
Halsring of Swift
Transferred to Roller


Parents and reduced Starling yg
Marbled male, chocolate hen.


reduced blue check, het e
Gimpel bronze (rosyneck)

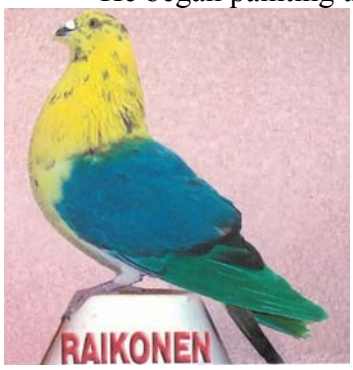
PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER EMAIL SEPTEMBER 2006

This message came to me via my son-in-law. If you cannot defeat the hawks, trick em!

AMSTERDAM – A Dutch farmer has painted pigeons pink and green to ward off hungry birds of prey and it seems to have worked, a Dutch newspaper reported.

"I'm crazy about the birds….naturally, birds of prey are going to eat pigeons, but preferably not here." The farmer told the Algemeen Dagblad newspaper.

He began painting the birds with environmentally friendly, water-based dyes.



[Interesting concept.]

EDITOR:

On page 357 I cited material from Bent Skaarup Pederson. Unfortunately, I saved the Newsletter to Adobe Acrobat and cannot change or delete it. When you read the following you will see the problem.

GERALD DOOLEY EMAILS: 4mar'05

Jim, I'm sorry I have not answered your earlier emails. We may have similar genetic interests. Currently, I have chronic lymphatic Leukemia, and this has hurt my pigeon projects. Perhaps the weather will warm up and this will help matters here.

Concerning Albino and possibly developmentally-related pigeon mutants:
First, Pink eyed dilute: This mutant was first found in a recessive white stock and was mistaken for Albino. They have nervous head movements similar to Albino. Hollander crossed one with Albino and got pigmented nondilute progeny without head movements.

I have two and three known heterozygotes. Milky and Palmetto Silky are in the stock.

Second: Egyptian Swift Dilute: and autosomal recessive dilute found in Egyptian Swifts. It is very similar to pink-eyed dilute except these birds have no head movements. I have two progeny of a Es D hen, both probably hens.

Third: Dilute: (DEF) This is the common recessive sex-linked dilute with no head movements. Pale is probably an allele of Dilute.

Fourth: Blind Dilute: This was found by Ralph Smith. I have an Ashred blind dilute hen now but have never raised any. This dilute is sex-linked, and the individuals are partially to totally blind. Ralph thinks it is an allele of Dilute (DEF). I have only the one hen.

Fifth: Crazy: Crazy homozygotes have head movements similar to but not the same as Albino. Double homozygotes (Crazy and Albino) have seizures. The seizures get worse as the bird gets older. I have had two. The oldest lived to about six weeks of age. I have three members of this family. Two are a pair of siblings, a Dun (DEF) Checker hen and an Albino cock (ABC). Their mother was homozygous crazy and heterozygous Albino. Their father was heterozygous Albino. The third is an Albino cock, son of the Albino cock (ABC) and a deceased Blue Check daughter.

Sixth, Recessive White: These are white selfs with Bull eyes. They have no head movements.

Counting Albino, these seven mutants appear to be developmentally related. Six appear to be related to color development. Three appear to have nervous system mutant phenotypic expressions.

I also have a pair of Albino doves and can get White self doves. Dr. Miller has pink-eyed dilute mutant doves. Kevin Stalder has pink-eyed dilute chickens. Blaine may have an Albino pigeon from a different origin. There may be a visible difference.

There are different feather mutants in doves, pigeons, chickens, geese, and perhaps other birds. Some Fringe homozygotes also have abnormal feet. I had a sibling pair (Fringe heterozygotes) that raised homozygote progeny whose wing feather shafts were stuck together.

In summary, the embryological study of genetic mutants, (a single factor or combination), can reveal interesting results. Will we have differences of opinions? Yes, we will. We are different individuals. We are not clones. And exchange of views can benefit all of us as long as we don't take them personal. Will I always be right? No, I won't.

