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The #1 Internet Source For Information On Showing & Breeding Exhibition Poultry

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In this issue . . . El Dorado, Arkansas Show Results • APA News • ABA News • Partridge & Penciling *by Brian Reeder* • Poultry Breed Clubs Listing • APA & ABA Judges List • Upcoming Shows, and more. . . .



A young Mandarin drake, exhibited by Adeline Miller, puts on a 'display' during the Zydeco Poultry Show. The Central Louisiana Poultry Club's first annual show was held April 20th in Jennings, Louisiana.
Ann Charles Photo

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On The Cover . . . A young Mandarin drake, exhibited by Adeline Miller, puts on a 'display' during the Zydeco Poultry Show. The Mandarin is an ABA approved variety of Bantam Duck. The show was hosted by the CLPC, April 20th, in Jennings, Louisiana. Complete show results will be published in the June issue . . . *Ann Charles Photo*



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Advertising Rates and Deadline

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P.O. Box 1027, Winnfield, LA 71483

<http://www.ExhibitionPoultry.net>

Ann Charles
Editor/Publisher

email: contact@SkyBlueEgg.com

Phone: (318) 350-8500

Andrew S. Charles
Technical Support

email: admin@ExhibitionPoultry.net

Exhibition Poultry Magazine[©] publishes upcoming show listings and show results from the South Central states (TX, AR, LA, MS, OK) plus those results supplied by our paid advertisers. *We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement or article that is deemed to be of inappropriate content by the Managing Editor of this Publication.

Upcoming APA & ABA Shows

LA - AR - OK - TX - MS

September 2013

September 5-14

Abeline, Texas, West Texas Fair and Rodeo. Contact: 325-677-4376. Website: http://www.taylorcountyexpo.com/taylorexpo_wtfr.html

September 14, 2013

Odessa, Texas, Permian Basin Fair & Exposition. Contact: Jerry Wiley, P O Box 212, Gardendale, Tx 79758. Phone: 432-366-3026 Website: <http://permianbasinfair.com/index.html>

September 20-28, 2013

Lubbock, Texas. Panhandle South Plains Fair. Contact: (806) 763-2833. Website: <http://www.southplainsfair.com/>

September 28, 2013

Tulsa, Oklahoma, Tulsa State Fair. Contact: Mike Geiss, (405) 761-8339. Website: <http://www.tulsastatefair.com/filesSite/Poultry4.pdf>. Judges: Steve Beaty – Portales, NM & Art Rieber – Neola, IA.

October 2013

October 03, 2013

Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Southeast Arkansas District Fair. Contact: Lewis Hinkle, 870.543.0198, tootie9901@yahoo.com. Judges: Pat Malone, TX, open show and Peyton Igo, LA, Junior show.

October 12, 2013

Dallas, Texas. State Fair of Texas, Pan-Am Poultry Show. Contact: 214-565-9931. Website: <http://www.bigtex.com/sft/>

October 18, 2013

Little Rock, Arkansas, Arkansas State Fair, Arkansas State Fair grounds. Entries at: <http://arkansasstatefair.com/livestockindex/Springfair.html> or contact: contact Dr. Keith Bramwell 479-841-6498.

November 2013

November 2-3, 2013

Fayetteville, Arkansas, Heart of The Ozarks Poultry Club annual Fall Double Show. Website: <http://www.hotopa.com/index.html>

November 9, 2013

Baron Rouge, Louisiana, Gulf South Fall classic - LSU Ag Center at Baton Rouge, LA. Website: <http://www.gcpfa.com>

November 2013

November 23, 2013

Haynesville, Louisiana - Pelican State Classic hosted by the North Louisiana Poultry Club - Contact: Jim Crain, jacrain@chilitech.com. Judges: Anthony Ashley and Jacob Bates

December 2013

December 7-9, 2013

Shawnee, Oklahoma. Oklahoma State Poultry Federation 97th Annual Show. Website: <http://www.okspf.com/> Judges: Steve Jones, Monty Fitzgerald, James Cooper, Dave Anderson and Erik Kutch.



