



Isabelle



Ribbon tailed Ash red



Light Andalusian Swift

PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER

EMAIL VERSION SEPTEMBER 2005

EDITOR: LESTER PAUL GIBSON

PAGE 251

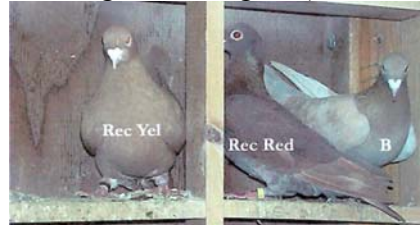
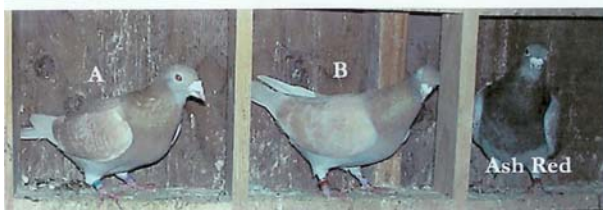
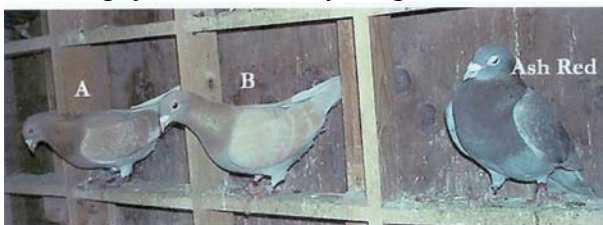
STEVE SENT THE FOLLOWING: 8apr.'05

Well, I finally got a series of pictures that seem to show the differences between two different non-intense (pale and dilute) colors I have in my Ash birds. I'll send two emails with four pictures total. In each, the two colors of Ash birds are labeled "A" and "B". I also have next to them in the same pictures, for comparison, an Ash red bird, and in some a recessive red (from my project) and a recessive "yellow" bird. All are labeled.

The question is, of the ones labeled "A" and "B" which is pale, and which is dilute??

The flash brightness fades as the birds are farther away from the flash, but all birds are the same in all pictures so you can figure out color vs. what little difference the flash is making.

History... I have understood dilute to be very common in Homers, and pale to be pretty rare in Homers. The bird labeled "A" is typical of the color I have had in my loft for over 12 years, and is the same family of non-intense that Doc. identified years ago as "dilute" when exhibited on a Blue Check bird. The color labeled as "B", I only recently picked up (2 yrs ago) in a loft disposal sale of a flyer known for having "strange" colors (but to Homer guys, almost everything not a Blue Check, is a strange color. <grin>)



EDITOR:

Very good pictures and well set up. We can quickly see the difference between the “B” dilute (Ash yellow) and the “A” pale Ash in the left picture top row, but the difference in the bottom left row does not show the difference between “A” and “B” quite as distinct. They both look like Ash yellows. The right picture is very nice in that you get to see rec. red and rec. yellow in the same picture as well as see the three Ash colors together. Thanks Steve.

MICHAEL (writes to Larry Long) excerpts

I have seen mosaic colors side by side but not front to back. I have a Syrian Fantail that I raised and it's red grizzle or red mottle on the front half and Blue Check on the back half, have you ever seen anything like it before? Don McC has seen it and can't explain it. I also have a white red grizzle and blue check that carries black mated together and I'm getting red grizzle, black grizzle, red bar, blue bar, and blue check. What a combination huh.

LARRY LONG REPLY: excerpts

Your white red grizzle must be spread. Sounds like an interesting pair and something different in every nest.

EDITOR:

Larry said the red grizzle must be spread but he neglected to say, “because you cannot have a Blue Check that carries black.”

ORONIO CATENACCI EMAILS:

I've got some questions about the Sooty mutant. A search through the archives for this group didn't really turn up an answer to these questions.

