

Exhibition Poultry®

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In this issue . . . Atoka, Oklahoma Show Results
• Inbreeding and Outcrossing by *Brian Reeder*
• Poultry Breed Clubs Listing • APA & ABA
Judges List. • Upcoming shows and more. . .



Exhibition Poultry Magazine®

What a wild month and how things have changed! It is hard to believe that just 6 weeks ago we decided we had enough of Arkansas (after 12 years living there), and began the process of moving 300 miles to the South to be closer to family. Moving is never fun and four 600+ mile round trips with livestock, dogs, personal belongings, vehicles, and 55 chickens was one big job but we accomplished most of it in time to be able to spend Christmas and the New Year holidays with my extended family in Louisiana.

I am having a hard time creating my new routines and have resorted to the old stand by, the To-Do-List. The list makes things easier but at times I still feel hopelessly behind on just about everything. This issue included. Yet, our move must have been the right thing to do because it could not feel more natural than to spend so much enjoyable time with so many family members. Christmas time, in particular, was just wonderful.

My birds are over the shock of the move and are basking in the warmer temps of North Central Louisiana. It is hard to believe that it was 70 today here and just a month ago in Arkansas we had already experienced our first snow. In the last couple of days I have had one hen resume laying and two pullets start to lay and I should set my first hatching eggs this weekend. I have my fingers crossed for at least the hen to be fertile this soon. Hopefully the Jet Stream will continue to favor our location and keep us on the warmer southern side and I will have some early hatches this year. Last year was so cold I did not hatch hardly any chicks until April and May.

I do have to admit the compared to Arkansas there seems to be a serious lack of poultry shows in Louisiana. I think the Haynesville show is the only approved open show we have left. In my mind, Alexandria would be a great place for another show to be held sometime during the year and maybe I can talk to the folks down in Rapides parish and see if we can get to work on something like that. So much for the goings on in my new "backyard"

Until next month ~ Ann Charles, Editor

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Bronze Young Hen, HOTOPA
Champion Turkey - Show One and
Reserve Champion Turkey - Show
Two. Exhibitor Jacob Bates. Photo
by Jacob Bates. Heart Of The Ozarks
Poultry Association, 2011 Fall Double
Show, "The Ricky Bates Memorial Show"
Fayetteville, AR ~ November 5th, 2011

A Page From The Past . . .

Expert's Advice: Preparing Fowl for Show

(Editor's Note: So much has been said and written by judges and exhibitors about the deficient condition in which birds are shown that *The Voice* wrote to Mr. Veale for an expression on the subject. For upwards of forty years Mr. Veale, known to the fraternity as Doug, has been regarded as a top expert in the art of fitting. White Wyandottes are his breed and he has won Grand Championships at shows of all points and levels. Last year he won the Grand Championship at the season's opener, the Lachute Spring Fair in June. His article starts where he is making his first preparation for this show.)

P. McDougall Veale

Only cocks and hens are shown at Lachute the first week in June. I picked out three males and five females to work on. The first thing to do is pull out the broken feathers so that good feathers will be grown in their place by show time. All the main tail feathers and coverts are taken out about three months before the show.

The possibility of there being lice on the fowl must not be overlooked at this time. Lice can and do play havoc with plumage, not the least of which is depriving the bird of its radiance. I use 33½% mercurial ointment (known as blue ointment) to combat this pest. The ointment is rubbed on the skin just below the vent. The lice are destroyed as they go to the vent for

moisture. Caution should be exercised in using the ointment as it is very poisonous. For those who have permitted the presence of scaly leg blue ointment again is an excellent remedy.

In a few weeks a time this should be followed with a wash. Washing helps considerably to bring along the new feathers. A whole article could be written on washing but two main points should be mentioned here. The feathers should have the soap rinsed out thoroughly and the plumage made as nearly dry as possible with cotton sheets before exposing too close to high heat.

I washed seven birds for an exhibit of four. Some birds react more favorably to the washing than others do. Using the expression of the pigeon men, if the bird does not show that is said to be the exhibitor's bad luck. It is not bad luck at all but a failure to prepare the birds properly and that includes training.

They are placed in exhibition coops, handled frequently, and rewarded for good performance with choice bits of food. After such treatment most birds will respond and cease to show any fear. Some birds have a tendency to carry their heads high, thus giving an unbalanced appearance. To overcome this fault, lower the ceiling of the coop to the height the head should be carried. Cooped in such

a manner for a few weeks the bird will form the habit of carrying his head at the proper height.

It is imperative that the bird be introduced to the judging stick. Train the bird to move to the center of the coop and stand at attention. This can be accomplished by stroking the bird's throat, breast, abdomen and flanks in a slow gentle manner. This will contribute greatly to the correcting of posture. If the bird should squat use the same procedure along the lower breast and front keel. The poise required should be firmly established in the mind by making a thorough study of the Standard of Perfection.

