

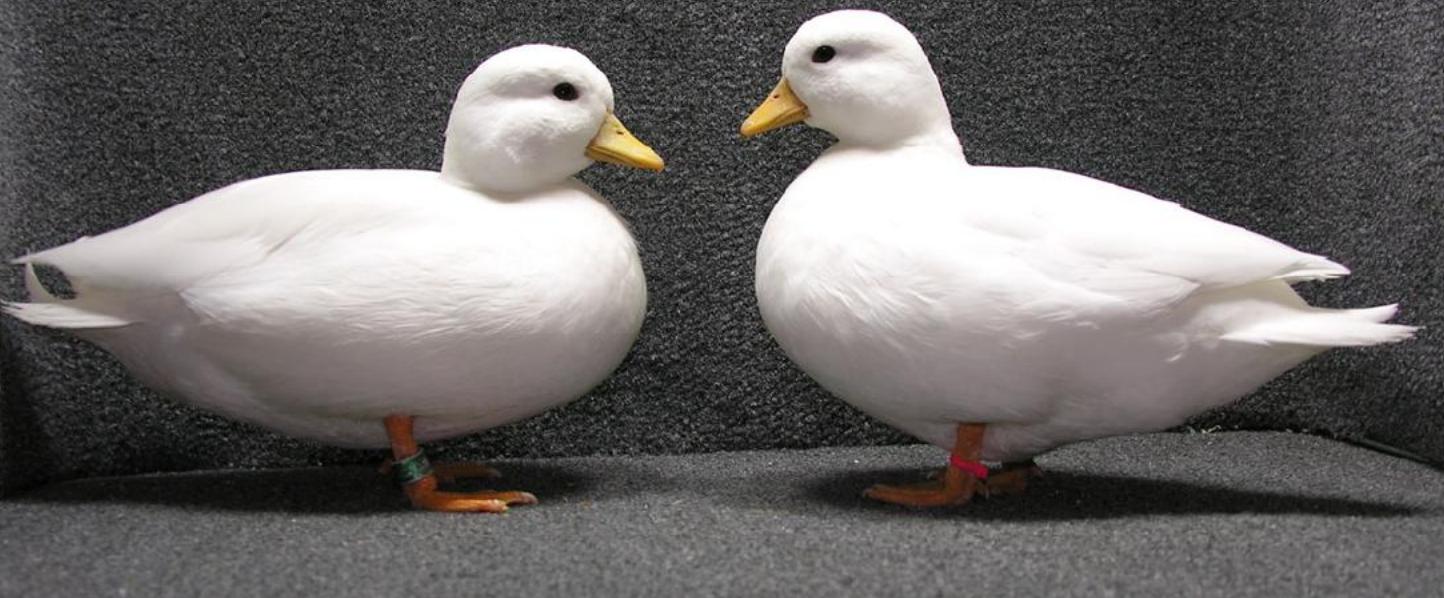
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The #1 Internet Source For Information On Showing & Breeding Exhibition Poultry

Volume 4, Number 8 • <http://www.ExhibitionPoultry.net> • August 2013



In this issue . . . APA News • ABA News • Heat Stress in Poultry • Thoughts and Observations: Inbreeding • Poultry Breed Clubs Listing • APA & ABA Judges List
• Upcoming Shows, and more. . . . (Pictured are two of the donated bantam pairs from the 2013 ABA Breeders Auction held January 2013 in Stockton, California. Photos by Neil Grassbaugh)



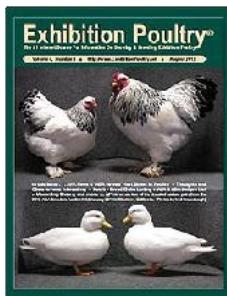
Exhibition Poultry Magazine®

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On The Cover . . . Pictured are two of the donated bantam pairs from the 2013 ABA Breeders Auction held January 2013 in Stockton, California. The light Brahmans were donated by Brian Knox, Sugar Hill Poultry, New Hampshire. The White Call Ducks were donated by James Monk, New Mexico. The ABA is currently looking for donations for their 2014 National scheduled for Knoxville, Tennessee in December 2013. Photos by Neil Grassbaugh

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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.taylorcountyexpocenter.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 11-12, 2013

