Pictures by Fred & Georgie Kupilik of a Stellar's Jay that molted to white in the summer of 2004 in the foothills of Boulder County, Colorado.

Pictures by Bill Schmoker of the Stellar Jay in its acquired white plumage.

PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER EMAIL APRIL 2007

A SPECIAL THANKS TO FRED AND GEORGIE AND BILL FOR ALLOWING ME TO USE THE ABOVE PICTURES.

JOE POWERS: 30sept'05

Here are a couple pictures of Horseman:

Grizzle blue bar female

Parading Blue bar white flight male

Does pushing the button on the elevator more than once make it arrive faster?

EDITOR:

These are a couple interesting pictures from the Indian Fantail Internet Club. The first is a small hen that Frank Frail submitted on 10/10/05. The second is a Mosiac that Rich Schlais submitted on 10/14/05 of a bird belonging to Dan Stiles that he took a picture of a year before. He says it also has a little grizzle on its back.

Frank listed this as a reduced brown.
Its tail looks like it may be Dom. opal.

This is a brown and black mosaic.
Also a couple white feathers on head.

These are a couple pictures selected from a number of pictures sent by Mick Bassett. They are listed as Dutch Frillback Pouters that were shown at Utrecht in 2004.

BRETT SAVAGE WRITES: 15oct'05

I was wondering if anyone here has much experience with saddle markings? I know there has been some discussion on it before. What I remember is that someone said it wasn't so simple like a recessive trait like gazzi.

Did you ever wonder why you gave me your email address in the first place?

I am considering mating a solid recessive yellow Homer cock to a saddle marked recessive yellow hen. I know with gazzi markings mating the gazzi to Scheitti solid colors helps to clean up the markings on the gazzi but would it work this way on saddles or just make a bigger mess. Any one have any ideas?

ANDY REPLIES:

It would have to depend upon what gene(s) you have for saddle. Quite often, saddle marked birds are a combination of piebald traits that don't necessarily breed true. If the gene came from a breed like a Turbit, then the gene would be one recessive trait that breeds reasonably true. I've mated Turbit to Fantail and gotten mostly colored birds with white sprinkled about the head and an occasional white flight. These birds mated together produced a fair amount of well marked saddles.

EDITOR:

There was a discussion on the C series started by **Steve Jarvis** when he stated that the thought bar is a separate gene from the C series.

Mike Hughes questioned if he really meant bar was not an allele of barless, checker, and T-pattern.

Steve responded that he believed bar to be separate and that c is linked to checker and Spread was linked to bar and recessive opal. He went on to state that he thought T-pattern and velvet were two types of T-pattern and the so called saturated was perhaps something else. (I hope I got that right, Steve.)

Bob Tauscher and **Oronio Catenacci** entered comments into the equation.

Ron Huntley stated he also thought that velvet and T-pattern were two separate genes.

Michael Spadoni entered into the discussion and not only wondered about the position for the alleles in the C series. Then after discussing 3rd bar and velvet proposed a new list of known alleles: c> + > C*Th > C*L > C > C*D > C*T > C*V
Thus barless, wild type, 3 barred, light Check, Check, dark Check, T-pattern, and Velvet.

EDITOR:

I cannot disagree with anything discussed here. I have noticed however, that 3 barred birds show a difference on Checker birds and that Checker and 3 bar birds can be extracted from such birds. Thus I wonder if 3 barred is really part of this series. Also as was mentioned by a couple of the above discussants, there is another type of Velvet other than the 'saturated T-pattern'. It shows bronze on the wing shield and has been discussed several times earlier by Gerald Dooley as being separate from T-pattern.

DREW LOBENSTEIN:14nov'05

If you were to mate a recessive yellow cock to a black hen; you would likely get dun hens and black cocks from the mating….all of the young will be split for recessive red… the sons and daughters from that mating back to parents and each other would then produce blacks, duns, reds and yellows. Blue check and blue can be hidden under the black also. I was just observing that in Helmets and Kormorner Tumblers too… the basic

color is black and everything can be bred from there if you have the other ingredients.