In selling commodities the first objective is to come through with a product that potential purchasers will want to buy. The same appeal can be made to the judge's desire to find a bird that conforms closely to the Standard ideal. That is the bird he wants and needs to interest and educate the spectator and student. Fowl, like humans, vary in intelligence. Other things being apparently equal the most intelligent and docile bird is the likeliest winner. Use your own intelligence by giving preference to such birds in your matings. The most intelligent and docile birds are usually the best layers. That makes them more valuable in different ways when used in the exhibition breeding pen.

"Expert's Advice: Preparing Fowl For Show" Reprinted from *The Voice of the Poultryman*, Spring 1969, Volume 2, Number 2. Original copies courtesy of APA/ABA Judge, Steve Jones, Poetry, Texas.

We have moved!

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APA NEWS

January 2012

They say time flies when you are having fun. I must be having lots of fun, here it is 2012, I am another year older and have had the APA secretary's position for five years. I have learned a lot more about the birds in those five years than I ever did in the forty five years that I have been married to Dick. Admittedly, I have probably paid more attention to things than I ever did to Dick! I have also learned just how much time and effort it takes to have a new breed or variety admitted to the standard and how much effort it takes to pass the judges test.

I have also learned that when an APA member is elected to an office, they give freely of their time and talent to promote the APA and protect standard-bred poultry. Their dedication is to be commended, the next time you see an APA officer, please give them a pat on the back or a thank you for all they do.

Dues notices were sent out early in December. I am happy to say they are being returned at a good rate. If your dues expired January, 2011, you received a special notice informing you that you would be deleted from the membership role if you did not renew by January 2012. We have received memberships from sixteen new clubs or organizations in 2011, and 489 new members. As of December 10, our current members number 2,565. Jim Adkins is to be congratulated as the winner of the membership contest in 2011.

Merchandise sales as of November 30, 2011 were over \$100,000 with about 60% of that amount coming from the 2010 Standard of Perfection. Everyone knew it would be a good seller, and as the Christmas season begins (I write this early in December) sales for Christmas gifts remain about the same as last year. Note: I shipped 29 Standards the first ten days of December!

It isn't too soon to start planning your travels for 2012. The APA semi-annual will be held May 12 & 13 in Avoca IA, sponsored by the United Poultry Fanciers Club. The contact for that great show is: Diana Dahir, 712-485-2412.

The APA Annual will be sponsored by the Southern Ohio Poultry Breeders and held on October 6 & 7 in Lucasville, Ohio. Contact person for information is David Adkins, 740-259-2852.

The 2012 Canadian National will be held on December 1 & 2 in Woodstock, ON. It is sponsored by the Ontario Poultry Breeders. For information, please contact Troy Laroche at 905-873-2715.

The fair season in Pennsylvania is a few months off, but we have the Pennsylvania Farm Show (our equivalent of a state fair) in early January, so I had better get some mate-

rial gathered up as they have about 1500 birds entered and I hope to recruit some new members while I am there. Hope you have a good start to the hatching season, and hope to see you somewhere down the road.

Pat Horstman
APA Secretary

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AMERICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION

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

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ABA Happenings

Hello all:

Here is a brief update from the ABA. I am almost through the pile of loose ends from the national Meet in October and wanted to highlight some of the latest ABA work in process and developments. I will briefly list them here. For more information, you need to refer to your Fall 2011 Quarterly and keep tuned to your electronic mailboxes. Of course, in order to be kept in the loop, you need to be an ABA member. (hint hint)

2012 Legbands: They are in and we are shipping them daily. This year, the color is blue with white lettering. Bands may be ordered online (www.bantamclub.com) or with the form in your newsletter. These bands are not "required" – however many of our ABA members feel these are a MUST for their breeding programs. They are made of plastic and numbered clearly with ABA, the year (12) and an identifying number. They are "seamless". They are intended to be placed on "Young – growing" birds. Many ABA members try to put them on the birds when they are around 8-12 weeks old. You try to place them on a growing bird, if they slip off – you try again in a week or so – repeating the process until they stay on. Once on – they are permanent. They are "Priceless" in the breeding pen! A listing of suggested sizes can be emailed to you on request if you have misplaced your newsletter.

Did you know? The APA/ABA Youth program headed by Doris Robinson has been working with the USDA for recognition? This is just one of the exciting developments coming out of her organization. If you have children involved in poultry and you are not part of this program, I urge you to check it out. Doris can be reached at NANAMAMABRAHMA@ATT.NET, <http://www.apa-abayouthpoultryclub.org> or 865-717-6270.

Did you know? The ABA is working on some changes on approved locations for new Breed and New variety acceptance require-

ments. This is a change in By-laws and will be printed in the next newsletter for your feedback.

Did you know? The awards that the ABA offers have been reviewed and enhanced with the star pins returning and some other enhancements.

Did you know? The next National Meet for 2012 will be held with the Pacific Poultry Breeders Association club in California. Their show is scheduled for January 26-27, 2013.

These facts are all part of the minutes from the last directors meeting. Yes - they are part of the newsletter that you receive as long as your ABA dues are current.