APANEWS - MAY

Another poultry show season has begun. I started on April 13, with the APA semi-annual in Ventura, Ca. They always put on a good show with friendly people. As it was on

the west coast, I was able to talk to a lot of poultry people I usually don't see in person. The APA directors meeting on Friday night was very productive. The minutes from that meeting will be in the July edition of the News & Views.

April 21 found me at the Uniontown Poultry show, which is a local show. I was impressed that in the last 3 years their entries had doubled. I also signed up 4 new members who were very excited as this was their first show and they were thrilled to see so many varieties of poultry in one place. The interest in exhibition poultry has been growing tremendously over the past few years. Please take time to educate these new fanciers when you can. April 26 found me in Greenville, OH at the Dayton Fancy Feather Club show. Once again, a good show where I was able to talk to a lot of people I don't see very often. I don't know what May will bring as far as shows. I just wait for my husband to tell me where we are going for the weekend, makes my life interesting.

As you read this, you should also be receiving your latest issue of News & Views. March and April have been busy months.

All information that came to the office for the 2013 yearbook has been forwarded to David, and it looks to be a very interesting issue. There have been a lot of articles submitted, a lot of new advertisers, and also a lot of new poultry fanciers introducing themselves through the yearbook.

We have sent out about 200 show reports to clubs, if you haven't received one yet, please let me know, sometimes my contact information is out of date.

The new APA website has been well received and will be a work in progress for quite a while. The webmaster is working on putting a show report on the website that can be filled out and emailed to the office. This is a time of transition, a lot of people prefer the paper copy, but the younger generation continues to streamline things by using electronic technology.

Sales of the 2010 Standard of Perfection seem to "holding their own". I still send out 6 to 10 books each week, plus wholesale customers have been stocking their shelves for the spring season. Don't forget, these books aren't going to APA members, but to the new poultry fancier, so I feel the interest in exhibition poultry is still growing.

Hope everyone is busy hatching and watching those future champions grow. Please enjoy the rest of the Exhibition Poultry.

Pat Horstman



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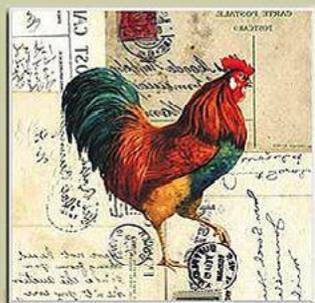
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ABA Happenings

April 2013

MAY 2013 - ABA Happenings

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN! Let's give a really big congratulations to the following ABA members who have reached their own milestones in achieving the ABA Master Exhibitor and Master Breeder award status.

To achieve Master Exhibitor, you must win 20 starred wins which are defined as a win in a class of 100 or more birds. To achieve Master Breeder status, you must win 20 starred wins in one breed and one variety over a period of not less than five years.

The following members have been awarded their honors based on shows held in 2012. Congratulations to all of them!

2012 MASTER EXHIBITORS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| #429 Circle C Btms - Tim Cox, TN | 27 wins |
| #430 Bennett & McDaniel, IN | 25 wins |
| #431 Kim & Kendra Aldrich, MI | 24 wins |
| #432 Sammy & Patsy Collins, NC | 23 wins |
| #433 Zachary Hartman, NC | 22 wins |
| #433 Monks Poultry, NM | 22 wins |
| #435 David M. Beams, Sr., AL | 21 wins |
| #435 Dudley/Connie Deleenheer, BC | 21 wins |
| #435 Jim Tinsley, SC | 21 wins |
| #435 Wade Walker, OK | 21 wins |
| #439 Bob & Claudia Choate, TX | 20 wins |
| #439 Jack Ferguson, TN | 20 wins |

2012 MASTER BREEDERS

| |
|--|
| Steve B. Beaty, NM - Black Rosecomb |
| Cryar & Wagoner, AL - Birchen Modern Game |
| Tracy L. Hill, TX - Wheaten Old English Game |
| Dwayne & Melody Jonas, TX - White Cornish |
| William Sandoe, DE - SC White Leghorn |
| Cliff Troxell, IN - Brown Red Modern Game |
| Rev. Paul Ashbrook, OH - Gray Call Duck |

Our 2013 Legband program is still in full swing. An order form is included in your newsletter and will be part of the Spring newsletter scheduled for mailing this month. Costs are .38 ea. with a \$5 shipping fee. I urge everyone to order early. We do expect a FULL SELL-OUT this year. If you are unsure of what sizes you may need, check your latest Bantam Standard, the Website (click on LEGBANDS and on bottom of page FOR BANTAMS see attached file - (click) Legband Ref. Chart), or email the office at fancybantams@embarqmail.com We will help you get your bantams banded with pride!