EDITOR:

This is where we get into trouble. Mating a rec. yellow to a black hen would give you dilute hens linked to the color suppressed by the (dilute) rec. red, so they could be Ash yellow, dun, or khaki. All will be split for rec. red as you state but the sons would be split also to dilute and rec. red or the color suppressed by the rec. red.

We must always be cognizant that dilute is a sex-linked gene that is linked to the base color suppressed. We cannot get random assortment but always linkage unless we are lucky enough to get a cross-over.

WILLIE KOZINSKI:

I didn't realize the linkage of dilute. Is it as closely linked as rec. opal and pattern or almond and sex-linked color base? For some reason when I worked with dilute it doesn't appear to have a strong linkage.

RICHARD CRYBERG:

Per Hollander, the cross over % between dilute and the b locus is 40%. As random assortment only results in 50% redistribution, this is a very weak linkage. Weak enough that if it were not for the fact that both are on the sex chromosome, we might not even realize they are linked. You have to raise an awful lot of young to prove linkage this weak on an autosomal chromosome.

EDITOR:

Richard has the information correct. The d locus and the b locus are at opposite ends of the chromosome from each other and thus cross-overs occur regularly. As he says if this were on an autosomal chromosome, you would have to raise lots of young to try to prove linkage. I would venture to say if you reared 500 offspring, you still would not be sure.

FRANK (T.O.M.) emails:18nov'05

Something of some importance has been brought to my attention that I would like to see some comments about.

As most know, I am involved in Modenas. Someone asked me a question I cannot answer. It involves the black edging that one sees in the various shield patterns. For example, take the T-pattern bronze colored birds. We have three varieties – clear, laced, and T-pat Check. The bronze factor affects the complete shield area except the black lacing or T-check on the outer wing shield feathers. One sees the same effect in our Toy Stencil Argents.

One also sees the black edging in the Tri and Bar pattern birds. Is this black edging another smooth spread area, unlike the coarse spread area found in the wing shields is affected by the bronze or Toy Stencil factor? Been looking for some answers, but couldn't find anything written on this subject. For years, I just took this black edging for granted without giving much thought to just how it expressed.

Hope I have expressed myself clearly.

JOE COSTA III responds:

Ok, I'll take a poke at this here….An example of the black edging on the wing tips in another breed is the Bronze Show Tippler. The wing tips and tail are edged in black. My opinion is that the family of "bronze" colors is not strong enough to mask the entire bird. The Bronze Show Tipplers are Tippler Bronze over spread but they also come in mottles and grizzles too, so they are not all spreads. But evern in the mottles and grizzles they are tipped in black. I think that this is a characteristic of the entire bronze family. Even in some of the middle eastern breeds that are solid bronze have black tips. It work similar to the look of the Ash red, on a red check or red velvet, the same areas are washed out to an ash color or just depigmented. With the bronze it works just the opposite. Lets check with Paul Gibson on it.

EDITOR:

Hi Frank, you asked about the black edging and got some ideas from Joe C. The black edging on bronze and white bars and check areas of the birds is a timing thing.

On the "Blue Pigeon" the feather is coded for gray until it reached the bar, then it is coded for black. The scenario is: feather growth – code for gray, code for black bar, code for gray. What happens in the case of the bronze and white bars is the same except that just after the code for black bar another code from the Ts gene says code for bronze (or white) This new sequence then is code for gray, code for black bar, code for bronze or (or white) in the bar, the narrower the black edge line on the bar. Of course, the coding for white is the result of the Ts complex coding for white.

Joe thought it had something to do with the bronze and cites the Bronze Tippler. In a sense a similar thing does happen except in the flight of the Tippler, the code goes something like this: code for black pigment then code for red and black pigment. The process from all black to red and black is a gradual change instead of a an abrupt one.

Also, the bronze Show Tipplers are not Spread. Spread covers the bronze in Tipplers so that they would appear all black. The diffence between gray and black is that in the gray areas the black pigment is clumped and in the black areas the black pigment is spread out over the feather. Just kind of backward of one would think.

Below are a couple pictures that depict the black edge on the bars and checks

The black edging is easy to see on this Blue White bar Starling.