Last but certainly not least, there is a new Bantam Standard available. The 2011 Edition is now available in hardcover and the popular mini version. They are blue with yellow lettering. They can be ordered on the website - or directly from the ABA or one of our dealers. Hardcover \$45 - Mini Softcover - \$30. Please add \$5 shipping and handling. This book has been updated and contains lots of new varieties that have been accepted since 2006 as well as the American Serama Bantam. A MUST for every collector and anyone currently showing bantams.

Another new offering is The Silkie book. It has been updated and is available once again. This is also available on the website www.bantamclub.com or via regular mail. Cost is \$8.00. Dealer inquiries are always welcome!!

I will put a plug in once again for all ABA members to consider the Go-Green approach to newsletters. To receive your ABA Quarterly via email, simply send me an email to Fancybantams@embarqmail.com asking me to add you to the Green members. This will NOT apply to the annual yearbook. Every person who accepts the newsletter this way really does help the ABA greatly. We are a non-profit club with postage as our largest annual expense and yes - the word on the street is that the US Postal service is in a financial bind. What that means for us is constant increases in the rates. The rate increases that the ABA experiences are often in bulk mail rates and other classes of mail that you as consumers do not hear about on the news. So - I may sound like a broken record - but here goes - please if you do spend any time on the computer, you understand how easy it is to open a pdf file and get all the news from the ABA in a nice convenient way. You even can put them in your own ABA file folder and always have them at your fingertips for easy access. What a deal and the ABA says Thank you ahead of time.

Time to go and check out the mice in my chicken house. Yes - winter brings them in and I have to figure out how to evict them again. :) Any ideas are welcome.

Take care,
Karen Unrath,
ABA Secretary



American Bantam Association

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

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INBREEDING AND OUTCROSSING

By Brian Reeder

(Article originally published in 2004)

This is a very difficult subject to get a good handle on, and none if it is ever black and white, but rather falls in the gray areas of life. There are almost no places in genetics where you can say never. Inbreeding is a good example. People often turn the word "inbreeding" into oversimplified meanings. In some instances, inbreeding is a bad thing, but in other instances, it is a useful tool. The key is to know when to inbreed and when to outcross.

With a newly made breed such as, for example, the serama, which was made from a wide variety of other breeds and may even contain some wild or nearly wild blood, there is a wide diversity of genes. Now most people in the west will hear that and think, "Oh, they are just a big segregating mess and won't breed true". That can be true, but it is a shallow assessment of the facts. The important genes that this wide diversity covers are the genes dealing with immune system, histocompatibility, blood type variants, disease resistance, etc, but this diversity can also encompass "bad" genes as well such as egg eating, feather picking, aggression, behavioral problems, lack of disease resistance, etc. Then further, in most instances, this diversity also encompasses a wide number of phenotype genes as well; e-alleles, additive genes, form genes, etc.

Using the Serama as an example, it is not

all that easy to "inbreed" them to begin with, unless one mates full-sibs or siblings to parents. To breed the serama in to a "breed" rather than a "landrace", one would select out the "bad" genes, while intensifying the "good" genes. To select out the bad genes, the birds, which exhibit them should simply be culled out and not used in breeding. To concentrate the good genes, those birds which display them, and that reproduce them should be inbred slightly, to allow for setting these genes. Inbreeding in and of itself is not a bad thing, IF you are concentrating good genes.

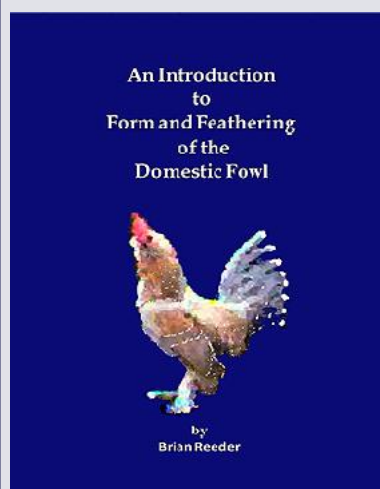
Further, inbreeding becomes a bad thing under some very specific situations; concentration of bad genes, narrowing of the genes governing vigor/resistance, or the complete replacement of an entire breed with one very narrow and inbred line. If you take a gene pool that is wide to begin with, it is not an easy thing to narrow that gene pool through inbreeding, with a little care a record keeping. How gene pools are narrowed through inbreeding is when there is overly intensive selection, with only a few birds (3 to 5 and usually males) that are intensified within the whole breed, with other males being excluded or culled out, so that eventually the whole breed can count descent from a very small and specific group of males (though such can occur through the female line as well, it is much more common to encounter the so-called "single sire phenom-

ena".

Now, let's look at some reasons to inbreed.

