



Male Fire crowned Bishop birds female & nest Yellow crowned Bishop bird

# PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER

## EMAIL JUNE 2009

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### KATRI EMAILS: 29dec.07

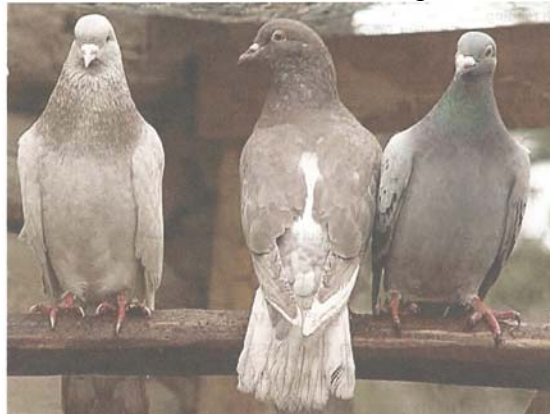
I put up more photos today and of the weird one (+ two others I don't know what they really are). The more I see him the less he looks like a brown. There's photos of him with ash red and brown birds to compare.

What I'd like to know is the genetic makeup for good gimpel. Paul, you said the pale red one would be a good one to use – why is that? I don't need a red gene to make a gimpel, do I? Is it the modifiers that I want?

So a blackwing gimpel would be – Blue, T-pattern checker, non-spread, and Gimpel (is homozygous better coloured than heteros?) And what else.

### EDITOR:

These are some of the pictures sent. The bird in the middle of the first picture is the 'weird' one. It looks like a spread brown indigo to me.



Pale ash spread, 'weird one', blue light ck. Spread 'gimpel', pale spread ash?

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Same pale spread ash, 'weird one', blue light check, ash red bar sooty



Pale Brown Mookiee marked, pale spread ash, weird 'one'.



Checker out of gimpel.



Gimpel bronze breasted 'unimproved'.





Poor “blackwing” non-gimpel; dilute “T-pattern gimpel”; dilute +? Nuremburg Lark

ARAGKO WRITES:

I have an Archangel cock. But I do not want to go back. And also I have one of their sons. The young Fantail (his father a red Fantail carrying yellow, his mother Gimpel pale.) Can I get a Gimpel pale from mating a Copper Gimpel with any color of dilute? [pictures of Archangel (Gimpels) below]

DAYLE HOLZCLAW REPLIES:

You don’t say why you don’t want to use the cock bird, but he might be your best bet. Second best would be to use their son back to the mother. Either way, at least you are getting pure archangel.

I was surprised to see that large of a fantail on a half Archangel. I don’t know what a dilute Gimpel looks like, but I believe it is genetically possible.

Yes & no. A copper Gimpel hen with a dilute cock will give you intense males carrying dilute. You will also get dilute hens. There is no pale in this mating. A copper Gimpel cock carrying pale mated to a dilute hen could give you pale sons or daughters. They could also give you intense offspring in both sexes. This is only true if the cock carries pale.



Pale bronze blackwing Gimpel. Full color blackwing Gimpel “Archangel”  
Both these evidently are hetero for recessive red to get this tone of bronze.

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EDITOR:

If your intent is to produce a Gimpel colored Fantal then you will have to go one step forward, one step back, juggling the tail feather number with the body color. Mating the son to the mother would be the best route.

Select a daughter with the highest number of tail feathers that is hetero for Gimpel pattern and mate her back to the F1 son. Select the best Gimpel coloration with the highest number of tail feathers and mate it back to the parent or best color and tail feather count. Keep this up until you achieve what you want.

DINA MERGEANI WRITES:

I have a short question for you. What do you think about the lightened color of these Uzbek Tumblers? Might be milky??



[EDITOR: Yep, milky silver bar. Sometimes called powdered silver.]

DINA WRITES:

Paul, I took these pictures in 2007. Now, I am looking out that there are three kinds of white in the vanes of the tail feathers. I don't know very much about some like grizzle effect (undergrizzle, flash grizzle, juvenile bleaching, and probably others) so ...what do you think, which is the reason for each kind of tail?



EDITOR:

There are many causes for white in the tail feathers. Some of these are grizzle (G), tiger grizzle (G\*T), pied (several genes), undergrizzle (Ug), flash grizzle (being

researched), pencil (Pc), dominant white tail (Wt), recessive white tail (no symbol), frill stencil (fs), etc ... and albescent strip.

Many times one must know the parents to try to determine the probability of the cause of the white in tail feathers. I could guess that the ones in your pictures above are possibly hetero pencil and homo. grizzle in the one not shown above.

MICHAEL SPADONI WRITES:

Just thought I would show you the picture of the F1 NunXSwallow cross. This F1 is just a piece of the puzzle of recessive pied markings.