AD DEADLINE MAY 25TH - 2013 YEARBOOK - Our 2013 yearbook is shaping up nicely. I have extended the AD DEADLINE to MAY 25th. We are look-

ing for ads and articles. The book is a compilation of show results from 2012, award recognitions, and historical perspectives. WE WILL BE OFFERING COLOR ADS THIS YEAR as well. They will be taken on first come first serve basis. We must stay within a certain number of finished full pages, so we will monitor them.

YB Rates are as follows:

| | |
|--|--|
| Full page Individual | \$95 (\$150 color) |
| 1/2 page Individual | \$75 (\$100 color) |
| 1/4 page individual | \$40 (\$55 color) |
| 1/8 page individual | \$25 (\$35 color) |
| Judges Ads | - \$35.00 |
| (1/4 page with photo - no color option). | |
| Full page club sponsored ad | \$120 - 6 individual ad @ \$20 ea with the club receiving top 1/4 for FREE) |
| Full page club sponsored (color) | \$180 - 6 individual ads @ \$30 ea with the club receiving top 1/4 for FREE) |

These can be reserved on our website at the online store. We are excited to see this

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year's book taking shape. The book should be mailed in the summer. At this point, we cannot confirm any shipping dates, but will do the best we can with the outstanding team we have.

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For more information contact secretary Dennis Fuller, 1729 Otterville Blvd., Independence, Iowa 50644; 319-334-3497, wapsiwaterfowl@aol.com (12-13)

our website for more details or join the ABA. Details will be forthcoming in the Spring 2013 newsletter.

The best way to reach me is a note in the mail, or an email to: fancybantams@embarqmail.com.

embarqmail.com.

Take care of yourselves, your bantams and of course your fellow exhibitors.

Best Bantam Regards,

Karen Unrath – ABA Secretary



APA ABA Youth Poultry Club

The club promotes opportunities to practice showmanship, cooperation and fellowship and to be involved with their home community and with the poultry fancy in general.

For more info go to: <http://www.apa-abayouthpoultryclub.org> or contact: Doris Robinson, National Director, 810 Sweetwater Rd., Philadelphia, TN 37846 ~ Phone: 865-717-6270 ~ Email: nanamamabrahma@att.net

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~ 2013 Spring Shows ~

Jennings, LA - **Champion Large Fowl** - White Cockerel

El Dorado, AR - **Reserve AOSB** - BB Red Pullet

Leesville, LA - **Reserve AOSB** - Black Hen

Rison, AR - **Best of Breed** - BB Red Pullet

4 shows - **3X Reserve of Breed** - GDW Cockerel

The South Arkansas Poultry Club Presents it's 37th Annual 'Spring Classic'



El Dorado, Arkansas
April 6, 2013

Judges: Pat Malone & Dwayne Ballard

Show Sec.: Billy & Debbie Atwood

Open Results & Photos
by Ann Charles

~ Show Results ~

Champion Modern Game, Silver Blue Modern Hen, exhibited by Brandon Bert, New Boston, Texas.

Reserve Champion Modern Game, Brown Red Modern Cock, exhibited by Theresa McConnell, Camden, Arkansas. (no photos available)



Photo: Champion SCCL, White Plymouth Rock Hen, exhibited by Jerry MCarty, Haughton, Louisiana.

Reserve Champion SCCL, Partridge Rock Cockerel, exhibited by (23) Russel Crevoiserat, Maumelle, Arkansas.



Photo: Grand Champion Of Show, Champion Bantam, Champion RCCL, Black Wyandotte Hen, exhibited by Jerry MCarty, Haughton, Louisiana.