When you find a specific individual who performs well; i.e., a male who's offspring are of excellent health AND type or a hen that does not eat eggs and produces a good numbers of offspring and then, her offspring emulate her performance, inbreeding from those birds can be a beneficial thing to the breed. However, it is important not to saturate the whole breed with that blood line, but rather to try to repeat this with many lines within the overall breed, and then exchange stock amongst the breeders, so that the inbreeding and setting of important traits has been carried out on several strains, and then when those strains are blended, you can keep going in a positive direction, actually concentrating desired traits, while still keeping the gene pools wide.

Let's take an example. Let's say you have a pair that has produced a large number of offspring, with the male and female both being healthy, well mannered and vigorous. The female has produced a goodly number of eggs and hasn't eaten any eggs. Since the Serama carries such a wide diversity of genes, in this instance it would be desirable to keep as many offspring from that pair as possible, to work on setting their desirable traits. Then, to make the gene pool even wider, while still concentrating desired traits into it, you could take all the daughters from that pair, bring in a group of unrelated males, and set them all up in pairs, thus concentrating the traits of the good and proven pair, while still bringing in a wide diversity of genes. The offspring from those matings then could be switched around, so that you are not inbreeding, yet you are still concentrating the desired genes for the intangibles; vigor/resistance, production/reproduction,



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temperament, etc.

From the original pair, perhaps the most important offspring to keep would be the females, the daughters, while the males could be sold or passed on to others interested in working with the breed, (though a few of those males would also be useful to keep and at least one or two pairs used to breed as brother/sister matings to test the viability of the line and to check for recessive problem genes. If none arise, you may actually be able to concentrate good genes in this way, then in the next generation take the daughters out to unrelated males.) Those daughters from the original mating though, having come from a hen with good production, are invaluable and to give them up is not wise for the development of the line, nor is it a good investment of the breeders time and effort. Selling off such hens is short changing oneself. Daughters from such a hen may not all have the traits of their mother, but the only way to know is to raise them, test them out and see. By testing out a good number of offspring from any given mating, you have proven breeders. This is very important in knowing what birds to put together, as there is so much more to breeding than putting together visually attractive birds, especially in a time when a new breed is being established.

Situations where inbreeding is a problem is when the genome has been reduced to the point that the line has no ability to respond to changing external stimuli, where the genes have become so set that they are "clone-like", where too many necessary genes have been eliminated, or where "bad" or detrimental genes have become concentrated in the line. In such situations, an outcross is needed, yet most people in such a situation do not choose their outcrosses wisely. When a line is very inbred, in the negative sense, outcrossing to another line, which is equally inbred or nearly so, will not actually give enough genetic diversity to help anything. In instances where detrimental inbreeding has occurred, it is important to choose an outcross which has a good deal of genetic diversity and has not been inbred too closely, thus adding a wide range of genes to help reinvigorate the inbred strain. Inbreeding is not a straightforward problem, and there are situations where it is a valuable tool and others where it is detrimental. Learning the difference is not an easy or simple affair and takes time and experience to accomplish a comprehensive understanding of the differences.



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A Page From The Past . . .

Single Mating Is High Mark Of Master Breeding

Ben F. Ricketts

A single mating producing beautiful uniformity is to me the highest mark of a master breeder. Perhaps it is possible in some cases to produce an individual specimen which may be higher to the Nth degree by double mating; but in so doing a family is produced whose offspring contains so many off-standard birds that, for example, a new breeder would lose complete interest in the breed or variety and give it up.

I remember the first year I started judging was in 1931 and one of the four shows I judged was the Atlanta, Georgia, fair and included was Mrs. Donald Donaldson's exhibit of Single Comb Rhode Island Reds. They were just beautiful. After the judging Mr. Donaldson came to me and said he would like to take me to their yards if I had time before I went home. This I did and I have never forgotten the sight I saw.

Here were some 200 or more females that were almost like peas in both color and type, and on close examination I could not find a single one with black flecking on wing, bow or breast. Yet they had good black tails and were quite good in wings. The males were grand uniform birds too. At that time most people would have declared it was impossible to produce this uniformity from a single mating and without carrying a lot of breeders with excess black along with others completely lacking in black, others with smut in undercolor, etc. As long as you tolerate and propagate these defects they will remain. There is nothing to take the place of uniformity in size, shape and color, and this is the mark of the master breeder.

"Single Mating . . ." Reprinted from *The Voice of the Poultryman*, Summer 1968, Volume 1, Number 3. Original copies courtesy of APA/ABA Judge, Steve Jones, Poetry, Texas.

The Araucana & Those Glorious Tufts

By Ann Charles

(Originally published in the 2011 APA Yearbook)



Ear-tufts are the 'crowning glory' of the Araucana breed and it's one unique feature, yet the breed is probably better known for it's blue eggs. The origin of the tufting gene in the Araucana is much debated and may always be a mystery, but it is the one trait that the Araucana, as defined by the APA Standard of Perfection and the Bantam Standard, share in common with no other recognized breed of chicken. With out good ear-tufts, you simply do not have an Araucana that has any hope of making a top show bird. And the initial step toward exceptional ear-tufting may surprise you.