Jackson, Mississippi, Mississippi State Fairgrounds. Contact: Dr. Shirley Jean Johnson 'Doc, Mississippi Poultry Show Club. Or email the club at: mspdc@yahoo.com. Our website: www.mspoultryshowclub.org

October 18, 2013

Little Rock, Arkansas, Arkansas State Fair, Arkansas State Fair grounds. Entries at: <http://arkansasstatefair.com/livestockindex/Statefair.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 2, 2013

Shreveport, Louisiana, Louisiana State Fairgrounds, Louisiana State Fair Open Poultry Show hosted by The Central Louisiana Poultry Club. APA/ABA Sanctioned. Contact: Roxanne Sims, 337-718-0213, roxanneinia@yahoo.com

November 9, 2013

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, LSU Ag Center. Gulf Coast Poultry Fanciers Association hosts the Gulf South Fall Classic. Website: <http://www.gcpfa.com>.

November 9, 2013

Atoka, Oklahoma - 2013 OEG Bantam Bonanza hosted by The Atoka Bantam Club. Contact: Randy Daniel 580-239-0504 or Greg Garison 580-889-0621. Judge: Larry Denny.

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, 2013

Atoka, Oklahoma - 2013 Southeast Bantam Game Show - Double Show - hosted by The

Atoka Bantam Club. Contact: Randy Daniel 580-239-0504 or Greg Garison 580-889-0621. Judges: Tracy Hill and 'pending judge'.

December 7-8, 2013

Knoxville, Tennessee, the **2013 ABA National Show**, hosted by Tennessee Valley Poultry Club. Website: <http://tnvpoultryclub.com>

December 14, 2013

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

January 2014

January 4, 2014

College Station, Texas, Brazo County Poultry Club Show. Contact: Claudia Choate, Claudia@bluebonnetclassic.com, 512-273-2010.

January 17 - Feb. 8, 2014

Fort Worth, Texas, Southwestern Exposition & Livestock Show. Contact: 817-877-2400. website: <http://www.fwssr.com/>

February 2014

February 22, 2014

Newcastle, Oklahoma, The Great Plains Game Bantam Spectacular. One day-double show. Contact: Andy Barnes, 580-439-5956, ouchickencrazy@pldi.net; RR 2 Box 450, Comanche, OK, 73529.

March 2014

March 1, 2014

Rison, Arkansas, Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Contact: Frankie Harper, PO Box 552, Rison, AR 71665; Phone: (870) 370-3427

March 1, 2014

Pryor, Oklahoma, Mayes County Fairgrounds. Bantams Only. Contact: Kenneth Kvittum, PO Box 991, Chouteau, OK 74337, kennethkvittum@yahoo.com

March 4-23, 2014

Houston, Texas, Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. Contact: 832-667-1000 Website: <http://rodeoHouston.com/>

March 22, 2014 (Tentative)

Leesville, Louisiana, Vernon Parish Fairgrounds. The Magnolia Classic Poultry Show. For entries an information go to: <http://www.TheMagnoliaClassic.com>



The poster for the 7th Annual Central Indiana Poultry Show features a large green rooster head on the left, with a yellow Indiana state outline in the center. The text "7th Annual Central Indiana Poultry Show" is written in red and yellow, following the curve of the rooster's neck. Below the rooster, the date "October 19th, 2013" is prominently displayed in large red letters. Smaller text below the date provides location details: "Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds, Lebanon, Indiana" and "Located along I-65 at exit 138". To the right, a red starburst contains the text "Indiana's Largest Annual Poultry Show!". Below the starburst is a photograph of a long exhibition hall filled with many birds in cages. The text "Over 30,000 sq. ft. of exhibition area!" is written above the photo, and "2012 WE HAD OVER 2100 BIRDS SHOWN!" is written below it. At the bottom right, there is a logo for "Boone COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU" with a green maple leaf graphic.

Judges:
Jeff Halbach,
Rick Hare,
Paul Kroll &
Bill Patterson

Jr. Show Judges:
Greg Chamness,
Brad Jones,
Matt McCammon, &
Jonathan Patterson

Information - Ron Patterson, 765-676-6192 rpayer815@embarqmail.com
Doug Akers, 765-482-7182 dakers@purdue.edu
For more information, see <http://poultryshow.org>

Produced in cooperation with the



APA NEWS - August 2013

The 2013 APA yearbook has been mailed. If you don't receive yours, please let me know. The committee is to be congratulated for making this yearbook such a success. They spent many hours working to get this done in a timely manner. Please enjoy the many articles and all the information that has been included. Also, make plans to support the 2014 edition; they will be starting on it soon.