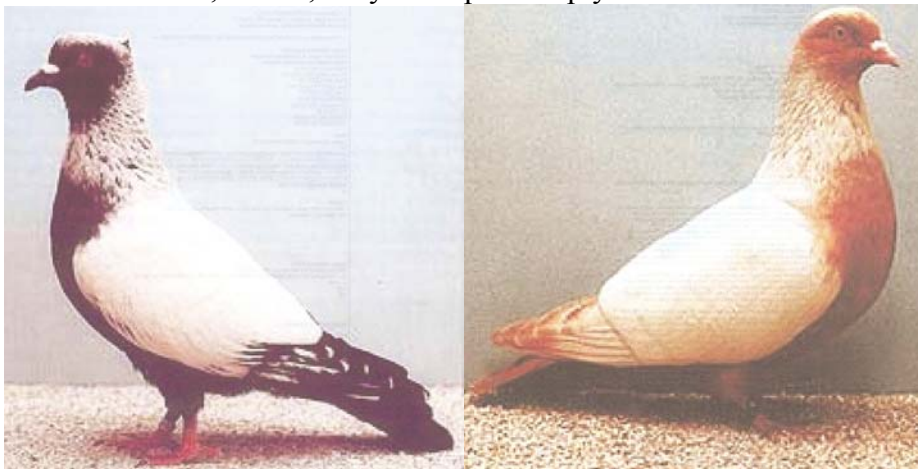


EDITOR:

Very interesting Michael. It looks like both breeds have pied whites in common except the tail of the Swallow must have been dominant white and the white over the wing from the Nun was dominant over color.

AHMED WRITES:

I want to move the color (Suabian) to the Romer breed. Look like Giant Runt. I attached two pictures for the color I have and would like to move. One more thing, please is the Pheasant Pigeon and the Suabian the same breed and people call them different names? Thanks, doctor, for your help and reply





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EDITOR: excerpts & paraphrased

The coloration is called Suabian pattern and the breed is known as Danish Suabian. I would suggest that you use any color Romer. This coloration is T-pattern check Toy Stencil plus a modifier. It will probably take you about 7 years to perfect the expression on the Romer.

You will be working with Toy Stencil genes, recessive red gene, and the size genes. Since smaller is dominant to larger in pigeons, all your young from the first cross will be similar to the Suabian in size the first generation. By breeding these together, you will get a range of sizes. By using the largest ones you can increase the size back to the Romer. At the same time, you will be wanting to move the color of the Suabian whenever possible. Pheasant Pigeons are the same shape but genetically different. Several breeds have make up this group including the Starlings.

As you progress with this endeavor, I will be glad to help with any questions you may have.

JOE POWERS WRITES: 14jan'08

Attached are pictures of two English Short Face Tumblers that were at the Reading show this past weekend. It is the first time I've seen fork tail feathers on a bird other than a Chinese Owl. A friend of mine told me of a Helmet he raised with a a fork tail feather when we were talking about the S F with him. I had heard that the fork tail feathers were tied to the frilling of the Chinese Owl. Obviously that is not the case with these birds. So what can someone tell us about this?



EDITOR:

Very interesting, Joe, thanks for the note and the pictures. Like you, I have only seen this in Chinese Owls and Spanish Owls. However, if memory serves me, I believe their forked tail feathers are also upside down with the albescent strip on the inside of the feather.

PUNS FOR FUN: 2 Antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was great.

Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.

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

KIM WRIGHT WRITES:

I was wondering if anyone could explain how I might breed a hetero Baldhead complex from two homo Baldhead complex parents? The pair is in an individual breeding compartment and this was their third clutch. By Baldhead complex, I mean a white head, white flights, and white tail. The youngster is about 10 days old but has a mismarked beak, about 2/2 flights and a fully coloured tail. It's a little early to see how much white will be on the head. It's almost as if the Baldhead complex from one parent has switched off. The parents are an indigo bar Baldhead cock and a Dominant opal dun hen.

DINA WRITES:

Can you send photos of your indigo bar Baldhead cock and Dom. opal dun hen?

KIM REPLIES:

Attached are pics of both parents, both '05 birds. Michael, as you say the parents, probably the hen is hetero Bh and just look homo. The cock's mother is an andalusian Baldhead with four coloured tail feathers, though she does breed like a homozygous Bh – all young when mated to a homo. Baldheads appear homo Baldhead. The hen's father, was not bred by me but is marked in my book as mismarked though this only amounted to some coloured ticking on the head, he may be hetero.

Michael, is the baldhead you've been describing the traditional Bh where hetero birds have the small white patch over the top of the head, a few white flights (2-4) and a coloured tail? I understand that you can separate the white areas – white head (partial dominant), white flights (partial dominant) and white tail (recessive), though I haven't tried. This is different to the other baldhead that is white when homozygous.



Dom. opal hen



Indigo bar cock.

