



Isabelle



Ribbon tailed Ash red



Light Andalusian Swift

# PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER

## EMAIL VERSION JULY 2005

EDITOR: LESTER PAUL GIBSON

PAGE 231

Hi everybody, somebody, anybody. I think this email newsletter has become too serious. Just remember, I am out of my mind, but feel free to leave a message. LOL. Remember also, I'm very easy to get along with, as soon as you see things my way!!!!!!!

### HELMUTBREWER EMAILS: 24feb'04

Do you think that Strasser, Blackwing Archangels, Kite, Brander Bronze genome will hide the Ts complex expressions at first cross? [Sometimes. On first crosses, the color of the het Ts is bronze when it expresses. Stassers with white markings are usually Dominant opal.]

Why would e//e produced be smeary white? [From what? Again the Strasser is usually Dominant opal.]

Why do some Kites molt blacker where others the shield gets like brander...with the molt. [I don't know exactly what you are referring to. But Kites almost always molt blacker in the absence of e and that probably is not the full story.]

Your idea that Ts drives the fs//fs penetrance...Why not the reverse? [They seem to drive each other with the fs//fs driving the Ts more than the reverse.]

### EDITOR

I had a series of emails with pictures from Gary Young concerning Atlas and ember. He had some nice pictures. He said he judged the Chinese Owls at the annual pigeon show in southern Utah. He states he spent some time eyeing the "buff and tough" Flying Oriental Rollers----"still can't see much difference between them and atlas".

### GARY YOUNG WRITES:

The atlas X black produced two types of offspring – blue check (em//+) and ember check (em//e). I have attached photos of one of the F1 blue check hens. You can see a little gimpel bronze in her and pied factor – along with the smoky, undergrizzle and sooty. Mated her to her em//+ sibling, they produced atlas. [Pic. 1]

Next email: This is typical of the F1's that I thought were e//e because they remained so red after the molt. But they are em//e check with some set of factors that maintain the red, because two of them mated together produced atlas.[Pic.2]

Below at the pictures Gary sent.



female



male (yellow Atlas)



Pic 1 group

Pic. 2 group

Next email: Here's the clincher – e//e and em//em F2 babies – I raised several rounds of these in individual mating cages to make certain. The parents of these youngsters were 891 and 878. The F2 ratio was close enough to the ½ ember (em//e), ¼ rec-red (ee/e), and ¼ atlas (em//em) ratio to convince me. [Pic. 3]

Last email: Here are some related pictures that you have seen before. The feral cock was raised by Hollander and sent to me by Joe Powers. The yellow atlas hen was probably out of him mated to an atlas Arabian. I tend to classify her more as ember rather than atlas. The Ts1-barred ember was out of my atlas Arabian cock and the yellow hen. [Pic 4]



Pic 3 group



Pic 4 group

### **EDITOR**

Hi Gary, I had to get a new color ink cartridge before I could print off the beautiful pictures you sent. Thanks very much for the pictures. What a group of birds and what a good job testing. Now, I must put on the old thinking cap and try to cipher what it all means. With your work we have a lot of data to go on. I could not print off the single picture because I didn't know how. If there is more than one picture, I have no trouble, because the computer does the work for me. Thanks again for all the pictures. We sure appreciate all you do.

Well I have studied the pictures and ?????? I see a yellow atlas mated to a black that produced smoky, sooty blue checks and ???ember checks?????. Since she did not produce blacks, I would think that she was probably is not Spread. You stated that they produced atlas but none of the photos in pic 1-3 showed atlas.

Then you state this is typical of the F1s you thought were e//e (Where did these come from?) You said the F1s were blue check and ember check. Next you state you mated these reds together and produced atlas. Pic 2. (I do not see atlas there.)

Your next email states you raised F2s, these in individual cages and got homozygous ember and recessive red babies. Pic 3. (I see some poor color recessive reds but no homozygous embers (But then mating ember to ember for several years, I have never reared or seen a homozygous ember to my knowledge.)

The last email (pic 4) contained the photos of (clockwise from top left) yellow atlas, a barred ember, probably a yellow atlas/dilute bar ember and a barred ember. The bars of the embers are not Ts1 but are mimics from the ember.

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A kindergarden pupil told his teacher he'd found a cat, but it was dead. "How do you know that the cat was dead?" she asked the pupil. "Because I pissed in its ear and it didn't move," answered the child innocently. "You did WHAT?!?" the teacher exclaimed in surprise. "You know," explained the boy, "I leaned over and went 'Pssst!' and it didn't move."

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#### RICHARD CRYBERG excerpts

Every nucleated cell in the body has all the genes. But that does not mean that every cell is capable of making pigment. As I understand it, the pigment is only produced by a special class of cells in the neural crest of the developing embryo. These cells then migrate to various points in the birds body where the melanocytes produce pigment. If the genes controlling this migration dictate that no pigment cells migrate to the wing tips then the wing tips will be white. The same is true for any piebald or white area no matter if it is gazzi, saddle, or recessive white. This is not theory, it is fact! And is true of not just birds but of animals also.