I hope by now the weather in your area is settled down, here in Pennsylvania, we have had an unusual spell of rainy weather, which meant more time in the barn making the birds comfortable, the only stock that enjoyed the rain and mud were the waterfowl! The rain and high humidity have passed and things are back to a normal summer here, I wish the same for everyone.

Thanks to those of you who have returned your dues, it seems everyone is still supporting the APA. I have received over 90 new members in the months of May and June. Let's remember to make them feel welcome when you see them. Now that these people have become part of the APA family, please help them by passing on your knowledge. The interest in exhibition poultry seems to be growing by leaps and bounds.

Requests for promotional items are still coming to the office. Hopefully, this will educate more people about the APA and entice more new members. The directors have given me permission to attend the Mother Earth News Fair in Seven Springs this September. This has been a popular event with an attendance of about 30,000 people in three days. It is geared to people who want a sustainable lifestyle, which includes raising their own poultry for meat and eggs. The Uniontown Poultry Club is going to put up a display of poultry using many of the heritage breeds that the backyard people are interested in. I hope to show these people that the APA can help them.

Now is the time to start planning your poultry show trips. The clubs work hard to put on a good show for everyone to enjoy. Please support them and don't forget to say thanks for all the work they do.

The Canadian National will be held on September 28-29 in Petitcodiac, NB. James Carson

is the contact person for that great event. The 2013 APA Annual will be held on January 18-19 in West Springfield, MA. The contact person for that event is Janet Winnett. Start grooming those future champions now.

That's all I have for this month, time to get back to the paperwork.

Pat Horstman

**Ad Deadline for
September 2013
Issue - August 24th**

NATIONAL CALL BREEDERS of America



A club formed for the promotion of breeding and exhibition of Call Ducks, offering National, District and Special Meets. Quarterly newsletters and annual yearbook. Memberships: Junior (under 16) \$8/year; Individual \$15/year or \$29/2 years; Family \$17/year or \$33/2 years; Lifetime membership \$200. Visit our website at www.callducks.org to join online or purchase club merchandise, such as t-shirts, pins, patches, posters, etc. For more information contact secretary Dennis Fuller, 1729 Otterville Blvd., Independence, Iowa 50644; 319-334-3497, wapsiwaterfowl@aol.com (12-13)



**APA ABA
Youth Poultry Club**

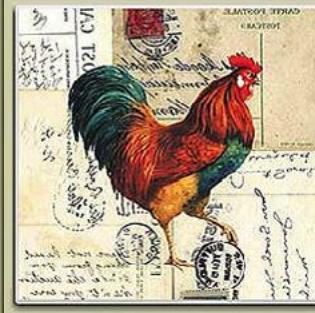
The club promotes opportunities to practice showmanship, cooperation and fellowship and to be involved with their home community and with the poultry fancy in general.

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

AMERICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION



Website: <http://www.amerpoultryassn.com>



Contact: APA Secretary
PO Box 306, Burgettstown, PA 15021
Phone: 724-729-3459
Email: secretaryapa@yahoo.com




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ABA Happenings

August 2013

Greetings from the ABA.

By the time you read this , the 2013 yearbook should be printed and on its way to you.

You will notice a section from the directors as well as some areas for reports from committees. Of a big importance is the area where we have printed the applications for admission to the bantam standard. In this area - the proposed standards for all those who are currently in the approval process is printed. Please take a look and if you have any feedback, send it to the Standard Committee . The printed proposed standards of the following were included:

Wheaten American Serama, Exchequer American Serama, Black American Serama, Silver Ginger Old English Game, Opal Old English Game, Naked Neck Silkie. All these varieties have applied for acceptance into the bantam standard. ABA Members, please check your inboxes for updated information.

The cover photo is courtesy of our very own Shari McCollough of IN. Shari is an Amazing photographer. We are very fortunate to be working with her. Shari has also been helping us keep our website show calendar updated and sends out show papers when necessary. Thank you Shari. Kim Munden of PA was my first mate on this book. Kim helped typeset and does much of the graphic work on the yearbook. She is also an AMAZING artist and I can't say thank you enough from the ABA.

