

Feeding Goldfinches



Goldfinches live throughout the United States and southern Canada. That makes attracting these performing artists (they're known to eat hanging upside-down) to your backyard a bit easier.

Though goldfinches carry the reputation of being finicky eaters, you'll have no problem finding a suitable offering that will please their palate. Goldfinches love to eat fresh, dry Nyjer® (thistle).

The number of goldfinches that can be seen at a feeder can vary greatly - from a few to a large number to none at all.



Because goldfinches are known to be picky eaters, there are several important things to remember:

- Keep seed fresh and dry inside the tube. Shake the tube periodically to make sure that the seed inside the tube feeder is dry. Make sure the seed does not stay in the feeder uneaten for more than a month (two-four weeks in wet climates).
- Place your tube feeder away from the feeders where larger birds are feeding. This allows the smaller birds access to the finch feeder without being harassed by larger birds.
- It is not recommended to put a tray on the finch feeder, unless placing it over a porch, deck or flower area. A tray allows larger birds easier access to the feeder and can intimidate the smaller birds.
- New feeders sometimes take a while to attract goldfinches. It may take birds a while to get used to a new feeder, even if you have previously fed the birds.
- You may notice that birds are waiting to get on the feeder. Add a separate perch to your bird feeding setup to get a better view of these patiently waiting birds.

Because goldfinches move around often, there may be quiet times at the finch feeders. Watch for goldfinches on your seeding flowers and plants later in the year. At these times you may notice less activity on your feeders which is perfectly natural. Be patient.

For more information, talk to one of our
Certified Bird Feeding Specialists

