

Bands

Every year we have the opportunity to purchase club bands that have the “WWC” logo on them indicating that the bird is a pure breed Waterslager. These bands are purchased and imported from Belgium. We use the same manufacturer as the top Waterslager clubs in Europe. These are very high quality bands. Many people that have used bands manufactured in America have noticed that the bands can be irritating and many canaries become “band pickers”. You get far less of that with these European bands. Since these bands come from Belgium, it takes time for the orders to be processed and then mailed to the USA. Sometimes they get stuck in customs and can take a little longer. For this reason, to order breeder ID bands with the options below you must order by October 1st of each year. Your bands will be mailed out to you after January 1st of each year.

Membership: Membership goes from January to December each year. You must pay the membership dues for 2021 before or at the same time as ordering your bands. The options to pay both are next to each other on the WWC website. <http://western-waterslager.com/wordpress/membership-sales/>. This website is a little different than in the past, please let me know if you experience any problems. There is still the option of either downloading the form and mailing it in with a check or using PayPal.

Size: You have the option of purchasing bands in 3.0mm or 3.2mm sized bands. To look at them individually they are very hard to tell the difference. Even together they can be hard to tell the difference. However, with the 3.2mm size you get an extra couple days to band the babies if they grow a little too fast, or you’re a little late. Some people like the slightly snugger fit of the 3.0mm size, and I think you get a little less band picking with them? (That is just my opinion) We are at the point were about half the people order 3.0 and half order 3.2. Some people buy some of each just in case they are late banding. I personally use the 3.2mm, you of course have the option of getting whatever you like.



Breeder ID: You also have the option of choosing your breeder ID. Some people like to use their initials; others use their name if it is short enough. Still others pick an ID that may match another club. You can go up to 4 characters and it can be any number or letter combination. All numbers, all letters, or both. The only stipulation is that it cannot already be used by someone else. Using a breeder ID allows you to pick any number sequence you want because even if another breeder has your number, i.e. 001, your bird can still be distinguished using your breeder ID.

Sequence: You can choose whatever sequence you want. For example many people use 1-25. Others may keep track and order 1-25 one year and 26-50 the next year. Some people like to start at 100 instead of 1? And again others like to use the year in their numbering system. For example next year’s

bands would be 2101 to 2125. Bands are ordered in groups of 25, so if you order more than 25 you don't have to have them all in one sequence. Most people do, but some like to get 101-125 and 201-225 or some other combination. This may help keep different lines or families of birds separated. So as you see there are lots of options when ordering WWC bands.

Color: The band color follows the COM rotation of colors each year. There are six colors in the rotation; Violet, Orange, Dark Blue, Red, Black, and Light Green. For this year (2021) the bands will be violet.

Generic: You have the option of ordering what we call generic bands. These are the same exact bands ordered from Belgium at the same time. The only difference is there is no breeder ID so you can't pick your own sequence. These are distributed in the order they are sold. You do have the same option of ordering these in 3.0 and 3.2mm size depending on availability. Each of the two sizes have different numbering sequences to keep them separate so no two breeders will every have the same number, making it possible to trace the bands. The advantages to these bands are that you don't have to pay for them by Oct 1st. You just pay when you are ready for them. Keep in mind that we order a certain number of bands and it is possible that we could run out. Please also keep in mind that we work, or may be out of town at times, so we can't always drop bands in the mail immediately if there is an emergency. We will always do our best however to accommodate you.