Reserve Champion RCCL, Golden Seabright Pullet, shown by Johnny Hillyard, Star City, Arkansas.



Photo: Reserve Champion of Show, Reserve Champion Bantam, Champion Old English Game, Black Breasted Red OE Cockerel, exhibited by Barnes Bantams, Comanche, Oklahoma.

Reserve Champion Old English Game, Spangled OE Pullet, exhibited by K & D Bantams, Brookline, Missouri.

El Dorado, Arkansas Open Show Results ~ April 6, 2013



Photo: Champion Large Fowl and Champion AOSB, Black Sumatra Cock, exhibited by Patrick Owen, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Reserve Champion AOSB, BB Red Araucana Pullet, exhibited by Ann Charles (SkyBlueEgg), Winnfield, Louisiana.

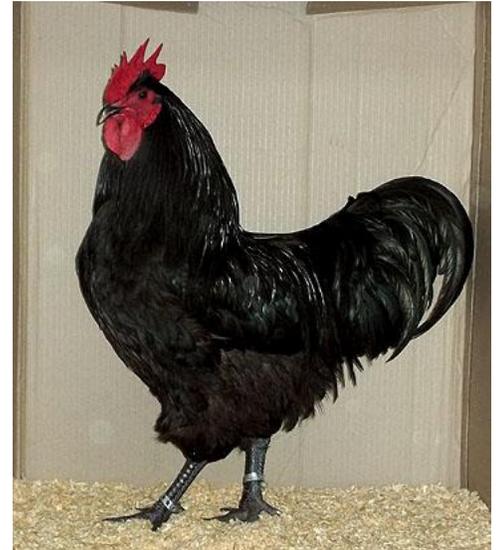


Photo: Champion English, Black Orpington Cock, exhibited by Mary Driver, Pioneer, Louisiana.

Reserve Champion English, Red Dorking Hen, exhibited by Miracle Chicken Farm, Traskwood, Arkansas.



Photo: Champion Waterfowl, Champion Bantam Duck, Grey Call Duck, exhibited by Jacob Bates, Charleston, Arkansas.

Reserve Champion Waterfowl, Reserve Champion Bantam Duck, Grey Call Drake, exhibited by Jacob Bates, Charleston, Arkansas.



Photo: Champion AOCCL, Dark Cornish Hen, exhibited by L.J. DeRouen, Jeanerette, Louisiana.

Reserve Champion AOCCL, Dark Cornish Hen, exhibited by L.J. DeRouen, Jeanerette, Louisiana.



Photo: Champion Featherleg, Black Cochin Cockerel, exhibited by Jason Mayeaux, Louisiana.

Reserve Champion Featherleg, Black Cochin Cock, exhibited by Robert Rhodes, Ozark, Arkansas .

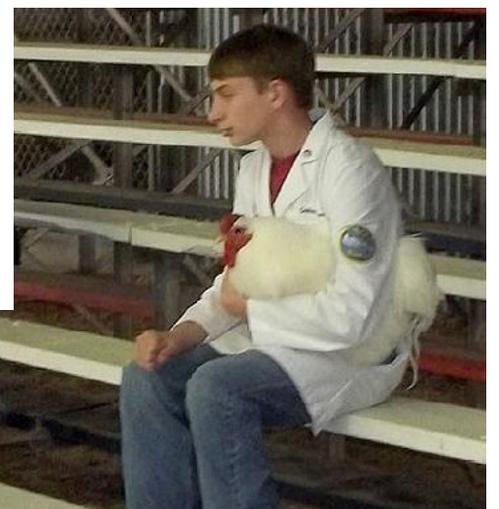


Photo: Colton Vess with one of his Wyandottes, waiting for his turn in the showmanship class.



El Dorado, Arkansas Open Show Results ~ April 6, 2013



Photo: Champion Continental, White Crested Black Polish Hen (non-bearded), exhibited by Tommy French, Kounyze, Texas.

Reserve Champion Continental, Welsummer Hen, exhibited by Drexel Jordan, Little Rock, Arkansas.



Photo: Champion Asiatic, Black Langshan Hen, exhibited by Dodge Cowart, Amity, Arkansas.