I was a bit concerned on this year's timeline as I have gone Back to work full time outside the ABA office. Despite all that on the plate - I have managed to keep our timeline where we wanted it to be. All of this came to be because of yet another ABA member and that is my husband Kevin. Our house has kinda went through a role reversal and he has really stepped up to the plate. Raising a family is tough enough and all the duties that go along with a house, cleaning, cooking, transporting, feeding, cleaning, watering, hatching, and chickens, opening ABA mail, dropping shipments, answering letters, etc etc. If there is a

medal of honor, he definitely should be the one to receive it.

Our centennial is coming up soon and there is so much excitement surrounding this big event. We will start offering some awesome products in the very near future - so please keep checking the ABA store , your quarterlies, and your mailboxes.

The yearbook has our first offering. A Centennial Afghan. This is a treasure. It will be available sometime in October/November. The details of this fabulous item appear on page 188 of the yearbook. Proceeds from the sale will be put towards the production of our Centennial Bantam Standard. We expect a full sell-out , so to secure yours, please order early. We intend to order a second shipment if the demand calls for it. There is a 6-8 week wait-

ing period, so early orders will guarantee by Christmas. YES- they are MADE IN THE USA!

Give some thought to the ABA 2013 National in Knoxville. We are accepting donations for the Silent Auction which has quickly become a crowd pleaser at the National meet. We can accept birds as well as collectibles. You may contact Karen at fancybantams@embarqmail or contact your district director with your donation;

For more information on what the ABA is and what we do.....Just Join.... at www.bantamclub.com. Dues are a nominal \$20 per year, \$50 for three years. (outside the USA - \$30 per year; \$80 for three years) You can send to ABA- PO Box 127, Augusta,NJ 07822

Many thanks and happy bantams.



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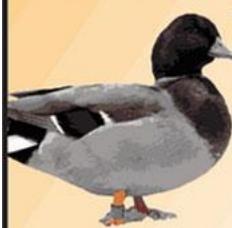
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Advice on Reducing Heat Stress in Poultry

Dealing with summertime heat is a great challenge for people in Louisiana. LSU AgCenter poultry specialist Dr. Theresia Lavergne says high heat and humidity combine to pose severe problems for all types of poultry.

"Under conditions of severe heat stress, poultry will have a reduced growth rate, decreased feed intake, poor feed conversion, decreased egg production, reduced hatchability rate, reduced egg shell quality, reduced egg size and reduced internal egg quality," Lavergne explained. "Additionally, heat stress can cause increased mortality."

All types and ages of poultry are susceptible to heat stress, but older poultry face a bigger risk. As poultry get older, they increase in size as well as insulation (feathering). Lavergne says this makes it harder for them to dissipate heat.

"The most obvious sign of heat stress in poultry is panting," the LSU AgCenter specialist says. "Poultry do not have sweat glands that can cool their skin, so instead they must use evaporation from their throat and respiratory system as a means of cooling themselves."

Lavergne points out that panting takes a lot of energy which, in turn, generates an appreciable amount of body heat for poultry.

"Ultimately, if poultry are not relieved of heat stress, their body temperature can continue to rise and increase the possibility of mortality," she stresses, "Fortunately there are several things you can do to help your home poultry flock handle heat stress."

Provide cool, clean, quality drinking water to your poultry. Water must be available at all times and must be in a location that is easily accessible to your poultry. Water will help keep your birds cool.

Provide a comfortable environment for your poultry. Always make sure your poultry are in a well-ventilated area in which there is nothing to obstruct the airflow. Placing poultry in a well-ventilated area will help reduce the incidence of heat stress. In addition, a misting/fogging system can be used in a well-ventilated area to help the birds cool themselves.

Provide feed during the coolest part of the day. Poultry produce heat during the process of digestion, and when this heat is combined with the significant rise in body temperature that occurs during the late af-

ternoon of a hot day, there is a greater risk of heat stress for poultry.