FOR THE BEST INFORMATION ON GENE FOR DIRTY GO TO:
HTTP://WWW.APEXCORP.COM/~RMANGILE/PIGEONS/DIRTY.HTML
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On a septic tank truck in Oregon – "Yesterdays Meals on Wheels".
On another septic tank truck – "We're #1 in the #2 business".
On a plumber's truck – "We repair what your husband fixed".
On another plumber's truck – "Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber".
On an electrician's truck – "Let us remove your shorts".
On a fence – "Salesmen welcome! Dog food is expensive".
These were sent to me by my friend JDF.

MIKE BORDELON WRITES:22feb'05

Sorry about the hand written letter. My printer is on the fritz. Sending pics of some birds including my new expression I call "roan". At least it is new to me.
Pics 1&2 are a mature "roan" cock. The pattern on the wings was present when he began to feather out. The white tail and rump and two-tone flights came in with the first molt. The white in the neck also molted in. Pic 3 is a full sibling cock to #1. Pic 4 is a full sibling hen to #1. She also has the "roan" effect but dilute. Her color in the pic is pretty much the way she really is. She has mated to a rec. red cock but has not laid yet.


1

2

3


4

#5&6 – This hen is a full sibling to the above three. The gold on her head is more pronounced than in the pic. She mated up with an Almond (blue bar fray). The gold does not go below the crop.

#7 is the father of 1 through 6. I thought, when he was in the nest, that he was a reduced dilute, but it turned into a cock. His father was an Ash red Check carrying blue, bar, reduced, rec. red, dilute & smoky. His mother was a khaki check carrying bar, smoky & rec. red. He produced 4 young like #1. I lost 2 of them. Only hens were produced, #4&5. Another son was produced which is typical smoky blue T-pat, but this bird had a bronze wash over the body that is molting out.

The mother to #s 1-6 was a smoky reduced blue check. She died after the last clutch. The male (#7) is currently mated to a dilute Ash Check.

#8 is my mosaic. She is mated to #1. They have a baby. I believe it will be a DeRoy. This hen is rec. red (patches on head and neck) DeRoy (lighter red) and Dirty blue Check. Her father is a blue bar Almond Fray that I mentioned earlier and her mother was a reduced Ash red Check. She is also fray and has a neck frill. I'm wondering if she'll breed other than Almond sons.


5


6


7


8

#9 is a barless blue (faded??) from a homozygous chalky cock and a brown barless hen. This is a cock. I have a full sibling, a hen, that is the same color. She is mated to a full brother, same color, but with a bar. #10 is a cock bred from a homozygous blue bar Ice carrying reduced brown bar and a hemizygous Chalky hen from Mangile. He should be an "almost" typical blue but isn't.

#11 My pale rec. red hen. She is 15/16th Homer. The pale factor was transferred from a gold Modena. She is mated to a rec. yellow cock and her sons 31/32nd Homer look like typical Homers.

#12 This is the best Ash red Almond I've produced. Most are white with a few red feathers. His father was a blue Check with bronzing and mother was an Ash red Almond.


9


10


11


12

MY REPLY:

Got your pics, check, and letter. Very interesting!
Pics 1&2 are apparently recessive red with whitening feather tips very remindful of the type of whitened tips that are found on Shakhsharli Bronze. #3 does not show this but as much, but does have a tail that is consistant with reduced. #4 is a very pretty dilute. #5&6 look like poor colored Nuremburg Lark. #7, the father of those above looks like it could be a Faded rec. red. #8 is one of the most striking mosaics that I have ever seen. She looks like rec. red on the head and neck and rec yellow over some of the head, neck, and part of the body with a Dirty blue check right wing and tail. It looks like the other wing may be rec. yellow? also from what I can see.

You say Deroy for the yellow areas and the mating you have with #1 should yield some very nice Almonds if that is the case. [However I think it is rec yellow.]

#9 looks like a barless Faded. #10 looks like Faded bar.[Originally I thought these two might be Chalky but since raising some Chalky, I do not believe they are?] #11 looks like a typical rec red. #12 may darken enough in future molts to produce a very good Ash red Almond phenotype.