It is my opinion, that one of the first things you can do for your Araucana, to insure good tufting, is to eliminate all slow or 'tardy' feathering genes from your flock. There are a number of these, but the primary gene is at the 'K' locus. K_{-} represents slow feathering, it is a dominant gene, and it is sex-linked (carried on the Z chromosome). The desirable Araucana genotype, for any variety, would be $k+/k+$ for the male bird, and $k+_{-}$ for the female.. This represents a rapid feathering bird and this genotype is recessive. As an additional plus, the 'fast feathering' gene " $k+$ " appears to be a marker for genetic aspects that protect your birds naturally from Avian Leukosis.

It is advisable to keep records on your chicks at hatch and note position of the tufts, their apparent size, and direction (some will turn up or down visibly at hatch). It has been my experience that Araucana with small or medium sized tufts are not usually the best producers of good tufted offspring. I suppose it is a no-brainer to assume that the birds with the biggest, and best balanced tufts would produce the same. And, any of the genes that inhibit feathering in any way, probably also inhibit proper tuft development, and possibly the health of the bird in general.

Unfortunately, Araucana brood stock is ridiculously difficult to obtain. Yet there occasionally will be a breeder who is selling off their stock, for whatever reason. Or you will more likely be able to acquire single birds here and there, over time. If you can find some breeding birds, my suggestion is just keep hatching



chicks from them until you get some good double-tufted ones. Keep those back as breeders. And, eventually you should eliminate all single-tufted birds as breeders (a bird with a tuft on only one side of the head). But these are a start for most new Araucana breeders. And always try to breed from fully rumpless birds (no tail at all). You will probably find that many of the old anecdotal warnings relating to "short backs", as a result of repeated rumpless to rumpless matings, will not manifest in your flock.

You will be culling many, many chicks if you decide to take on the challenge of this breed. There is a reason that it has always been said that 1/100 makes a show bird when it comes to Araucana. And that does not mean perfect, excellent, or even nice "show bird". . . . It probably means one that will simply not be disqualified by the judge at the show. Those nice double-tufted, rumpless birds with no big glaring flaws are jewels and they are rare. And that is the hardest thing to make non-Araucana breeders understand.

I would also suggest you keep excellent records of which crosses work the best, and don't give up on any bird as a breeder unless you have made several different crosses. I believe there may be a number of modifying genes that effect the expression of tufting. And until all of those modifiers are bred out of your flock you will not have free 'dominant' expression of the tufting gene. But, having large well-balanced tufts is never a guarantee that an Araucana will always produce the same in their offspring. This is where record keeping and pedigreed breeding is so important. As an example, I have a really nice white bantam Araucana pullet, with



big balanced tufts that curl back around the back of head almost touching - very attractive. She has been Champion AOCCL a few times and I had high hopes for her in the breeding pen. She turned out to be a dismal failure. Over a 6 month period, and in between shows, I set 52 eggs from her that I have a record of. Of those 52 eggs, 15 were infertile, leaving 37 fertile eggs, with 36 of those hatching. Of the 36 . . . 17 were fully rumpless (all cockerels used as breeders were rumpless). Of the 17 rumpless chicks, only 4 exhibited any tufting, and of those 4, two (2) were single tufted! One chick had nice balanced, even, tufts of good size. But that bird was a Brown Red (not a standard variety for Araucana) and was sold ONE chick, a white pullet, had two good sized, but uneven, tufts. Normally, this last white pullet would not be a keeper for me. But if it is your best bird out of 52+ eggs set, it is not unreasonable to put her in the breeding pen and hope that she out produces her mother. That white bantam hen (like a lot of Araucana being shown) is now permanently retired to show bird status. The point I am trying to make is that regardless of how many years you spend breeding Araucana, you are going to run into situations like that.

With Araucana, unlike other more plentiful breeds, there is no one (that I know of) that you can go to and buy a nice breeding trio from to get started. With Araucana, you must start with whatever you can find that has the four traits that define this breed. Namely, pea comb, rumplessness, blue egg laying . . . plus ear-tufts in at least one of your breeding birds. And you go from there.

One key piece of advice - NEVER lose visible tufting in your flock. Don't fall for the mistaken idea that the tuft gene is there, but it is just "hidden". As you work on breed improvement, and focus on breed type, rumplessness, size, vigor, hatchability, etc, you must also keep good visible tufting at the fore front. If you don't see it, you usually don't have it. And if the tuft gene is present in your flock and not being expressed, that is bad also. There is no way of telling how many tuft inhibiting genes you have accumulated while working on other aspects of Araucana "type". You may find that this 'non-tufted' outcross line to be completely useless as breeding birds. I, and many others, have been down that path, don't waste your time.

However, there is light at the end of the tunnel, if you stick with this breed long enough, and it does not drive you insane due to frustration. You will get your lucky

breaks, along with your setbacks, as I am sure happens with any breed. For the last couple of years I have either earned some luck or all of the work put into my breeding program has finally started to pay off. I actually have a few birds that have started producing almost 50% double tufted chicks from those hatched. And that is how a dominant gene (tufting is dominant) is supposed to behave.