Supplement drinking water with electrolytes. During true heat stress, the electrolyte balance in birds is altered as a result of panting. The addition of electrolytes to the drinking water will help balance the electrolytes in the birds and increase the birds' water intake. The increased water intake will aid in cooling the birds and will improve the evaporative cooling of the birds. However, you should consult your veterinarian before using any heat stress supplements such as electrolytes.

Avoid overcrowding your poultry. You should reduce the number of birds kept in a house or in an area. Birds produce body heat. Thus, by reducing the number of birds in a house you will reduce the amount of body heat produced in the house.

Avoid excessive activity during the hottest part of the day. The hot weather is a great stress on the birds, so avoid bothering and disturbing the birds during periods of peak heat.

"The heat of the summertime is unavoidable," Lavergne said. "However, by recognizing the signs of heat stress and taking steps to prevent heat stress in your home poultry flock, you can help keep your poultry comfortable and productive during the summertime."

(Courtesy of LSU Ag Center and Research Extension)

Review of the Factors That Influence Egg Fertility and Hatchability in Poultry

A.M. King'ori

ABSTRACT*

Poultry production at all scales of operation is wholly dependent on the supply of day-old chicks. Fertility and hatchability are two major parameters that highly influence the supply of day-old chicks. Fertility refers to the percentage of incubated eggs that are fertile while hatchability is the percentage of fertile eggs that hatch. It is therefore important to understand the factors that influence fertility and hatchability of eggs.

For the hatchability traits, breed has little effect on hatchability of poultry eggs, although light breeds have been reported to have higher fertility and hatchability.

The diet of breeder poultry should be ad-

equate in both quality and quantity to meet the recommended levels set out in the feed standards for the category.

The most influential egg parameters that influence hatchability are: weight, shell thickness and porosity, shape index (described as maximum breadth to length ratio) and the consistency of the contents.

Heat stress reduces the external and internal egg qualities. Heat stress affects all phases of semen production in breeder cocks. Hatchability for small eggs is lower compared to that of medium and large eggs.

There are many factors contributing to the failure of a fertile egg to hatch which include lethal genes, insufficient nutrients in the egg and exposure to conditions that do not meet the needs of the developing embryo.

Breeder factors that affect hatchability include strain, health, nutrition and age of the flock, egg size, weight and quality, egg storage duration and conditions. The optimum temperature range for poultry is 12-26 degrees C.

Fertile eggs should not be stored for more than 10-14 days, after 14 days of storage; hatchability begins to decline significantly. The position (large end up or vice versa) of egg storage influences hatchability. Eggs stored with the small end up have higher hatchability as compared to the large end up. Incubation of fertile eggs can be done naturally by a broody hen or in an incubator.

The broody hen provides the fertile eggs with optimum environmental conditions (temperature, egg turning and humidity) to stimulate embryonic development until hatching. The incubator is a simulated artificial design that mimics the broody hen's role of providing fertile eggs with optimum environmental conditions (temperature, egg turning and humidity) to stimulate embryonic development until hatching.

A constant incubation temperature of 37.8 degrees C is the thermal homeostasis in the chick embryo and gives the best embryo development and hatchability. Mortality is seen if the temperature drops below 35.6 degrees C or rises above 39.4 degrees C for a number of hours.

Egg turning during incubation is critical for successful hatching and influences hatchability. No turning of eggs during incubation results in low hatchability and delays hatch by a few days.

* A. M. King'ori , 2011. Review of the Factors That Influence Egg Fertility and Hatchability in Poultry. International Journal of Poultry Science, 10: 483-492.

Effect of Summer Heat Stress on Poultry Breeding Stock

THE LEGHORN WORLD

495

As the hot summer months approach producers' attention is turned to management methods designed to maintain productivity during elevated ambient temperatures. The effects of heat stress have been well documented in relation to feed consumption, weight gain and house efficiency in broilers. In extreme heat situations, keeping birds alive becomes the most critical element . . .

During this time of the year . . . the birds' energy needs are reduced, and therefore, they do not require as much feed for maintenance as they do during the winter months. The problem with breeders is maintaining egg production, fertility, hatchability and ultimately the number of quality chicks produced. Twenty years ago it was estimated that there was an average 15% drop in fertility in broiler breeders during the summer months. Due to improvements in housing, the reductions in fertility due to heat stress may not be so dramatic today. Nevertheless, the industry generally sees the lowest fertility and hatchability during the hot summer months.

Why does this occur?