Thanks for sending the pictures. I would like to use some of them in my new Genetics of Pigeons book. (I mislaid the pictures while finishing up the book so none of the pictures got in the book, sorry.) You sure are having fun. All those new combinations and phenotypes sure do liven up the art.

MIKE'S UPDATE:

The pictures are yours to keep. The gold hen is pale rec. red. She is mated with a rec. yellow and produces only yellow hens and gold males. The mosaic has produced a very good rec. yellow with the "roan" rec. red cock. The two 'chalky' birds are hetero and should be darker, almost normal blue. The father of the roan is not Faded but a very light rec. yellow.

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Don't assume malice for what stupidity can explain.

LARRY LONG FORWARDS:

Dr. Wim Peters: Hi Larry, Friend of mine has this baby with a white tail stripe. Nomally this occurs after disease or following treatment but he denies it. Usually the spine [shaft] of the feather is also affected – not in this case. Any ideas.

I know you'll tell me to wait for the moult as it will probably molt without the stripe. In the wing shot, you can see a semblage of the stripe.

LARRY:

Thanks for the pictures. This is definitely worth looking into. I would get this pigeon and make sure it lives to breeding age. I'm copying this to Paul Gibson and I would like to know what Paul thinks. The wing is showing grizzle (undergrizzle?) and may not be related to what is causing the light tail bar. It looks to be T-pattern. I would like pictures of the parents showing the wing and tail spread. I wish this pigeon was in the USA, I would be making a home for it. I think you have something unusual. Paul, what do you think?


MY REPLY excerpts

The pictures show a very interesting phenotype. I agree that the white stripes do resemble what is seen sometimes from drug treatment but they are apparently not. The inner half of the wing looks like a bronzed Blue juvenile and the outer half looks like a lightened silver wing.

As you say, the wing feathers show the same whitening stripe as the tail feathers. The tail feathers show the white stripe to be much more sharply delineated than that caused by a drug overdose. There is evidence of lightening of the base of the tail feathers also. The primary flights are very light colored for a pigeon with this dark a tail band. There is no discernable bar pattern showing which is normal in checkered birds. It will be interesting to see what this youngster looks like after its molt. As Larry says, this is very interesting and is worthy of looking into. And like Larry, I wonder what color the parents were.

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A penny saved is a government oversight.
When I feel down, I like to whistle. It makes the neighbor's dog run to the end of his chain and gag himself.
If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
He who hesitates is probably right.

GARY YOUNG EMAILS 12MAR'05

Paul, do you suppose this Breslauer hen is Spread rec. opal? She throws nice shiny black youngsters.

MY REPLY

I had apparent blue bars similar to this produce all blacks in the past. They were apparently homo Spread but did not show it. Mating to several blue bars always produced all Black young. I did not have the smarts at that time to mate them to rec. opal to see if that was the cause. It may not be, since the birds I had did not have rec. opal in the genetics of the group, to my knowledge. Would be very interested in what you find out.

DICK CRYBERG WRITES:13 MAR'05 excerpts & paraphrases

First, I bet that the gene at the spread position when wild type induces the black pigment particles to clump. And all the gene we call spread does is to inactivate the clumping mechanism by making the wrong protein. In other words, spread is what you get if there were no gene at all at this locus.

If this is so, there should be a number of genes for spread. [You sure lost me there. No gene at this locus, so there should be a number of genes for spread?] And some will probably act different then others act. Is there evidence for this? I think there is.

I used to keep Fantails. I, to overcome inbred infertility outcrossed my blues and got nice black blacks. No albescent strips. Some people have blacks that have albescent strips, so that is two black alleles right there.

Now my spread Homers were not as good blacks as my Fantails. Wing bars and tail bars showed thru. Hardly black really. More of a dark slate color than black.

Bottom line is, I suspect there are multiple alleles at the spread location. And some of them consistently produce good intense blacks. And others do not.

GARY YOUNG REPLIES

Glad to see someone else has experienced it. Just out of curiousity one time, I took the color on one of those shiney black Franconian Trumpeters apart to see what it consisted of. I was shocked to find the foundation pattern was bar.