One more thing, if you are happy with just being an Araucana "exhibitor" and are not interested in taking on such a difficult

challenge as a breeder . . . Then contact a breeder and purchase the best Araucana you can find and just enjoy exhibiting them. Araucana have wonderful, friendly dispositions and are beautiful and truly unique birds. There is nothing else like them!

**Deadline for ad copy
and articles is the 24th
of each month.**

***Happy New Year* to all
of our wonderful friends
and customers who
helped make 2011 such a
successful year!**



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SkyBlueEgg Araucana

Ann Charles, Winnfield, Louisiana
Email: contact@SkyBlueEgg.com
Websites: <http://www.SkyBlueEgg.com>
& <http://www.Araucana.com>
Phone: 479-234-7819

Southeast Bantam Game Show Results

December 3, 2011

Atoka, Oklahoma

Best Varieties of OEG

Black Cockeral	Barnes Bantams
BB Red Cockeral	Marvin Cagle
Wheaten Cockeral	Jeff Burkhardt
White Cockeral	Marvin Cagle
Spangled Hen	Texoma Bantams
Brown Red Pullet	Jeff Burkhardt
Blue Wheaten Pullet	Jeff Burkhardt
Lemon Blue Cockeral	Jeff Burkhardt
Crele Cock	Kallie Clifton
Blue Cockeral	Roy Leftwich
SDW Cock	Chris Scott
Mottled Cockeral	High Hopes Acres
Red Pyle Pullet	Texoma Bantams
Brassy Back Pullet	Joe Leftwich
Blue Brassy Back K	Joe Leftwich
Barred Pullet	William Warnock
Cuckoo Pullet	William Warnock
GDW Cockeral	Jerry Corcoran
BGDW Cockeral	Jerry Corcoran
Blacktail Buff Pullet	Jerry Corcoran
Red Quill Pullet	Jerry Corcoran
Ginger Red Hen	K & K Bantams

Old English Game (Top Five)

Show Champ - Red Pyle Pullet - Texoma Bantams
Res. Show Champ - Black Cockeral - Barnes Bantams
3rd Overall OEG - White Cockeral - Marvin Cagle
4th Overall OEG - Spangled Hen - Texoma Bantams
5th Overall OEG - Wheaten Cockeral - Jeff Burkhardt

Modern Brown Red Pullet - Kallie Daniel - Best of Breed
& - Jr Show Champ

Dark Cornish Cock - Al Walker - Best of Breed

BB Red Cockeral - Seth Daniel - Jr Reserve Champ



Grand Champion Large Fowl
Buff Orpington Hen
Indiana Poultry Breeders Show
Connersville, Dec. 3-4, 2011

Doug Akers
Lebanon, Indiana

**Deadline for
advertising,
show results,
article
submission,
etc. for the
February 2012
issue is
January 24th.**

We have moved!

**Please take note of our new address:
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P.O. Box 1027, Winnfield, LA 71483**

Why Hens Stop Laying Eggs

During the fall, many backyard flock owners ask, "Why have my hens stopped laying?" Several factors may cause the reduction in egg laying, says LSU AgCenter poultry specialist Dr. Theresia Lavergne. The most common causes are decreasing day length, improper nutrition, disease, aging and stress. The LSU AgCenter poultry specialist says if hens reduce egg production in fall, the probable cause is the decreasing day length.

"The reproductive state of birds is regulated by the amount of light they receive each day," Lavergne says. "Hens are stimulated to lay eggs when day length increases and reduce egg laying when day length decreases."

So in a natural environment, birds lay fewer eggs during fall and winter compared to spring and summer.

If maintaining egg production throughout the year is a priority, artificial light can prove useful. Hens require at least 14 hours of light every day to maintain egg production. This light can be provided from sunlight, artificial light sources or a combination of both.

Lavergne says one 40-watt light for every 100 square feet of coop is adequate to maintain egg lay. The artificial light can be left on continuously, or can be used to provide supplemental light during the hours that sunlight is not available.

"If you are not going to leave the artificial light on continuously, but are going to use it only to supplement the sunlight, the artificial light should be added in the morning hours so the hens can roost as the sun sets and not be stranded in the dark when the artificial light is turned off," the poultry specialist says.

If you determine that the length of daylight is not the cause of reduced egg lay, you need to evaluate some of the other causes, Lavergne advises.

Improper nutrition is an alternative cause of reduced egg lay. Layers require a balanced diet and a constant source of fresh water to maintain maximum egg production. "It is important to provide a nutritionally balanced layer food to your hens to ensure that they will have adequate levels of protein, calcium and energy to maintain egg production," she says. Also, providing oyster shell to your hens will help maintain strong egg shells.

"Be careful when supplementing hen diets with whole grains, scratch feeds or table scraps, because too much of these can cause the hen's diet to become imbalanced," Lavergne says.

