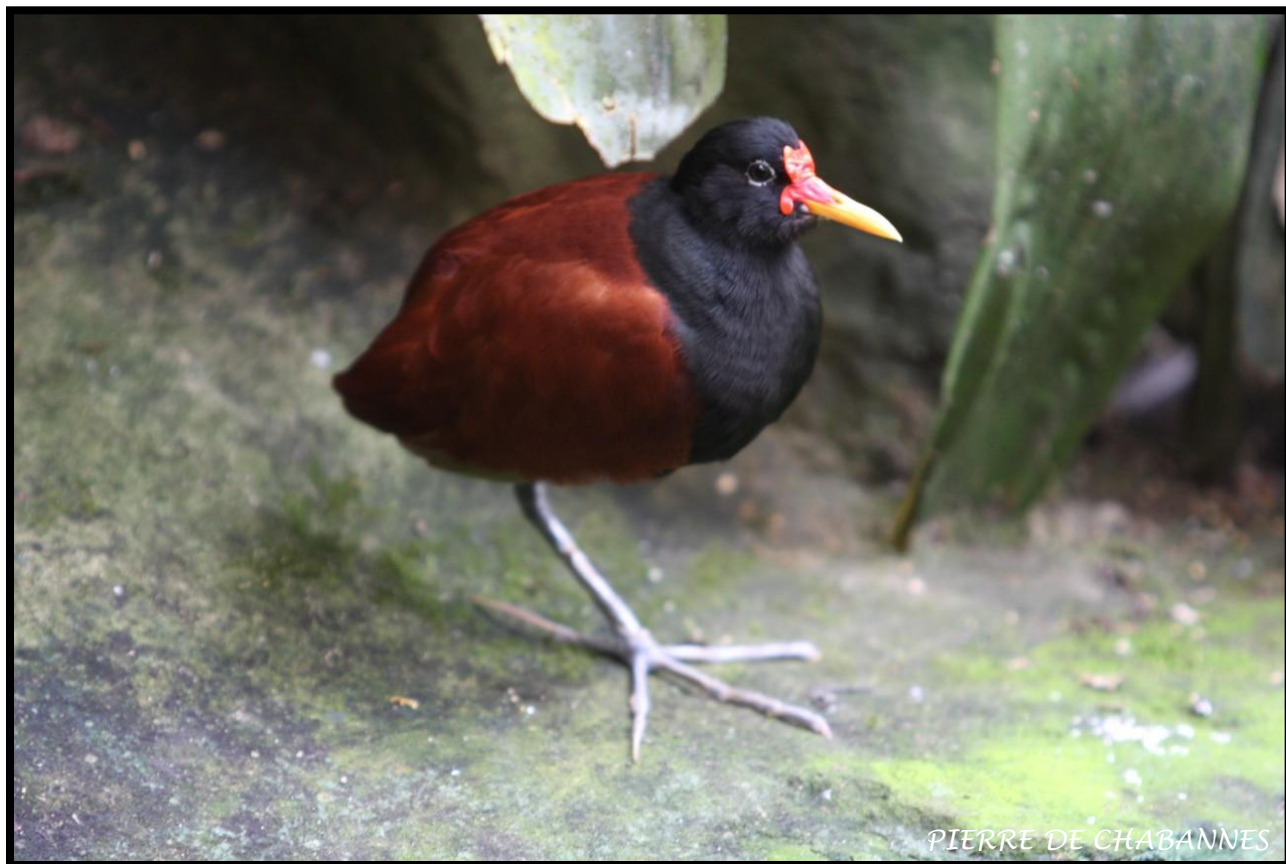


WATTLED JACANA

Jacana jacana

Linnaeus, 1766



CLASSIFICATION

Class: Aves

Order: Charadriiformes

Family: Jacanidae

6 subspecies recognized



NOT LISTED

FAIRLY COMMON



LEAST CONCERN

Identification: Adults can reach 25 cm in length for a weight of 150 g. Long grey legs with elongated and very thin toes. Bright yellow bill with a bi-lobed red comb on forehead and chin. Plumage mostly black with brown back and wings.

Range: The species is found from south and western Panama to Colombia, then east to Guianas, south to Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and north Argentina.

Habitat : Wetlands, flooded forests and grasslands with emerging vegetation.

Behavior: Uses its long toes to step on lilies. Feeds on insects and their larvae, also on seeds. Females defend breeding territory and mate with more than one male.

Status in the wild: The species is dependant on wetlands and is potentially threatened by habitat destruction. In other areas, its range has expanded.

In captivity: The commonest jacana species in captivity around the world, known from nearly 20 European collections. Also kept and bred in American and Asian zoos. Subspecies in captivity usually unidentified. Nominate subspecies is most likely kept.