- 1) Is sooty dominant to wild type or recessive? I ask because in Dr. Hollander's "Origins and Excursions" he identifies sooty as a recessive. However, on Ron Huntley's excellent web site he says it's dominant. I realize that Dr. Hollander's book may be dated and that further research after he wrote the book may have proved the trait to be dominant. So can someone tell me which it is?
- 2) Are there other alleles on the sooty locus? Is it jus So>> (or +<so, depending on the answer to question 1.

Thanks for any answers that anyone might be able to supply.

MY REPLY

Concerning your question about Sooty. Yes, it is a Dominant but it is one of the foolers. When you cross a Sooty to a non-sooty; you get a non-sooty youngster. This makes it look recessive. However, when the bird molts, in comes the Sooty markings. Thus it is a delayed reaction. A couple other traits are delayed like this also.

Even though Doc Hollander published this as a recessive, it was described originally as a Dominant. Joe Quinn in his 1971 Pigeon Breeders Handbook stated it appears to act like a Dominant. The results of my research just a few years later, in which I produced Sooty barless Ice Pigeons that after the first molt looked like Checkers, proved it to be a Dominant. We all realized that it was Dominant from then on. Sometimes homozygous Sooty young will show some Sooty marks in the nest but this is not common. The only color combination that shows this very well besides Ice is Spread Ash red which produces the strawberry phenotype.

STEVE SOUZA WRITES:14aug'04 excerpts

Pigeongibs wrote, "Hi Steve, quite a few years ago I got a number of Altenburg Trumpeters from Gary Fillmore. He has them in a number of color combinations; one of which was Qualmond. I took a liking to the Qualmonds and after a few years, all my Altenburgs were Qualmonds. Most were on blue but I also had them in Dun (silver) and brown. Some of the browns were hard to tell from the dark duns. Yes, they were brown Qualmonds. I now have a couple Qualmond khakis also. I have reared a number of khakis but they do not survive well."

Did you get the crossover, or did they come in both colors when you got them? [I am not sure. I had browns from Gary but I don't remember any being Qualmond.]

I do have (what appears to be) intense and non-intense brown Qualmond in the hens (cocks are het dilute at best), and hemi hens definitely look different from the cocks. I haven't bred any homo Qualmond cocks yet.

"Just as Faded blues can be told from Qualmond blues; so can the browns be told apart. For one thing the Qualmond hens show the trait just like Almonds do. This is not true in the Faded where the hens always are fairly easily separated from the cock birds by color."

So too with Qualmond, I have not bred any known Faded, so I can't compare.

JAKE EMAILS excerpt

We have a nomenclature problem with saddle and shield designations.

EDITOR:

I agree Jake. I got to wondering if I missed something about saddle and shield meanings. I took the time to go through a lot of the older literature and some newer. I consistently found that shield and saddle have always been used interchangeably. Axel Sell and I both use the term interchangeably in our books.

As I stated before, I always considered the bird with a colored wing shield as shield marked and one that also had the color across the back as saddle marked. However, when you look at the breeds that are listed as saddle marked, they usually are what we call shield marked AND many of the breeds that are described as shield marked, we call saddle marked. Completely interchangeable.

The bird variety that differs is the Australian Saddleback Tumbler. This bird is different from all shield and saddle markings. I think it is perfectly ok to call it saddle backed with the understanding this it is not what the rest of the world thinks of when we talk of saddle marked. I have always heard of A.S.T.s and never picture it like the picture shown.

When I viewed a picture of the breed, I was struck by the similarity of the head and neck color to the Lahore. In fact, I would describe it as a bellneck and Lahore head patterned Reversewing. Someone mentioned Bishopwing but this bird did not have what I call a bishop wing pattern. Bishopwing refers more to a bird that has about half of the distal part of the wing white.