Disease is another cause of reduced egg production. "If your hens have a dull and listless appearance, watery eyes, runny nostrils, coughing, lameness or mortality, contact your veterinarian to diagnose and treat the problem," the poultry expert recommends.

The effects of aging on egg production will vary from bird to bird. Many hens, however, will have decreased egg production after two to three years of age.

A decline in egg production also may be attributed to stress. Limiting the incidence of chilling, handling, changing environments, moving, parasites, fright and predators is necessary to maintain maximum egg production.

Additionally, if egg production is decreasing, you may need to consider the possibility of predators consuming the eggs, egg-eating by the hens themselves, egg breakage or hens hiding the eggs (if they are able to run free).*

*Reprinted from 2011 LSU AgCenter .com

BREED CLUBS

Basic one-year listing - just \$12

American Sumatra Association, <http://sumatraassociation.org/> \$18/2yrs; \$25/3yrs. Doug Akers, 300 S.400 W., Lebanon, IN 46052, email: dakers@purdue.edu (12-12)

Ameraucana Breeders Club, <http://www.ameraucana.org>. Contact: Michael Muenks, Secretary/Treasurer, Ameraucana Breeders Club, 1222 Coldspring Road, Elgin, IL, Phone: (573)796-3999, email: Michael@bantamhill.com (03-12)

Chantecler Fanciers International, <http://www.chanteclerfanciersinternational.org>, Secretary: Mike Gilbert, W5171 Baker Rd., Holmen, WI 54636, email: info@redstagacres.com (03-12c)

International Cornish Breeders Association, Contact: Chris Tamayo, 9829 Falcon Meadow Dr., Elk Grove, CA 95624, email: icbasectreas@gmail.com (12-11)

National Call Breeders of America: <http://www.callducks.org>, Secretary: Dennis Fuller, email: wapsiwaterfowl@aol.com, 319-334-3497, Mail Memberships to: NCBA c/o Steve Jones, 9677 Butler Lane, Poetry, TX 75160 (12-12)

Rhode Island Red Club Of America: <http://www.showbirdbid.com/joomla/redclub>, Secretary: Frank Harris, 15483 Coatesville Rd., Beaverdam, VA 23015, email: fbharris@earthlink.net, 804-883-5682 (12-12)

United Orpington Club: <http://www.unitedorpingtonclub.com>, Secretary: Christina Korfus, PO Box 681, Cle Elum, WA. 98922, email: korfuskluckers@aol.com, 509-607-0405 (12-12)

Serama Council of North America: www.schnaonline.org, contact Jerry Schexnayder, jerschex@gmail.com. (12-11)

Wyandotte Breeders of America: www.Wyandottebreedersofamerica.net, c/o David Lefeber, Treasurer, 8648 Irish Ridge Road, Cassville, WI 53806; Ph: 608 725-2179; Email: dottestuff@yahoo.com (03-12)

Upcoming APA & ABA Shows

January 2012

January 7-8, 2012

Lake City, Florida, Florida Sunshine Classic. Contact: Danny and norma Padgett, 15930 W St Rd 238, Lake Butler, FL 32054; 386-496-2561

January 8, 2012

College Station, Texas, Brazos Valley Poultry Club's Bluebonnet Classic Open Show. <http://www.BlueBonnetClassic.com>, contact: Claudia@BlueBonnetClassic.com

January 14, 2012

Jefferson, Georgia, Northeast Georgia Poultry Fancier's Association 6th Annual All Breed Show, <http://www.negapfa.com>, pjsseramas@windstream.net

January 14-15, 2012

West Springfield, Massachusetts, Northeastern Poultry Congress, 39th Annual Show. www.poultrycongress.com, Janet

Winnett (508) 923-0051

January 21-22, 2012

Fort Worth, Texas, Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo Poultry Show. 817-877-2400. FWSSR.com

January 28-29, 2012

Stockton, California, Pacific Poultry Breeders Association 65th Annual Winter Show. Contact: Anthony Rose, 209-988-7762, arose@valleyaphaelectric.com or Jim Sallee, jbsallee@volcano.net, 209-296-8084.

February 2012

February 4, 2012

Dalton, Georgia, Northwest Georgia Poultry Club Show, www.nwgapoultry.org, contact: Christina Duncan, 706-952-4157 luv4poultry@yahoo.com

February 8-12, 2012

Tampa, Florida, State Fairgrounds. Florida State Fair Open Purebred Poultry Show. Contact: www.floridastatefairag.com, Michael Schmidt, StateFairPoultry@att.net, (772) 260-6120

February 11, 2012

Phoenix, Arizona, Arizona Poultry Organization 3rd Annual Show. Contact: Suze Scott 480-234-0335, suze.scott@con.net

February 18-19, 2012

Newnan, Georgia, The Chatahoochee Valley Poultry Association Eight Annual Show. Contact: Beth Smith, 770-251-6510, herry.o.smithj@att.net, website: cvpa-newnan.org

February 18, 2012

Fresno, California, GCSPF's Greater California Show. Web: <http://www.gcspf.com>, contact: Sue Gallegos, 559-855-3951, gcspf@netptc.net

March 2012

March 3, 2012

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

March 3, 2012

Tampa, Florida, State Fairgrounds. Central Florida Poultry Breeders Assn Spring Show. Contact: Tom Carey, careybantams@wb4me.com, (352) 344-8204

March 3-4, 2012

Wapakoneta, Ohio, West Central Ohio Poultry Club First Annual Poultry Show. Website: wcopc.weebly.com. Contact: Brian, 937-623-7749; or Kim, 937-684-0455; or Jim, 419-305-2598.

