

7:25-4.4 Exempted Species

(a) The following listed species of exotic or nongame mammals, birds, reptiles or amphibians may be possessed in this state without a permit.

1. Birds:

- i. Budgerigar - *Melopsittacus undulatus*;
- ii. Cockatiel - *Nymphicus hollandicus*;
- iii. Peafowl - *Pavo cristatus*;
- iv. Rock dove - *Columba livia*;
- v. Canary - *Serinus canaria*;
- vi. House sparrow - *Passer domesticus*;
- vii. European starling - *Sturnis vulgaris*;
- viii. Zebra finch - *Poephila guttatus*;
- ix. Society finch - *Lonchura domesticus*

2. Mammals:

- i. Hamster - *Mesocricetus auratus*;
- ii. Gerbil - *Meriones mongolinensis*;
- iii. Guinea pig - *Cavia porcellus*;
- iv. Pigmy goats – *Carpa hircus*;
- v. Mice and Rats - *Mus spp.* and *Rattus spp.*;
- vi. Chipmunk - *Tamias spp.* and *Eutamias spp.*;
- vii. Red Squirrel - *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus & douglasii*;
- viii. Flying Squirrel – *Glaucomypys spp.*

3. Reptiles:

- i. American Anole - *Anolis carolinensis*;
- ii. Common iguana - *Iguana iguana*;
- iii. Boa constrictor - *Constrictor constrictor*;
- iv. Eastern painted turtles - *Chrysemys picta picta*;
- v. Snapping turtles - *Chelydra serpentina*;
- vi. Fence lizard - *Sceloporus occidentalis & undulatus*;
- vii. Garter snake - *Thamnophia spp.* (except *T. sirtalis tetrataenia*).
- viii. Tokay gecko - *Gekko gekko*;
- ix. Ribbon snake - *Thamnophis spp.* (except *T. sirtalis tetrataenia*).

4. Amphibians:

- i. Leopard frogs - *Rana pipiens*;
- ii. Green frogs - *Rana clamitans*;
- iii. American toad - *Bufo woodhousei americana*;
- iv. Fowler's toad - *B. w. fowleri*;
- v. Bullfrogs - *Rana catesbiana*;
- vi. Red newts - *Notophthalmus viridescens*;
- vii. Dusky salamanders - *Desmognathus fuscus*

(b) Such exotic or nongame mammals, birds, reptiles or amphibians must be housed or caged in such a manner as to prevent liberation.

7:25-4.5 Additional Species

A permit shall be required for any other exotic mammals, birds, reptiles, or amphibians, or nongame species not specifically exempted by Section 4.4.

****Please note – Emus, Ostriches, Greater Rheas, Lesser Rheas were designated as agricultural livestock pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 316 (N.J.S.A. 4:2-17) and Llamas, Alpacas and Guanacos were designated as agricultural livestock pursuant to P.L. 1994, c. 33 (N.J.S.A. 4:2-16). Therefore, they are considered exempt species and DO NOT require a permit for possession.**

Also see the lists of [Species Requiring Permits](#) and [Potentially Dangerous Species](#).

For further information or clarification call the Exotic and Nongame Permits Office at 908-735-5450 or e-mail EXOTICPERMITS@dep.nj.gov.