After much thought and comparison of the breeds and descriptions and knowing that birds that have the shield colored, usually must be selected to keep the color from going across the back between the wings (so called saddle marking) and thus genetically is the same gene effect (maybe with a modifier), I believe all so called saddled birds should be called shield marked and only birds such as the Australian Saddleback Tumbler, the Scandaroon, and a couple of similar marked breeds should be called saddleback.



Shield marked



Shield marked



Saddleback marked Franconian Magpie



Saddleback marked A.S.T.'s

TRANSVESTITE – A guy who likes to eat, drink and be Mary.
 My mind works like lightning. One brilliant flash and its gone.
 The difference between the Pope and your boss --- The Pope expects you to kiss his ring.

STEVE SOUZA:22apr'04

Paul & Ron....You two are the primary ones helping me solve the question of reduced vs homo Indigo in one of my individual breeding cages, so here are some more pictures to analyze...

First a background reminder. Dam = Blue bar, het Indigo, Sooty

Sire = Blue T-pattern (het bar), het Indigo, het reduced, possible bronze from Dams Sire.

They have produced numerous het Indigo birds (all looking barred like mom), and the occasional Blue with no Indigo. Then they produced the mystery bird here several months ago.



I speculated it was a T-pattern homo Indigo. Ron believes it is a reduced T-pattern hen, Paul said the lacing was indicative of spread reduced. [Ron is right!] I still am unable to confirm sex on it, another month may tell... There seems to be no sign of Spread in the parents. The next set of eggs has hatched, and is feathering out now... here are pics of the young... basically another one like the above [bird on left] and one that phenotypically looks like any number of things from recessive-opal Blue bar to a dilute Indigo bar; toperhaps and actual reduced blue bar?? You both tell me what you think is going on with these latest two??

RON HUNTLEY REPLIES: excerpts

If the Dam = blue bar, then she cannot be het Indigo. Indigo is a simple dominant and if she had one gene for Indigo, she would be an Indigo bar phenotype not blue bar. If she were homo Indigo she would be a dead ringer for an Ash bar or mealy.

The reduced blue bar cock I sent you may be a carrier of rec. opal linked to bar but he does not show opal in his phenotype. I have raised some rec. opal/reduced blue bars and the bars are almost all washed out. There is also a much lighter body color as well.

This is a Spread reduced photo by Tom Barnhart (his bird)[left below]. Note that it is not as pink as your bird because it is Spread. Your bird is not Indigo but is homo reduced on a T-pattern (Kite or velvet) base color. Your bird is much pinker than the barred cock because reduced changes the black coarse spread areas (bars and checks) into a pink color. Since your T-pattern would be almost a black in the intense form, it follows that the same condition that happens to change the black bar to pink will change the black t-pattern kite into an overall pink. Only the coarse spread areas are being affected this way. The remainder of the bird where the smooth spread and non-spread pigment is found becomes metallic. It is really not a mystery when you analyze what is happening.

[Below right] Hetero blue t-pattern indigo (dark plum red with deep indigo blue wing tips and tail). A homozygous blue indigo would be a lighter color red like an ash-red and the tail and wing tips would be ash in color and not deep indigo blue. An ash-red indigo is a very deep ash-red with a dark colored head.



Spread reduced



Hetro Indigo T-Pat

EDITORS REPLY

The young look like a homo. Indigo reduced and an Indigo bar reduced. They are females and will change color a lot in the molt.

DREW LOBENSTEIN WRITES: excerpts

Since the Archangel is so developed for intense coloring, the pales even look dark [winged]. I think if you compare the copper black wing to a gold black wing Archangel, you will see the obvious difference. In my experience, the gold black wing though seemingly excellent black color is much lighter than the copper edition of the same color. Though not dun it is very much lighter than the darker black on the copper variety, and very consistent with the pale discussion. Just an observation. [see page 251].