There is undoubtedly a connection with elevated temperatures and reduced mating frequency, which naturally reduces fertility. . . There is also evidence that elevated temperatures reduce sperm production and overall semen quality. However, the effect of heat stress on fertility was less significant when only the hens were exposed to the elevated temperatures. Interestingly, when males were subjected to 85° F or 90° F for as little as 12 hours, fertility was reduced for the next four to five weeks. . . Therefore, it is easy to see why hatchability is often at its lowest during the summer months.

Preventing heat stress in breeders

Here are a few of many items that should be considered that may help reduce the incidence of heat stressing breeders.

1) Air velocity is most important in keeping birds cool in the summer. Any adjustments made to thermostat settings should be made with the idea of maintaining temperature while not sacrificing wind speed.

2) During extreme heat, run all fans throughout the night to allow birds to cool off completely.

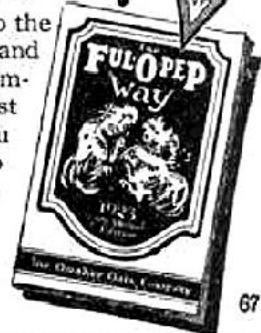
3) Water is critical during hot weather. Inspect the watering system frequently to ensure water flow is consistent and unrestricted.



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“Ad From The Past” Reprinted from Leghorn World, Vol. 5, Pg. 495 (circa 1923)

Water consumption will decrease when the temperature of the water rises above 85 degrees. Flush the closed watering system two to three times each day during the hottest part of the day to remove warm water from the system. However, the birds will generally demand

enough water to keep fresh water in the pipes.

By R. Keith Bramwell, Extension Poultry Specialist, Cooperative Extension Service, Center of Excellence for Poultry Science, University of Arkansas AVIAN Advice • Summer 2003 • Vol. 5, No. 2

Thoughts and Observations: Inbreeding

By Brian Reeder*

**I wanted to note at the beginning of this article that I am writing one article to be used for my monthly article in the Bluegrass Hemerocallis Society newsletter as well as for Exhibition Poultry E-zine. This article is a general article on breeding techniques with a focus on inbreeding and is fairly equally applicable to animal breeding and plant breeding. I may use specific examples of a particular plant or animal, so if you want it to specifically apply to your plant or animal, just change the name in your head to what you are working with. The underlying principals are the same, with only one exception - you can't self-mate (most) animals as you can with many plants.*

Breeding in many ways is as much an art as a science. Science (genetics especially) is always a valuable tool in the breeder's toolbox, but I always like to point out that our ancestors created the vast majority of domestic plants and animals long before there was any knowledge of genes, beyond perhaps the most cursory understanding that "blood will tell". The art of breeding, like any art, has a lot to do with individual taste. What I may adore, you may despise and vice-versa, but in the end, we all use basically the same set of techniques to produce our desired outcomes.

There are really only so many approaches to breeding that one can take - outcrossing, backcrossing, line breeding, inbreeding, etc.

We all use these techniques to one extent or another. It is interesting to me that in some circles though, one or the other of these techniques have taken on a superstitious veneer of 'taboo' status. For instance, in ornamental plant breeding, we see a majority of outcrossing and little inbreeding (or at least little that is openly admitted), generally due to the old notion that inbreeding is "bad". In animals, we see little outcrossing (again that is openly admitted) but lots of inbreeding, due to the equally superstitious notions of "crossbred" and "mongrel" or "un-pure" as opposed to "purebred". Each set of suppositions limits the breeders in those respective arenas.

There are no good or bad breeding techniques. There are only breeding techniques, and in some instances, each is of great value while in other instances, any given technique can be disastrous. It really all depends on the individual situation and the desired outcome. Inbreeding particularly gets a really bad rap, and there are some very negative potentialities to inbreeding if it is not applied carefully.

Inbreeding is used to concentrate genetic traits. It is that simple, and inbreeding will concentrate whatever is there, good or bad. Inbreeding can be especially valuable in determining what recessive genes are lurking in a particular population. If there are bad genes, deleterious genes, hidden in a population you can bet that inbreeding will bring them to the surface, but there is also no better way to determine what bad genes are lurking in a particular population. On the other hand, there is

no better technique than inbreeding to determine what good genes are lurking in a population. As well, inbreeding can reveal how extreme a given trait can become and if a trait that is neutral in lesser expression will become dysfunctional or deleterious in higher concentrations.