Reserve Champion Asiatic, Black Cochon Hen, exhibited by Drexel Jordan, Little Rock, Arkansas.



Photo: Champion American, White Wyandotte Hen, exhibited by Rocky Vess, Casa, Arkansas.

Reserve Champion American, Single Comb Rhode Island Red Cockerel, exhibited by Patrick Owen, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.



Reserve Champion Large Fowl and Champion Mediteranean, Light Brown Leghorn hen exhibited by Jacob Bates, Charleston, Arkansas.

Reserve Champion Mediteranean, Blue Andalusian Hen, exhibited by Frankie Harper, Rison, Arkansas.

Junior Show Results by Billie Atwood

SHOWMANSHIP

8 & under: 1st - Addie Bryles. 2nd - Sy Lanthrip.
9 to 11: 1st - Hailea Rains. 2nd - Sunni Deb Weaver.
12 to 14: 1st - Will Bryles. 2nd - Jennifer Sneed.
15 & Over: 1st - Greg Simmons. 2nd - Sydney Smith.
Over All Champion: Greg Simmons

JUNIOR LARGE FOWL

Best Amer: Colton Vess, White Wyandotte H
Res. Amer: Colton Vess, White Wyandotte C
Best Asiatic: Dodge Cowart, Black Langshan H
Res. Asiatic: Dodge Cowart, Black Langshan H
Best Eng: Colton Vess, Buff Orpington K
Res. Eng: Sunni Deb Weaver, Speckled Sussex H
Best Cont: Blaine Huddleston, Salmon Faverolle H. - Res. Cont: Dodge Cowart, WCB Polish P
Best Medit: Will Bryles, Lt Br Leghorn P. - Res. Medit: Patrick Owen, Blue Andalusian H
Best AOSB: Blaine Huddleston, Black Sumatra H. - Res. AOSB: Patrick Owen, Black Sumatra H.
Champion Junior Large Fowl: Colton Vess, exhibiting a White Wyandotte Hen.
Reserve Champion Junior Large Fowl: Blaine Huddleston, exhibiting a Salmon Faverolle Hen.

JUNIOR BANTAMS

Best Modern: Bree Lanthrip, Br Red Hen - Res. Modern: Will Bryles, Birchen H.
Best OEG: Dodge Cowart, BBRed P. - Res. OEG: Jansen Bert, SDW P.
Best SCCL: Dodge Cowart, Lt Br Leghorn K. - Res. SCCL: Simmons Bantams, RIR P.
Best RCCL: Colton Vess, Partridge Wyandotte H. - Res. RCCL: Patrick McKerie, Sil. Seabright K
Best FT Leg: Hailea Raines, Black Cochon P. - Res. FT Leg: Mikayla Garrett, Black Frizzle Cochon C
Best AOCCL: Simmons Bantams, Dark Cornish H. - Res AOCCL: Simmons Bantams, Dark Cornish K
Best Bantam Duck: Will Bryles, Grey P. - Res. Bantam Duck: Jennifer Sneed, Grey Mallard C.

Champion Junior Bantam: Simmons Bantams, exhibiting a Dark Cornish Hen.

Reserve Champion Junior Bantam: Colton Vess, exhibiting a Partridge Wyandotte Hen.