COMEBACK OF THE YEAR – Defense attorney cross-examining a Police Officer during a felony trial. D.A. “Did you see my client fleeing the scene?” O. “No, sir, but I subsequently observed a person matching the description running several blocks away.” D.A. “Who provided this description?” O. “A fellow officer who responded to the scene.” D.A. “A fellow officer provided the description of this so-called offender... Do you trust your fellow officers?” O. “Yes sir, with my life.” D.A. “With your life? Do you have a room where you change your clothes in preparation for your daily duties?” O. “Yes sir, we do.” D.A. “And do you have a lock on your locker?” O. “Yes sir.” D.A.

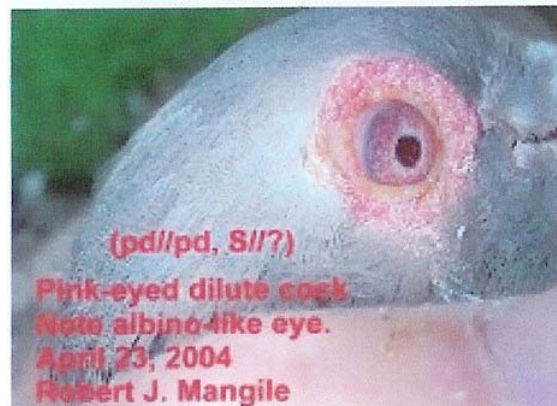
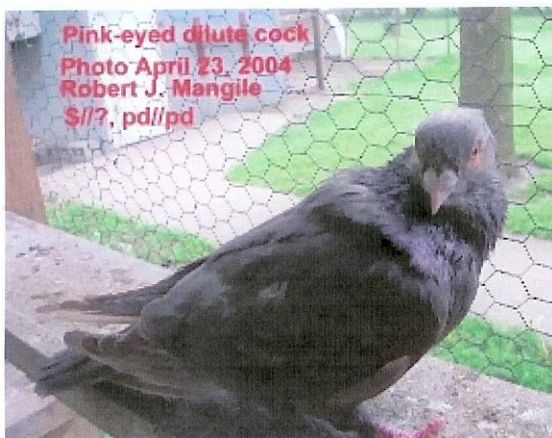
“Now why is it officer, if you trust your fellow officers with your life, that you find it necessary to lock your locker in a room you share with the same officers?”

O. “You see sir, we share the building with the entire court complex, and sometimes lawyers have been known to walk through that room.”

With that the courtroom erupted with laughter, and a prompt recess was called. The officer on the stand was nominated for the year’s best comeback line and we think he will win!!!!

ROBERT MANGILE WRITES: 24 APR.’04 excerpts

I’ll add a few pictures to the mix, hoping it might give Dr. Wim Peters a better idea of pink-eyed dilute plumage. Notice the spread pink-eyed dilute pigeon looks “brownish” to the human eye. This is the effect that pink-eyed dilute has on spread (black) plumage. Also notice the eye of that same bird in the next photo.



ANNE ELLIS WRITES TO LARRY LONG: 24apr’04

I need to understand the spread areas. I think the spread areas are inside the checks and bars, or by definition in pigeons these are designated as the spread areas. True?

I think that when an Ash red pigeon has the mutation Spread, the spread areas on its wing shield will be grey. Correct? What is the mark of the Ash?

EDITOR:

Hi Anne, Larry referred your letter to me. I hope I can define the areas for you. First the “mark of the Ash” refers to the ashy tips of the flight feathers.

Second, the term spread is used three different ways. 1) The wing bars and checks are referred to as “coarse spread” pigment. 2) The tail bar and ends of flights are referred to as “smooth spread” pigment. 3) Spread as a gene refers to the spreading of the pigment granules. Thus the bird that has the gene Spread will be black if the bird is wild type pigment (black), chocolate brown if the smooth spread areas are brown and grey if the smooth spread areas are grey (which they are in the so called Ash red bird because the Ash red markings are not smooth spread but are coarse spread pigment).

If the smooth spread areas of the Ash red are whitened the Spread bird of this will be whitened. If the smooth spread areas of the Ash red are dark gray as they are in an Ash carrying recessive red the Spread Ash will be dark gray.