March 31 - April 1, 2012

Harrington, Delaware, Delmarva Poultry Fanciers Club 36th Annual Show. **ABA Semi-Annual Meet**. Contact: Rich Barczewski, rbarczewski@desu.edu, 302-659-1211.

April 2012

April 07, 2012

El Dorado, Arkansas. Contact: Billy Atwood (870) 942-7361, bildeb@windstream.net.

April 21, 2012

Fort Payne, Alabama, Alabama Showbird Association All Bantam Show. Jonathan Posey, jonjon.posey@gmail.com

Deadline for ad copy and articles is the 24th of each month.



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**Contact: Claudia Choate at
Claudia@bluebonnetclassic.com**



APA & ABA Licensed Judges

Basic one-year listing just \$12

CALIFORNIA

E. Donald Barger, 6724 Tustin Rd., Prunedale, Ca 93907. Phone: 831-915-8918, email: longfeathersfarm@yahoo.com. APA/ABA General License. (03-12)

Conor Keegan, 2524 Rita Ave, McKinleyville, CA 95519. Home 707-633-6263, Cell 805-245-4024. A.P.A. - A.B.A. General Licensed Judge & Bantam Duck License. (01-12)

John Monaco, 1600 Maple Ave, San Martin, CA 95046. Phone # 408-489-3308, email: john@poultryshow.com. APA & ABA General Licensed (07-12)

FLORIDA

Mike Schmidt, 1170 NE Town Terr., Jensen Beach FL 34957. Phone: (772) 260-6120, email: michaeljschmidt@bellsouth.net, APA General License. (05-12)

IOWA

Bart Pals, 146 Brook Terrace, Mason City, IA 50401. (641) 424-3709, apa@netins.net. APA-ABA General License (02-12)

MASSACHUSETTS

Jackie Koedatich, 47 Cottage Street, Belchertown, MA 01007. 570-269-4666, chickenlittle@noln.com. Bantam Chicken (04-12)

NEW MEXICO

Steven B. Beaty, ABA General Licensed Judge #348, & ABA Bantam Duck Licensed Judge #160, Master exhibitor ABA & APA. Retired Fire Chief looking forward to judging assignments. P.O. Box 126, Portales, New Mexico 88130, Home (575) 359-1074, Cell (575) 760-6727, email: firemanm@msn.com (03-12)

TEXAS

Samuel Brush, 1009 Hillview Drive, Keller, TX 76248-4012, 817.379.6475, slbrush@verizon.net slbrush@verizon.net, APA General License. (12-12)

Monty Fitzgerald, 1713 CR 4280, Decatur, TX 76234, mfitzgerald@mypbmail.com, 940-393-8907. APA General License, Bantam Chicken & Bantam Duck (12-12)

Steve Jones, 9677 Butler Lane, Poetry, TX 75160, ghia4me@sprynet.com, 972-636-9093, APA/ABA General License. (12-12)

Pat Malone, 4903 Brazowood Circle, Arlington, TX 76017; PatMalone@pleasantridgechurch.org, 817.478.2397. APA General License, Bantam Chicken & Bantam Duck (12-12)

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WISCONSIN

Jeff Halbach, 31601 High Dr. Burlington, WI 53105. jeff.halbach@tds.net, 262-534-6994. Bantam Chicken & Duck. (12-12)

CANADA

Heather Hayes, 5019 Lansdowne Road, Armstrong, British Columbia, Canada, V0E 1B4. APA/ABA general licensed +ABA Bantam Duck, 250-546-4969, triple-h@telus.net (02-12)

Jamie Carson, 465 Sanatorium Rd., The Glades, NB, Canada, E4J 1W3. 506-756-8544, amiecarson@rogers.com. APA-ABA General Licensed Judge. (02-12)

Rico Sebastianelli, Box 178, Bon Accord, Alberta Canada T0A0K0. APA General Licensed Judge. Phone: 780-921-2119, Cell: 780-721-1283, Fax: 780-921-3925, Email: ricoseb@shaw.ca (03-12)

Smith Poultry & Game Bird Supplies

14000 W. 215th Street, Bucyrus, KS 66013
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For more info go to: <http://www.apa-abayouthpoultryclub.org/>
or contact: Doris Robinson
National Director/Coordinator APA-ABA Youth Poultry Club
810 Sweetwater Rd., Philadelphia, TN 37846
Phone: 865-717-6270 Email: nanamamabrahma@att.net



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