Junior Show Champion: Simmons Bantams, Dark Cornish Hen

Reserve Junior Show Champion: Colton Vess, Partridge Wyandotte Hen



Greg Simmons, & L. J. DeRouen. Ann Charles photo

More Scenes From El Dorado, Arkansas Show ~ April 6, 2013



Partridge and Penciling: Pattern Gene Expression and Interactions

By Brian Reeder

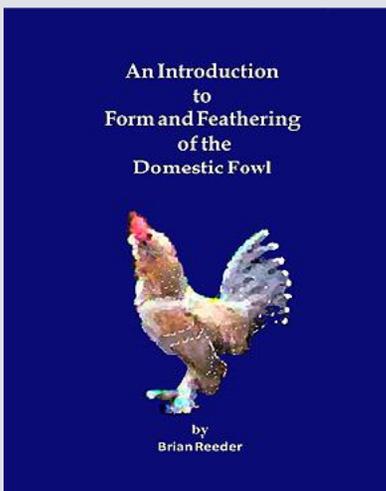
Pattern Gene, notated as Pg, acts as a simple Mendelian dominant gene, but is not visible on all e-alleles. E-allele interaction is extremely important to the fundamental expression of the so-called 'Pattern Gene'. This factor distributes the eumelanin form of melanin (black) to create a range of patterns layered on pheomelanin (red/silver pigments – the s-allele) that depend on interaction with the e-allele rearranging the melanin distributions into the range of patterns we know in the poultry hobby. When combined with all the other additive genes of color and pattern, a vast range of hobby color forms have been created. One particularly lovely expression is the combination of eb (brown) and Pg, known as the hobby varieties 'Partridge' in the red form and 'Penciled' in the silver form.

PG, by itself and without either of its interaction genes (Db and Ml) forms the simplest of the patterns on females of the e-alleles eb or e+. Only when this pattern expression occurs on eb do we recognize these as varieties that we often refer to as 'Partridge' or 'Penciled' in the hobby, but e+ hens can express the same lacing over their duckwing melanic distribution pattern and these can be quite lovely, though I have never seen them quite as cleaned up and refined as in the best purebred Partridge or Penciled varieties of the recognized breeds. I do not know if that means they can't be cleaned up, though.

The eb Pg pattern is made up of concentric curved eumelanin lines that arrange themselves by anchoring at various heights along the quill of the effected feathers, layered over pheomelanin of some type, and curving around the contour of the feather, creating a chevron shaped line that extends around the feather, one ring inside the next with each ring getting closer to the tip of the feather. The outer edge of the feather is not eumelanin (black) but is pheomelanin (red/silver: the S-allele) on the hen's breast and body. Some lines will show an outer eumelanin line, but this is interaction with one or another of the many eumelanin genes. I have seen this expression in some large fowl Dark Brahma lines, for instance. Males on either of these e-alleles appear much like typical wild type males and do not express patterning gener-



"This picture by Grant Brereton shows an eb s+ 'Red Brown' hen. This is the basic e-allele eb (brown) combined with basic red (s+) with no pattern gene. You can see that the body feathers are pheomelanin covered by eumelanin pigments. When Pg is added, the patterning pulls the eumelanin into bands and exposes the pheomelanin underneath creating a bright pattern. The basic eb s+ hen thus looks darker than her patterned counterpart."



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ally. If Db or Co is found segregating on these males, patchy breasts and undersides are common – a good reason to avoid Db and Pg getting mixing with these varieties, if at all possible, unless the goal is to go toward Db or Co based varieties.

This concentric-ring lacing pattern can express itself on both eb (brown) and e+(duckwing) hens, though it is most commonly seen on eb in such varieties as the Partridge Wyandotte, Partridge Rock, Silver Penciled Wyandotte, Silver Penciled Rock, Silver Penciled or ‘Dark’ Brahma and Partridge Cochin. This basic combination can be seen in a great many landrace breeds throughout Asia. In the West and especially in America, it is most noted with the breeds mentioned above. While the Wyandotte and Rock would be considered American Class breeds, I think of them as modified Asiatics or ‘of Asiatic extraction’. The Brahma and Cochin are obviously Asiatics.

This combination of eb and Pg, when well selected and homozygous, is extremely lovely and can be fairly easily to make in a range of breeds. Using one of the foundation types mentioned above, a cross to most any e-allele could eventually work, as eb is recessive to everything, so the options for outcrossing are high. Once you resegment eb and have a pair of these resegmentants, you can breed 100% eb from those. The allele eb is as low as you can go, and nothing else is known to be able to lurk beneath it. I have always thought of eb varieties as the very best for those wishing to breed very consistent birds that don’t throw any major variations, if the other genes are set. With any pair of known eb/eb homozygotes, eb is all you are going to get at the e-allele. For this reason, outcrosses making this simple color form can be very successful.

The first generation of such a cross is fairly even, having an e-allele from each parent and being heterozygous for the Pattern gene coming



"This male Partridge Wyandotte of the British style (photo by Grant Brereton) is a diluted red partridge. Whether Pg or pg+ are present, the male of such lines will appear like this rooster, Pg having little to no effect on the male of the basic eb or e+ e-alleles."