EDITOR

There may be more than one spread allele but we must be careful and rule out modifying genes which may do the same things as Dick enumerates. And I believe there are several blue alleles Gary, I also took the black Franconian T. apart and mine were all checker and T-pattern.

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The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are "XL"?

If you think there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.

(The chuckles in this issue were submitted by Bob Tauscher. Thanks.)

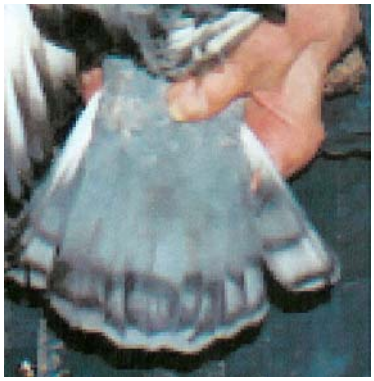
EDITOR TO AYLWIN WONG'S INQUIRY ABOUT AZURO:

I cannot be sure but there is some resemblance. Not all azuro are as pronounced as the one you have of Hollander's bird. I don't know who all is working on the azuro trait. I am, but I do not know who else has some of the azuro stock. I will have to ask Kevin. He was in charge of passing out Doc's stock. If I had a picture of a single tail feather I might have a better idea if it looks like azuro. Doc also had an azuro ember, so it may be visible on some other colors.

AYLWIN:

Thanks for the quick reply. Do you know the dominance of this trait? I guess it is a partial dominant to wild type. Do you have extra stock to pass around? I would like to bring this into Indian Fantails.

Azuro



Azuro tail

EDITOR:

The trait is recessive. The above birds are also smoky,Undergrizzle.
I believe the trait would look very good on Indian Fantails.

JOE POWERS FORWARDED THESE MISSIVES FROM MICK BASSETT:

Missive 1: excerpts

Terms like 'Ash'(which may be Genetically correct but means nothing to the 63,000 Fanciers just in Germany) and recessive red or rec. yellow are not recognized here with Arabians. All Atlas must have slightly 'paler' heads that is normal here. All Blue bar and check Arabians appear to be smoky. Crossing colors is rarely done here.

Missive 2:

The colors [of Arabians] here are:

Black, black pied, Dominant red, Dom. red pied, Dom. yellow, Dom yellow pied, Blue bar, Blue check, Blue check pied, White, Red Atlas, Yellow Atlas. That's it, nothing else! The colors are fairly constant as well as rarely 'crossed'. Any 'AOC' are not judged, just accessed and individually graded (no prizes!), you know the system by now. These are the Terms for the Colors accepted across the whole of Europe and everyone knows exactly what to expect colorwise when these are stated.

FRANK(T.O.M.) WRITES 23mar'05 excerpt

I just received the latest PGNL (another great publication) and was reading your comments on page 14 regarding G and G*T. As you know, I am writing an article dealing with these factors in Modenas. This is the sentence I didn't understand. "Tests indicate that homozygous Grizzles mated to non grizzled can produce Tiger Grizzle so probably the two are not alleles".

How can homo G produce G*T if the factor isn't in the birds?

EDITOR:

Frank, thanks for asking the question so I can clear up any misunderstanding about the relationship of G and G*T. Hollander in 1971 stated "This factor behaves as an allele of classic grizzle and I am tentatively calling it "tiger", with the symbol G*T." Experiments with Storked birds show that individual birds can be both (not either but both) Grizzle and Tiger Grizzle so the two are probably not alleles.

The effect of Grizzle on the phenotype is affected by whether the C pattern of the bird is bar, Check, T-pattern, or Spread. The effect is also affected by the color with Dominant red (Ash) affected greater than brown or blue.

The effect of Tiger Grizzle is approximately the same no matter what the C pattern or color of the bird. This includes recessive red.

MICK BASSETT EMAILS: 31mar'05

Lahores here only exhibit solid flights, so am I to presume they are all non-Ash? [They are recessive red and yellow. They may be Dominant red (Ash), blue/black or brown; since the recessive red is epistatic and covers whatever color it is underneath]. I am used to the terms like Dominant and Recessive red.