MICHAEL SPADONI WRITES:

From what I have observed, the white flights and feet [feathers] are directly linked and cannot be separated. The tail is separate.

The head marking is an interesting one. It has been said it's separate but if it is, there is a very strong link as I'm not sure there is a breed with a dominant white head that also doesn't have some white flights? There is a very unusual marked bird called a Thuringian Bib that if dominant, goes against the rule.

The white areas tend to increase or decrease together. The hetero Bh normally has a white strip across the head but as I have experienced - hetero can also be near perfectly, marked thus appear homo.

Bh is a codominant. The Bald gene in Bokhara's (Tb) is a true dominant, since the hetero birds mated to non Balds will breed perfectly marked Balds and selfs all year long. Also you don't get the messy moult-to-white results when rec. red is introduced into the mix such as happens with Bh. In fact, strangely enough Tb is rec red and yellow Bokharas are generally undermarked (have less white).



Recessive yellow Bokhara Tumbler Baldheads (Tb)

EDITOR:

My research has shown that the head white (Bh) and the wing flight white are closely linked. The head white (Bh) is as said a partial dominant. And as has been said the hetero Bh normally is exhibited by a white mark across the head from ear to ear. However, under certain circumstances the hetero head can and does exhibit as a full white head. For instance, if you mate a Baldhead (Bh) to a Lahore (which is not a Baldhead by any stretch of the imagination), all the young will look like homo Bh. In my experiments, these heteros bred back to Lahores bred only young that looked like homo Bh.

Michael, you stated that you did not know of a breed that had only a white head, except the Thuringian Bib. There are several which include: The Thuringian White Head, the Friar's Head Catalanian, the Single-crested Priest or Blasse, Double-crested



Priest, Silesian White-headed Pouter, the Moravian or Bohemian Pouter, the Moulter, some Mookees,

Conversely there are numerous white flighted birds that are not white headed. Are all these white headed birds Bh? I doubt that. I mated a beautiful green sheen Silesian White Head to a non white head and got totally white headed birds.

GREG INQUIRED ABOUT THE COLOR IDs:



RON HUNTLEY RESPONDS:

The first photo shows two black tiger grizzles. The second photo is a little harder to identify, but I believe they are black heterozygous qualmonds with dominant opal and possibly indigo. This is just a guess but I feel strongly that spread and dominant opal are in this genetic mix; whether or not qualmond and indigo are there is just a guess but it sure looks to me like one or both are there.

EDITOR:

Tiger grizzle (G\*T) comes out of the nest solid color and molts in the white. Normally the first year there is no white in the flights and tail but as the bird ages these areas may be invaded with white. The two birds above look like they may be homozygous tiger grizzle which molt in more white than heterozygous ones. The homozygous young usually look grizzle in the nest.

The second picture shows, as Ron says, spread qualmond in the back but the one in the front may be reduced. Its head seems too dark for qualmond. Both birds may also be indigo but I doubt that dominant opal is involved.

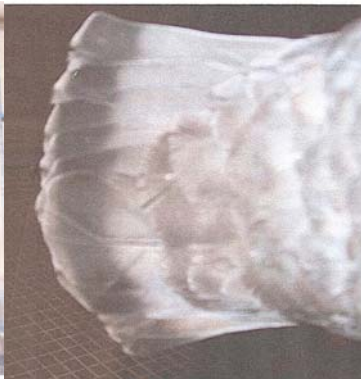
Why are our answers different? Because there are several mixes that produce nearly identical phenotypes. And we are giving our best guess based on experience not fact.

FRANK (T.O.M.) WRITES:

Paul, can you view these photos for me and give your opinions about the coloration of these Modenas? As you can see the email comes from Terji Eljervik of Norway. Wish he also included a side view of the bird in question.



Bronze check (Ts1&amp;Ts2)hen



hens tail



ash red males tail



Youngster (poorly colored recessive red).

EDITOR:

[Terji states that the bird came from a red schietti cock and a bronze schietti hen.]

Frank, the pictures I received include a bronze check blue and an ash red male and the third is a poor colored recessive red over ash red. All look like they are genetic dirty and smoky. The ash red and the blue check also look like they carry recessive red.

The ash red schietti is also het for spread to get the black as shown by the flecks in the tail.

## Foolish sayings:

- 1) Oh, you just want your cake and eat it too. What good is cake if you don't eat it?
- 2) It's the last place I looked. Why would you look further after you have found it?
- 3) Can I ask you a question? You already did!
- 4) Its new and improved. How can it be new if it's been improved????
- 5) Life is short. Life is the longest thing you have going for you!!!!
- 6) Has the bus come yet? If it had, would I still be standing here?

Two cows are talking and one says to the other "I was artificially inseminated this morning" The other says, "I don't believe you." Cow 1 replies, "It's true, no bull!"

An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says "Dam!"