"The hen in this picture by Grant Brereton is a British Partridge Wyandotte showing the combination of eb s+ and Pg. Unlike the American Partridge lines, this hen has no mahogany and is a lighter form of Partridge. This color form shows the partridge lacing to great advantage. You can see how the pattern gene causes the pattern to pull the eumelanin into tight concentric rings that concentrate into black and thus exposes the pheomelanin underneath the eumelanin of the regular eb s+ pg+ hen."

from the Partridge or Penciled variety. It is often useful to avoid interaction genes Ml and Db, also things like Co, as you want to keep as many additive genes out as possible, but whatever additive genes are present, your F1 will have a dose of all; they will be heterozygous at all of those alleles, and you may also have a lot of alleles that are now heterozygous.

The key in the second generation is to find the homozygotes for the recessive eb allele and pay special attention for those also expressing pattern gene, and then breed from those. In this way, working to shuffle out the additive genes and getting down to basic eb Pg homozygous expression is important to quickly recreating the basic pattern (e-allele and Pg-allele interaction) in its proper proportions.

Depending on the level of difference in the form and feathering genes between the two breeds will determine a great deal about how quickly they look like a Partridge or Penciled variety in the breed (form and feathering) you are working with. Once you have a mixed stock, showing some of the form genes that you want with pure expression of both eb and Pg, you can begin to backcross into the form breed to keep improving type. A project like this moves in a sort of triangular fashion for a few cycles. The first triangle is the purebreds that are crossed, their first generation offspring and the second generation that is produced by interbreeding the F1 and selecting the individuals expressing eb, paying special attention to those with one or two doses of Pg.

The second triangle is the selected F2 and the pure form stock crossed, their first generation offspring and the second generation offspring arising from interbreeding the F1, again picking for purity of eb and Pg, but increasing the expression of the form genes coming from the original form breed. This type of turning can be done for several generations, but it is much easier if you don’t have too many additive genes, and especially the interaction linkage genes.

If I wanted to make an eb Pg variety on a breed where it does not exist, I would look for standard varieties such as duckwings (plain

duckwing e+ with few interaction genes; i.e., “wildtype”), Birchen or Brown Red (ER with S or s+ expression at the s-allele) and I would consider using black (E and/or ER) varieties as well. With the later, there is the possibility of picking up MI, Db or other additive genes, but when a black breed not carrying MI or other hidden additive genes such as Db or Co (which E can fully hide) can be found, it can be very useful for making new varieties of the given breed. It is not too uncom-



"These pictures by Grant Breton show regular red Partridge of the British style. These two birds are the basic e-allele eb combined with red, showing no dilution and pattern gene. Note that pattern gene, in this combination, is only visible on the female."

mon for there to be good black varieties of a good many breeds where varieties based on eb, e+ and eWh are not currently known. Fertile ground for exploration, I think even if a few melanizers have to be bred out. However given the choice between simple e+, eb or eWh and E or ER, I would be inclined to look toward the former for outcross material, especially if no visible additive melanizers are present.

It is important to remember that eb is recessive to the other e-alleles. In my experience it has been easier to simply resegment homozygous brown, patterned individuals from crosses to more genetically simple varieties than to deal with getting rid of such genes as Columbian and Dark brown in addition to dealing with the e-allele and other additive genes such as melanizers. These genes can behave in very unexpected ways and can turn up in the most unlikely places, skewing varieties and generally making kind of splotchy messes, except when they are arranged properly on the allele with the other linkage genes to make what we in the hobby consider to be proper patterned varieties such as laced, spangled, penciled, dark penciled, or autosomal barring. The linkage seen between Pg, Db and MI is extremely interesting.

