purple cap, yellow and orange breast and bright yellow tail band. Its feathers are mostly green which allows them to blend into the leaves of trees as they make short flights to look for food. They eat fruits, such as figs, inkberry and papaya.

The tottot lays only one egg in a flimsy nest built in the fork of a branch. Like all doves, the young are fed a milky substance produced in the lining of the parent's throat sac or "crop." The young are later fed fruit which has been partially digested.

This shy, easily disturbed bird is especially significant for Guam because it is our Territorial Bird, the symbol of our island.

The Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources hopes that one day, when the kulepbla population is controlled or eradicated, the tottot will be able to be reintroduced to Guam's forests.