will sooner or later fly to the food plants and eventually to a stalk covered with birdlime or to a pole with the treated perches.

If the male of a mated pair has been captured the birdcatcher should not attempt to catch the female, for it is said that the latter will soon mate again, thus presenting another golden opportunity. Occasionally a wise old bird defies capture by ordinary methods, stirring the trapper to exercise his ingenuity to the utmost. Three Twatwas is considered a good catch for the day.

Most Twatwas are very wild when first caught. In fact some can never be tamed and will kill themselves striking the wires of the cage. For this reason the Twatwa catcher, before selling a bird, keeps it long enough to determine whether it is a good one or not. It may also be that what at first appears to be a female, is in reality a young male, for as a rule the males are more often victims than the females. Cage birds may live as long as fifteen years.

The Gray Seed-eater or “Geelbek” of Surinam is at present an exceedingly popular cage bird. It has a pleasing song, although some of the notes are rather squeaky and insectlike, especially when heard in the house. The performance may last a minute or even longer. Expressed in syllables it is approximately: pe che che te swee swee swee chee-o chee-o pe che chee-e-ke, followed by a jumble of rapid twitters slowing down towards the finish, after which the song may be repeated with variations. A shorter song consists of the syllables che swee swee swee cheh cheh, or simply che swee swee swee swee. The call note is a sharp isip or isip, or chepee; The alarm note is a lower tsup.

This species is a stranger in the thickly settled parts of the city, although it is occasionally seen in the gardens. At Tourtonne and in back of the Cultuurtuin they are more frequently seen. Near the Eerste Rijweg they seem to be of irregular occurrence, and appear from time to time in small flocks. At Lelydorp, however, where the Javanese have patches of rice under cultivation they are common.