It is often assumed that you can move through the patterns genetically with regularity and ease as we see in other non-linked alleles, but interblending patterns to create other patterns can be fraught due to linkage. Let us say that we wanted a Golden Spangled Cornish. Sounds easy, right? The Dark Cornish already has MI and Pg, so we just need to add Db, right? So how about a New Hampshire? That seems logical as the NH has Db, but the two varieties are in locked-in linkages at both sets of Pg/Db/MI alleles. The New Hampshire is pg+/Db/ml while the Cornish is Pg/db+/MI. In order to make the spangled variety, you must recombine those three alleles to Pg/MI/Db. But therein lies the rub. To get those genes to combine in that way will take a linkage break, a rare instance where the linked genes split apart and segregate (recombine) separately. So while you likely could eventually find the proper segregant, you might need a large number produced over the years in order to actually locate the correct combination. I would never say that lucky accidents never occur, though!

An easier way might be to cross a spangled Hamburg with the Dark Cornish and produce several cycles of the triple-generation breeding scheme I describe above. The basic Cornish form genes are not linked to the pattern linkage group, so the correct pattern can be resegmented onto the Cornish form. The thing to remember is that it is more difficult to “make” the complex patterns from scratch than it is to transfer the complete linkage group already combined the way you want it.

Of all the pattern linkage groups, the simple single gene “Pg”, which is the linkage group Pg/db+/ml+, is perhaps the easiest to work with, and especially so when outcrosses are made to other simple varieties, avoiding the genes Db and Co especially. The Partridge and Penciled varieties represent this simple pattern gene combination with dimorphic color patterns, the male wild type and the hens showing concentric lacing throughout their body feathers on the e-alleles eb and e+. On the e-alleles E and ER, this combination has little effect, even in the females and so the phenotype presents as simple birchen varieties such as Birchen or Brown Red. Wheaten hens with no melanic modifier genes also show little expression of Pattern gene, while wheaten roosters with Pg are simply wild type.

If you are looking for a striking pattern where good examples of the existing varieties can be found, Pg in simple combination with eb is a good place to look. The Partridge Wyandotte bantam has long been a good variety of a good breed and there are good lines of Partridge Cochin bantams, perhaps also large fowl Partridge Cochin, Dark Brahma, and Penciled and Partridge Rocks of both large and bantam fowl. Further, since good examples of breeds with one of these varieties exist, making this variety in other breeds would be possible. As the Partridge

Wyandotte bantams are often remarkably hardy birds, this could be an excellent place to start and an excellent form of the eb Pg combination to incorporate into other breeds, as our extremely dark Partridge is a unique and interesting combination. The versions of partridge bred in the US utilize Mahogany and some carry melanizers, in order to make them very dark. 'Partridge' is bred in many shades around the world, ranging from pale golden versions, to red or orange to deep red versions, all the way up to the cherry/black mahogany lines of the US. There are many forms of 'Partridge' that can be made ranging through the whole possible spectrum of pheomelanin... All the way down to 'Penciled' on the extreme pheomelanin restriction side.

The penciled lines are the silver counterparts to the red partridge lines. The best silver Penciled lines are pure for all the silvering alleles and so present a very black and white effect that is very attractive. In females you can create deep silver shading at a glance that is remarkable. On closer inspection such clean hens can look very psychedelic, with an almost hound's-tooth pattern. If these silver hens have any red based pheomelanin expressing, the under color can show a



"In this photo by Grant Brereton we see a color variety that is non-standard in the US. This is a Silver Mahogany Brown - eb S Aph Mh Pg. This is a lovely color combination. The only variety in the US exhibiting this color form is the Salmon Faverolle, which exhibits silver mahogany on the eWh wheaten e-allele."

peach to yellowish tint, that at a glance looks like tobacco staining. To me, this can be quite attractive, and intentional combinations of silver with expressed Mahogany can be very beautiful, as well as the golden forms that can be made, but if the goal is clean, pure silvers, then the silvering factors must all be present: S/Aph¹/mh⁺.

Take a look at some of these beautiful varieties and see if they might interest you. Several should be preserved, and their high quality can allow these varieties to be made in other breeds as well. While a simple pattern, it is also complex and intricate. The simple wild type male combined with the deeply patterned and detailed female in contrasting bands of eumelanin and pheomelanin plays on the wild type red jungle fowl phenotype making a more detailed and patterned version of the basic wild type pattern. To me, it is a perfect blending of nature with artificial selection.

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