The answer on the terminal bar is no, Ash reds do not have dark terminal tail bars. If you have what you consider an Ash red and it has a terminal tail bar; it is not Ash red but is Indigo, bronze, or frill stencil.

You probably have heard that the Spread gene takes the color of the tail bar and spreads it over the pigeon. This is an attempt to simplify the action of Spread. This, of course, is not what happens. The color of the tail bar IS the color the Spread pigeon usually will be, but it does not take that color from the tail bar.

Hope this has been some help.

MICHAEL SPADONI WRITES:

I showed pictures of this bird as a baby, now it has molted out the mosaic areas and the came back in exactly the same.

The mother of this bird is a black pied mismark, marked exactly like this youngster, the father is a recessive red over Black. I have bred 9 youngsters from this pair, every one has been a black. The mother does not carry recessive red. Having said this, how can this mosaic youngster have rec, red patches. The bird has 3 patches, one on the cushion of the shell, one on the back above the rump, and one underwing in the armpit area.

EDITOR:

Michael, there are two things here. One of course is the second color and the other is that the "rec. red" feathers are not solid color but are blackened on their tips. Thus they are closer to an Almond type feather rather than rec. red.

How to explain them? I haven't a clue. I notice some of the other underwing feathers are not really black either.



A man woke up in a hospital after a serious accident. He shouted, "**Doctor, Doctor, I can't feel my legs!?**" The doctor replied, "I know you can't – I've cut off your arms!"

What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

STEVE SOUZA FORWARDS:

Helmuth Brewer wrote: Qualmonds get more almondy colored with a rise in pattern like those found in SF Tumbler varieties...?? Flecking seems proportionate to Agate white or Spread factor phenomenon with St or StQ? Spread would be great on Show Racers... Ever try it? Neat coloration.

All of my Qualmonds are in racing Homers. About ½ of my Qualmonds are spread and the other ½ not...Here's a Spread cock, Qualmond linked to brown, het blue (St*Q, b//+).



Spread Qualmond



recessive opal dilute bar (M. Spadoni).

MICHAEL SPADONI SENDS:

Here is a pic of a blue bar recessive opal, this one I believe is also dilute.

A dinner speaker was in such a hurry to get to his engagement that he forgot to put in his false teeth. Turning to the man next to him, he said, "I forgot my teeth."

The man said, "No problem." He reached into his pocket and pulled out a pair of false teeth. "Try these," he said. The speaker tried them, "Too loose," he said. The man then said, "I have another pair...try these." The speaker tried them and said, "Too tight."

The man was not deterred. He reached into his pocket once more and said, "I hve one more pair of false teeth...try them." The speaker said, "They fit perfectly."

With that he ate his meal and gave his talk. After the meeting was over, the speaker went over to thank the man who had helped him. "I want to thank you for coming to my aid. Where is your office? I've been looking for a good dentist."

The man replied, "I'm not a dentist, I'm the local undertaker."

260

JEFF HITCHLOCK WRITES 7may'04

How are you? How's your breeding season going? My white headed Starlings are very prolific! Thought you might like to see these Fantail pics that Danny Joe of N.C. raises.

“Danny Joe sent some pictures of some of his birds.”



MY REPLY

Thanks very much for sending the pictures. The Fantails look like dilute Deroy's. Do you know whether they are or not? I really like those white barred, white headed Starlings. Quite striking. The addition of a Figurita really shows the smallness of the Fantails.

TWO HYDROGEN ATOMS WALK INTO A BAR. ONE SAYS, I'VE LOST MY ELECTRON." THE OTHER SAYS, ARE YOU SURE?" THE FIRST REPLIES, "YES I'M POSITIVE..."

AN INVISIBLE MAN MARRIES AN INVISABLE WOMAN. THE KIDS ARE NOTHING TO LOOK AT EITHER.