I have used inbreeding a great deal in strain development both to concentrate desired traits and to reveal undesirable traits in both plants and animals. I always approach inbreeding with a very careful eye, quick to note when there are undesired traits and I am equally quick to eliminate a line or discontinue inbreeding when it becomes clear that there are many deleterious factors carried in a line. However, in some instances, inbreeding for generation may reveal no deleterious factors and in such instance, may only concentrate and strengthen the positive traits of the lineage.

In my work with daylilies, one of the first tests I like to run on a given cultivar is to self it. That is, breed it to itself. The first thing I am looking for is if the cultivar is self-fertile. The next thing I am looking for is how clone-like the seedlings of selfing may be, or how much variation they show. The former indicates a great deal of homozygosity and/or many dominant genes, while the latter indicates heterozygosity of some or many genes. In the case of the former, I will then know that I may not be able to create anything very different from the parent in an F1 outcross, and so it becomes a producer of bridge plants for further breeding. If the plant is highly heterozygous for many

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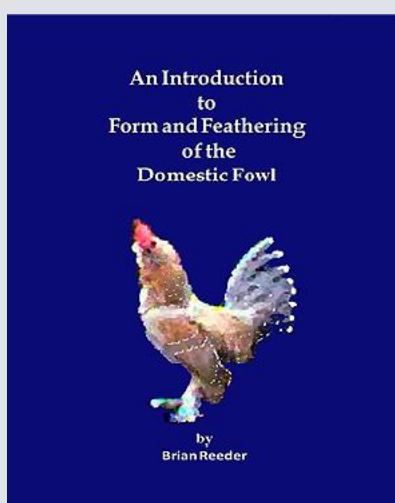
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traits, then one can expect to produce a wide range of phenotypes in the F1, and feasibly something different enough from the parent or unique enough to potentially be an introduction in its own right. However, I still consider such a cross more for the production of breeding material than for introductions, but that is my focus anyhow. For me, introductions are really the last thing on my mind with any cross at this time, while the production of new and improved breeding materials is always paramount in my efforts.

Chickens can't be selfed, but they can be crossed with full or half siblings and they can be backcrossed to either parent. To me, this is the only really tight inbreeding that is likely to reveal the hidden traits I wish to evaluate. The breeding of cousins, for instance, while inbreeding in the broadest sense, is to my way of thinking more in line with line breeding, and less pure inbreeding. While the purest inbreeding in plants is selfing, sib x sib matings as well as backcrossing to either parent (or aunt/uncle, grandparents) are useful techniques of inbreeding and can be equally as revealing for strengths or weaknesses as selfing. Backcrossing is particularly suited to revealing the hidden details of one or the other of the parent lines. The biggest pitfall with inbreeding comes when people get so tunnel-visioned on a particular trait that they ignore problem genes, sacrificing viability for phenotype extremes.

To put it more bluntly and in more common language, if you have bad traits in a line and you inbreed, you are likely to destroy that line as the bad traits become more and more concentrated. Conversely, if you have good traits, but no bad traits, inbreeding can concentrate those good traits and make them even more prominent. In reality, most lines have some of each, and so inbreeding must be approached cautiously and with care, being always aware to stop inbreeding when bad traits become glaringly obvious, no matter how "good" the line looks otherwise.

In animals, any given breed or line is likely to be the product of some inbreeding already. With animals, inbreeding can very quickly cause a lot of problems, and only the most vigorous and hardy lines are usually good subjects for intensive inbreeding. However, inbreeding is much more common in animals, thus the many problems we see in many, many breeds of domestic animals. The only instances where I would encourage intensive inbreeding in animals is where there are no obvious deleterious factors present (so, so

unbelievable rare!) or where you have outcrossed and are working to make a new line, variety or breed and wish to concentrate good traits while working very hard to eliminate bad traits.