#### EDITOR

Thanks Dick for summing this up for us. Some people see things or hear things that are touted as fact and someone like you has to pull it up short with the facts.

#### STEVE CORVUS EMAILS:feb'04

I have a Roller which when displaying to a hen or is aggressive to another cock, will occasionally hold his wings up in a "touch down" position and turn side to side. I have never seen this before in any of my other birds.

Was curious whether anyone else has experienced this behavior in their birds.

As a side note, this cock is one I raised from a day old chick and he is in a mixed loft of Rollers, Homers, and Modenas. This is his first breeding season. Could it be he is trying to make himself look bigger?

#### EDITOR

Steve, I saw this behavior at an Iowa Show. It was an Indian Fantail owned by Tim Kvidera. I asked Tim about it and he said yes he sees that quite a bit in his birds.

*Is he trying to make himself look bigger* by this strutting? Yes, he is displaying just like a Turkey or Peacock to hens to impress them and to males to intimidate them. This is a beautiful behavior which should be bred into your flock.

FREE PUPPIES: ½ Cocker Spaniel, ½ sneaky neighbor's dog.

FREE PUPPIES: Part German Shephard, part stupid dog.

FOUND: Dirty White Dog. Looks like a rat ...!...better be a reward.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY! Must sell washer and dryer \$300.

WILL WROTE:

Attached are a few photos of Eulig colored Stettin Tumblers in my loft. I do believe this term generally refers to the type of grizzle with a whitish belly and chest.

GRAHAM MANNING REPLIES

Thanks for the pics. I think you are right? I've been trying to figure out just where the "owlish" fits in. I checked some owl pictures on an owl website: - <http://www.owlpages.com/species/gallery.html> and several species of owls do indeed have this whitish breast and white underbelly region. The flecking seems to be a trait in some owl species [breeds] also. I think in your Stettin pigeons the flecking is due to Sooty mixed with grizzle. The white underbelly, I think is a separate trait that goes to make up the whole "eulig" effect? So what's preferred for show purposes as far as flecking on the breast goes? With trimming on some birds you could get some to have an all white breast. I tend to think that would look nicer than the "flecking" of white and blue? If it's the actual flecking that makes it "eulig" then scratch the trimming idea.

Someone must have some more information on this coloration?

WILL WROTE

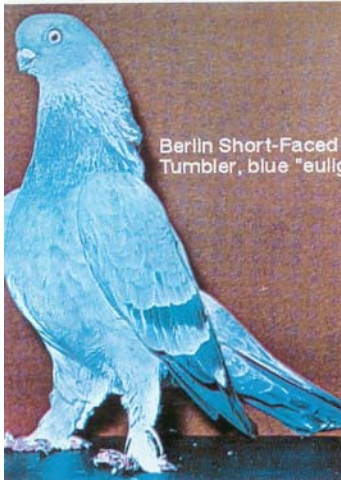
"Pigeongibs wrote: Hello you eulig discussers, I believe the 'eulig' pictures from wdb6a [that's Will] are as Graham says Sooty Grizzles. The 'eulig' pictures sent by hogeye [below] are from Levi's book and show the Stettin with a white belly. This is as Graham thought, a separate trait. I really don't know the origins of the 'eulig' terminology but the birds in Levi are hetero Ice Grizzles. The stettin has the extra white breast trait. For those that have Levi's "Encyclopedia of Pigeon Breeds", look at Fig. 634 and you will see the same trait in Ash.

Wdb6a, are these still fledglings or have they molted? The eye color looks like young birds."

In Levi's encyclopedia, under the Berlin short face tumbler, he mentions eulig with quotes around it (i.e. "eulig") and in parenthesis following this he wrote (soft grizzle).

Never heard that terminology before. He then goes on to state that eulig is available in light and dark blue, silver and Isabel.

In reference to Paul's inquiry about the age of those Stettins, they are both early '03 birds. I would suspect the eye color you see is what they will remain. After you inquiry, I ran out to the loft to be sure the camera wasn't making the eye color appear different. It wasn't, the eye color on the birds is as in the photo. Does the eye color look odd to you? Just curious.



#### EDITOR

Do they look odd? No, just different. Close ups show the eyes to be a pearl gray. Concerning the term eulig, that is German for owl-like (or dust brush) so I still think he was referring to the light gray coloration either way, not the shape.

#### LYNN KRAL WRITES:

This is a young flash grizzle from this year ('04) that is about six weeks old, the mother was the flash grizzle [Dom.] opal and the father is a blue T-pattern with flash grizzle in the flights.



#### EDITOR

These pictures show the bird has flash showing in the wing and feet also.

**The Ten Commandments:**

**Despite how you may have personally felt about the issue, there was a good logical reason for removing the Ten Commandments monument from the Atlanta Supreme Court building.**

**You cannot post things like “Thou Shalt Not Steal”, “Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery”, and “Thou Shall Not Lie” in a building full of Lawyers, Judges, and Politicians. It creates a hostile work environment. ☺☺☺**

SAMEER ALI WRITES paraphrased

Are these Ash red grizzles and is the first one a bar and the second one barless?