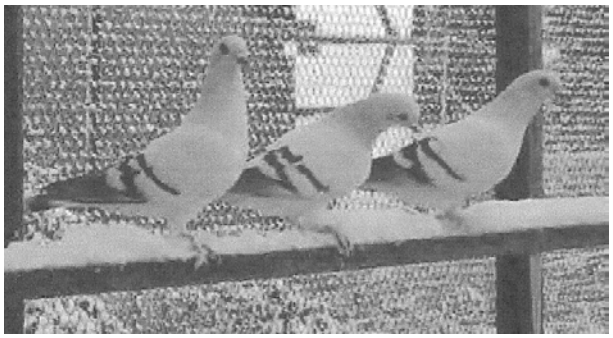
The edging is also easy to see on this Check Dun Fairy Swallow. Here it is wider.

This edging is harder to see on brown where it is chocolate and almost impossible to see on Ash red where it is ash. Dom. opal sometimes produces whitish or bronzish bars that have the same edging. However, with Dom. opal the edging usually goes from black to bronze to white.

MICK BASSETT EMAILS: 21nov'05 - Re; Ice pigeon

Another ancient breed that come in 'Ice' only is the Seldschucken Tumbler. It has a 'Provisional' standard already registered. It belongs to the 'Konya' group of Tumblers which includes the 'Konya Whitetail' but the Seldschucken is recognized as a separate breed within that group.

Seldschucken – notice the darkness of the flights and tail band. The one on the left is the color of the Ice Pigeons I got from Dr. Hollman many years ago. The ones on the right are closer to Damascene coloration.



These are some excellent color Damascenes. This beauty looks like an Ice Check milky. Notice the tail bar – looks like azuro.

FRANK (T.O.M.) EMAIL:21nov'05 excerpts.

Paul, below is a post I got from a Modena friend, and my replies.

SCOTT: "It is the truth….I have a Black cock whose parents were a white Schietti cock and a Black gazzi hen. He [black cock] when mated to a blue Schietti hen produce a bull eyed pied cock. This cock [bull-eyed pied] was mated to a bull eyed white hen and they produced a bull eyed white cock.

FRANK: Scott, thanks for the pictures. Do you have a community loft? Lineage for blue Schietti hen – is there gazzi somewhere? Was this the only black schietti raised from the original White/Black gazzi mating? What were the others?

SCOTT: I have a community loft and the blue hen's mother was a blue gazzi. I raised two black schiettis form this mating and also two black and white splashed birds.

FRANK: Paul, after receiving his second reply, and seeing that the original mating raised another black plus the white splashed birds, I have been wondering. I take it from the picture I received of the splashed birds, they are what we call gazzi whites. If he raised one black, then I might blame this on some hanky panky but he raised two.

As he posted, the second mating of one of these blacks to a blue schietti hen whose mother was a gazzi, produced bull-eyed splashed pieds. Thus the black had to be masking recessive white, and this combined with the hidden gazzi factor produced the Spashed birds. Which I can understand. What bothers me is the blacks in the first matings. Any comments, greatly appreciated.

EDITOR:

Where did the black Schietti come from? Well, the black probably came from the gazzi hen but the white might also be Spread. The solid color came from the Schietti cock. We know this because Schietti is dominant to gazzi.

FRANK (T.O.M.) EMAILS:

This is what I thought at first, Paul. Then I thought that this couldn't be as for sure the Spread and gazzi came from the mother. And Schietti came from the father, plus a single 'recessive white' gene. Thus I thought that all young from this mating should have been what is called a 'gazzi white' and some call them splashed pied.

If what we both first thought was possible, then maybe gazzi and recessive white are not alleles. But to produce the youngsters did kind of threw off the idea that some hanky panky took place in the loft, but maybe did not.

Maybe I am losing something in my studying.

JOHN NELSON EMAILS: 4oct'05

I was thinking you asked for Crescent Pigeon pictures and now I see you asked for Breast Pigeon pictures. Oh well, I sent a photo of a pair of Saxon Crescents I judged in Guadalajara, Mexico at their show in Feb. '05.

Nice picture of a pair of Crescent Pigeons [also known as Moon Pigeons). They are Ash yellow hen and Ash red male, Ice color.