Plants may be another thing altogether, though. In daylilies, for instance, there are no know "pure" lines, as we see in so many domestic animals. Almost all daylilies will be heterozygous for a lot of alleles and are the results of much outcrossing, starting with the hybridizing of species about a century ago. It is my opinion that daylilies may be good candidates for some careful inbreeding, in some cases. Now we don't want to get carried away (as a cautionary tale, just look at what the animal people have done to their charges through "pure-breeding"!!), but there is much that careful inbreeding may accomplish. Of course, we want to be ever vigilant about inbreeding depression and the concentration of bad traits, but since most daylilies are so heterozygous, I doubt we are on the precipice of inbreeding collapse, as are so many domestic animal breeds. I would note however that certain traits seem to be questionable in daylilies already, so concentrating those traits may be unwise. For example, think edges so profuse they don't allow the flowers to open well or weak scapes with oversized flowers, etc. Even without intensive inbreeding in daylilies, there are problem areas and these need to be admitted and faced so that they don't get concentrated into 'ruined finery', so to speak.

To consider inbreeding in daylilies, let us consider an example. Let us say that there is a new, novel trait that has appeared in daylilies and we want to perpetuate that trait and perhaps even intensify it. If the trait is strongly dominant, then we can just cross to most anything, selecting those that express the trait most strongly and those, which combine the trait with other traits for new, novel phenotypes. But if the trait is recessive, then outcrossing it willy-nilly, crossing "pretty to pretty", is liable to give us very little that we want in the F1. Granted, that F1 can be interbred to bring the trait back out, but I have encountered very few daylily breeders who are going through generations of bridge plants to get to the desired outcome. Most seem to chuck the whole batch if they don't have an intro in the F1, though that doesn't apply to everyone and there are already some notable examples of just this type of inbreeding in the history of daylilies.

So viable options for breeding such a trait would include selfing, backcrossing to either/

both parents and/or creating an F1 through outcrossing and then interbreeding those F1 or backcrossing the F1 to the parent with the desired trait and/or the grandparents that produced the trait in the parent showing the trait. While I would hesitate to do anything other than outcross and interbreed the F1 if there are problems in the parent with the new trait, I would also want to look at its parents to see how strong each of them are.

Since daylilies are highly heterozygous (generally), a weak plant or one with a given problem may not be concentrated for that trait. If the parents of that plant are easily obtainable and/or much is known about them, you may find that the problem trait is a dominant and may be heterozygous. If that is the case, then selfing or any other inbreeding may allow you to select out the desired trait in combination with other good traits and to eliminate the undesired bad trait or weakness. Genetically, things are not always as they seem, or more technically, phenotype is not always a full indicator of genotype. It is only through some experimentation that you can really know

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what is what genetically, the true breeding value, and thus have a fairly clear idea of the real limitations and strengths of a given cultivar or seedling, and one outcross that produces 10 or 15 seedlings really isn't going to tell you much.

The instance that I describe above is very analogous to animal breeding where outcrossing has been done (except for the selfing, of course) and a new combination of traits is being sought; i.e., a new breed or a new variety of an existing breed. Pure breeding is rather unique to the animal people. Can you imagine the ornamental plant breeder that would be striving to produce a cultivar that never threw offspring that looked any different from itself? (While this does occur in some commercial plant breeding, especially with some of the old, true breeding food plants, it is by far the exception in breeding for ornamental plants.) The thought is laughable and ludicrous, generally speaking, but it is a deadly serious affair to animal breeders where the brainwashing

tends toward the notion that each individual of a given breed or line should look like identical twins or clones. Domestic plant breeding is much more in line with the notion of 'landraces' in animals. I think there is a lot to be said for landraces, especially the fact that it is nearly unheard of to find a landrace that is so concentrated for deleterious traits that their

very existence is questionable. With that said though, there is a place for inbreeding in both the plant and animal worlds but the practice must be approached with caution and an understanding of the potential pitfalls, along with an eye for the slightest indications of problems. When used wisely, inbreeding is an indispensable tool for the breeder.

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January, 1923

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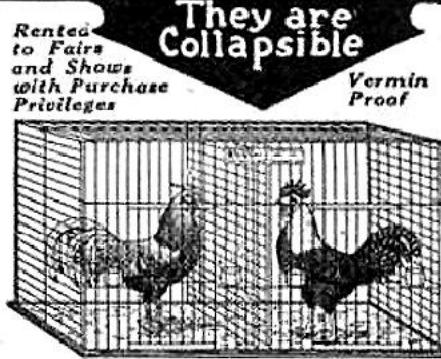
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