[Excellent recess. red coloration]

[Excellent recess. yellow coloration]

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A tough old cowboy once counseled his grandson that if he wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a pinch of gunpowder on this oatmeal every morning.

The grandson did this religiously and lived to be 110. He left 4 children, 20 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren and 10 great great grandchildren.

And a fifty foot hole where the local crematorium used to be.

Just to show the difference in the Mahrishe Strasser and THE Strasser which is about 1/3 bigger. The Mahrische is still a very 'Beefy' bird though! Also thrown in is a German Modena. Quite a small breed, under medium size (medium = Racing Pigeon) this breed comes in over 60 colors and markings! A genetics dream?

THE Strasser

Mahrishe Strasser

STEVE SOUZA EMAILS

Ok, so to clear up what cannot be made clear without further study, but clearer we try anyway.

1) When you say: "…the so called 'agate' is hetero recessive red whitesides which only shows on rec. red, gold, and yellow". Do you mean het for (one of)the whiteside genes (which are not yet fully tested), or het for recessive red (gold, yellow) with the full compliment of the "whiteside" genes?

[I meant hetero Ws (rec. red whiteside) on e//e.]

2) When you say: "…a pseudo tigered whitening that is caused by the molt-to-white phenotype…", is this present on any color or pattern, or only on homo recessive red (yellow, gold)? And what exactly is a "molt-to-white phenotype" vs a "molt-to-white genotype?

[I found the molt-to-white genotype may be carried in any color but only become a 'molt-to-white phenotype (hetero or homo) in the presence of e//e.]

3) When you say: "…[there is] a rec. red phenotype that is like a partial molt-to-white phenotype." Do you mean a variation of recessive red creates a phenotype (looks like or acts like) molt-to-white? (reversion to white?)

[I forgot the context in which this was written. I suspect I meant that not all birds that appear to be molt-to-white are genetically the same.]

It sounds like my question of … on recessive red, are all phenotype that appear "mottle" caused by Tiger Grizzle? That the answer is no, there are other things that create this type phenotype???

[Yes, the last sentence is the right answer. There appear to be several genes that may look produce mottling somewhat similar to Tiger Grizzle and molt in the same way that Tiger Grizzle does. Ws produces a variable mottled shield on rec. red. Other genes in the group that change the e//e solid to a rosewing or mottle shield can do the same. There is a growing list of these of which include: the Red Bellied Krasnoder Tumbler, the Red Necked & Red Breasted Kapkan Tschinneys, and the Seraphim.]

ANDREAS LEISS EMAILS 1apr'06

Here are some comments to the last PGNV&C. The ecru coloration looks very similar to my brown reduced. Did somebody test these birds if they are brown or reduced?

The Silesian Pouters do not have the classical Grizzle gene, but they are Slight Grizzles like the Frillbacks and the Thurgau Whitetails in catgrey. I found the Slight Grizzle mutant also in Viennise and Hungarian Highfliers. Homozygous Slight Grizzles look like heterozygous Grizzles. The Silesian Pouters and the catgrey Thurgau Whitetails have some lightened modifiers. On the other hand, the Frillbacks and the Viennise and Hungarian Highfliers are Slight Grizzle with Dirty and maybe some other darkening modifiers so they are much darker than the Silesians and Thurgaus, but the Slight Grizzle mutant is the same.

EDITOR:

Yes, we checked the ecru against brown and reduced. It is not an allele of reduced. It is an allele of dilute.

I failed to put this trait "Slight Grizzle" in my new book. Sorry I overlooked it. Do you know whether it is an allele of Grizzle?

EDITOR;

Jim, I tried several ways to send you the pictures of ecru matings and did not succeed. I know this will work so here are some of the representative results with ecru.

Almond male X

ecru female

=Almond ecru males, non-ecru females

Pale Indigo het ecru male
Parents:
Homo Indigo Pale male X ecru female = Pale Young

Nestmates Ecru female, Black male
Parents:
Saxon Whitetail F1 (het ecru) male X Saxon Whitetail F1 female

Notice muffs on ecru female XSaxon. Have reared four nests like this and the muffs are always heavier on the Blacks.