EDITOR

Sam, yes they are Ash red Grizzles. The first one looks like it is probably bar but there is so little color left it is hard to be sure. The second is also probably bar.

STUDENT EXCUSES FOR SCHOOL

My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please execute him.

Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She is sick and I had her shot.

Dear School: Please excuse John for being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and also 33.

Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.

My daughter was absent yesterday because she was tired. She spent the weekend with the Marines.

Please excuse Mary for being absent yesterday. She was in bed with gramps.

Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his fathers fault.

Please excuse Brenda, she was sick and under the doctor.

Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea and his boots leak.

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GRAHAM MANNING WROTE:20feb'04 excerpts

I've been trying to find a suitable image of one of my birds for Hans to paint. Not easy at present because all my favorites are in heavy molt! Anyhow, managed to find one older cock bird with most of his feathers attached. Thought I would send these pics so Hans can get an idea of the breed. Australian Performing Tumblers [APTs] looks similar to the type of long faced tumbler or many years ago.[sent the rec. red pic below].

GRAHAM

Here are some more pics. The first is a black, the second a young Almond, the third is a Kite. I included the Kite to show what I mean by "saturated" T-pattern. These look like blacks from a distance but has a definite tail bar.



Beautiful recessive red & good sheen.



Beautiful Kite and also good sheen.

SAM WRITES:3mar'04

Could someone identify for me the gene(s) that making this phenotype. Is it pencil



or grizzle?



EDITOR

The bird looks like a Spread (black) Grizzle. The expression is commonly called pepperhead because most of the grizzling appears on the head. Usually on a Grizzle black, the shield does not show grizzling like this, but is black.

Just for information, if this were pencil, the head would be black and the shield near white with dark markings on the edges of the feathers.

RON HUNTLY WRITES

Sam, your black spread grizzle might also be a tiger grizzle. I have some spread black tiger grizzles and they had the same white lacing effect on their juvenile plumage. Keep an eye on your bird. If it should start to molt in white, take several photos to record the color change from black to tiger. Below are pics of the before and after.



[juvenile grizzling of homo? Tiger Grizzle]



Adult black Tiger Grizzle

EDITOR:

Ron, somewhat similar, not the same. Do you know whether this youngster was homo for Tiger Grizzle or not? In my earlier research, the only young that showed this grizzling were homo Tiger Grizzle..

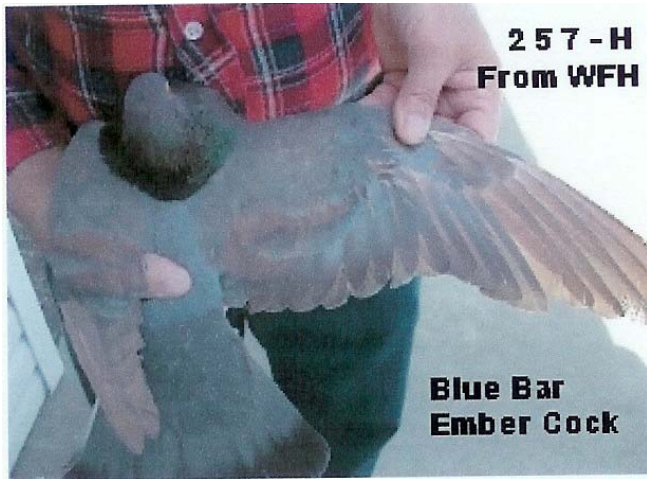
BOB MANGILE WRITES

Paul, I took a few more photos today. I've attached two more ember pictures. One is an Ember cock, originally Doc. Hollander's that Johnnie Blaine gave me. The other is a bird I raised that shows the molting process as it turns to a blue barred plumage. This is a sibling to the bird photo I sent you last night.

There is an interesting thing emerging in my ember mating where hetero Ice is involved. Some (not all) of the non-ember (wildtype) squabs display a "reddish" bill ring when hatched. All the ember squabs display a reddish bill ring.

But in dirty ember crosses to wildtype (where Ice is NOT involved) all the non-ember squabs display a black bill ring. Of course, my experiences are too few to make flat statements so I'll keep an eye on this phenomenon. I suspect that when a hetero ember squab is hetero for Ice, it displays a reddish bill ring. I'll know more in 5 or 6 years. Stay Tuned.

CLASSIFIED AD: GERMAN SHEPHARD 85lbs. Neutered. Speaks German. Free.



### EDITOR

This WFH bird is typical of an ember after it molts from rec. red juvenile plumage. The one thing that all embers have is the primary flights stay reddened. Usually they are brighter than depicted above. Also the bar on a blue bird may stay red and mimic Ts1. Bob had the second bird marked as an ember hen. It sure looks similar to a brown hen in this photo but you can see the flights are red. The bars are probably bronzed but you cannot see it at this angle. You can see some of the shield feathers that have not molted from the red to gray.



A blue bar Pouter



The effect of Dom. opal on blue bar.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannic. 45 volumes. \$1000 or best offer. No longer needed, got married last month. Wife knows everything.