



*Vinca minor* blue flowered



*Vinca minor* purple flowered

# EMAIL PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER MAY 2011

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## CHRIS ROGERS EMAILS: 27apr'09 Toy Stencil X frill stencil

I have looked through books and read what others have to say about the modifiers. The pigeons I posted will be crossed into the English Trumpeters I have. They are a pair so they will be split and paired to ET's and a breeding plan formulated. I was hoping that someone was currently working with both modifiers and had a photo to share. I am most interested in pre and post molt phenotypes and the like. Using this pair I should be able to make laced bald ET's. They already have the main structural ingredients that will make the outcross less complicated.

## JERRY STERNADEL REPLIES: excerpts.

Chris, I have been working with both the last few years, but have nothing new or different to add to the already published data. Sorry! I am scraping the project for the time being. I will add one thing that is only observational. I believe undergrizzle helps to enhance the expression of fs. I did get a couple mimic fs in F1 with undergrizzle. The birds expressed fs in the tail and to some extent in the wings. The cross was a non-fs undergrizzle to a classic frill.



Blue het fs F1 plus undergrizzle.

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Black het fs F1 plus undergrizzle.

GREGG SALE EMAILS:

Thanks for the heads up on the fs and ug. That will help immensely.

JERRY STERNADEL:

I raised two that very much showed the frill stencil and toy stencil as F1. I know the Figurita used did not carry either, but was undergrizzle. I have inserted the blue pictures below. The fs/Ts contributor was a classic [Oriental] Frill Satinette. I might add that many of my Figuritas have some white on their heads.

I also inserted the black (shows bronze also) F1 picture. The real problem is I lost both F1 young birds. So I guess I am saying I have not confirmed my observations. In my mind, the undergrizzle and fs/Ts is the best explanation I have for the expression in these F1s. Also this was from two different matings.

JERRY STERNADEL WRITES: excerpt

Here are two black F1 fs/Ts birds nestmates.



[No Ts showing but then that happens with black sometimes; fs being enhanced by Ug?]

CHRIS ROGERS EMAILS:

I have seen different phenotypical expressions of Ts and fs. Seeing the parents helps me judge what is going on outwardly and helps me to understand genotype when something pops up that is not expected.

JERRY STERNADEL: paraphrased

Here are the parents and F1 babies of a different mating. Hope it is of some help to you. Expression varies.



Parents. [Black must be bar and het dilute.]



[Typical dilute Ts bars.]

BRETT SAVAGE EMAILS:2may'09

This bird is advertized as a 'Chocolate Bar Pencil Splash Meuleman Cock'. Anyone have an idea what makes the brown bars? Obviously sooty.

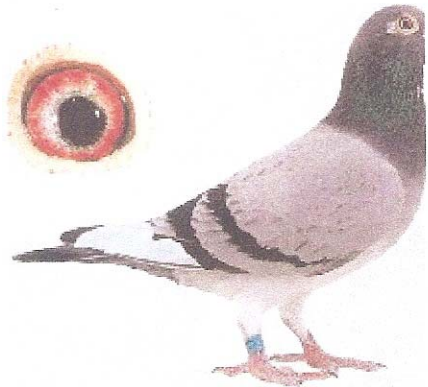


EDITOR:

Don't think anyone has pursued this trait. Gerald Dooley did some work on a bronze in Homers which he found to be a dominant but he was talking about a dark bird

which he thought the old timers called Velvet. The Meuleman strain of Racing Homers is rife with these bronzed bars. They are also almost all blue bars with sooty. Many are pied with random white feathers around the head and neck. Some also have random white primary flight feathers. A few are white underneath like this bird.

The sooty expression varies greatly just like the checker expression, from just barely sooty expression to dark patterns. The evenness of expression over the shield also varies from even to scattered just like the checker patterns. The size varies from a hash mark as seen on the above bird to nearly covering the entire feather. Below are some of the sooty expressions found in the Meulemans.



First bird hardly shows sooty.



This bird shows variable sooty shield marking.



This bird shows very even markings.



This bird shows even smeared sooty markings.



And this bird is so heavily marked that it could pass for a T-pattern in the checker pattern.

JERRY STERNADEL:5may'09

Here is a picture of what looks like a pale ash red. Any thoughts?



EDITOR:

Very nice pale ash red, Jerry. Folks notice the white on the back of the head and neck. Don't know what to call it since it is different from cap and baldhead. Jerry seems to have this trait in a lot of his birds where only a small white area shows on the head.

See pictures on page 994.

ONORIO CATENACCI EMAILS:5may'09 some editing.

These are photos of one of my dad's juvenile Russian Tumblers. It looks vaguely like some sort of ash red but as you can see it's got some quite odd placement of color. It is not apparent in the picture but there is a terminal tail bar.

I believe my father told me that the parents are black and white but in an open loft. I thought people would like to see this interesting bird. We'll see what it looks like in its adult plumage.



EDITOR:

This color is apparently a dirty ash red het rec. red. Probably also spread, dirty and sooty. This odd placement of color is sometimes seen on some youngsters and is what I call molt marks on the upper shield. These will disappear in the adult and the color probably will be a lot clearer. The bird almost looks brown but the white feather bases seen in the crest show it is an ash.

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RAY MORIN EMAILS:5may'09

Hi Mario, I think you should know that indigo do indeed have tail bars.

BRET SAVAGE WRITES:8may'09

Ray, do you have any pictures of these indigos that you say have tail bars? None of mine do. The closest thing that they get to a tail bar is what you see here on this barless blue het indigo.



MARIO FENECH WRITES:8may'09 excerpts

We have a blue black bar pigeon, if we add spread it will turn hetero black, sign will be two end tail feathers and faint wing bars. Add indigo and the bars change to a red rusty colour and the tail feathers lose the bar, well that we can see unless another gene is present.

So does the spread gene spread from the tail bar?

BILL PETERSON WRITES:9may'09 excerpts

In your spread description, are you referring to the albescent strip? Even a homozygous spread will have albescent strips unless the bird is smoky. A smoky black pigeon will have a light beak. I have blacks that are very dark with no indication of bars I also have poor blacks that show bars. I think probably another modifier is messing thing up.

JIM DEMRO WRITES:

This is what I think is a homozygous indigo spread. No albescent strip. And definitely not smoky. Indigo colored toes, nails and beak.



BILL PETERSON WRITES: some editing

Are you saying homo indigo or homo spread? I don't think we can tell by looking if it is homo for spread, only note if it ever has any non spread young. Homo indigo birds look like ash reds. Indigo is one of those has different phenotypes and can cause some confusion, at least to me.

JIM DEMRO RESPONDS:

I'm assuming it is homozygous indigo from the parents and it has only produced indigo. The spread would be het, if it is spread. I got rid of nearly all my Rollers except this one and a couple others because it doesn't fit what I have seen in indigo. The parents were recessive yellow/indigo hen and an indigo cock. A photo of him is below. I should have gotten a photo of the hen before I got rid of her. She was an interesting yellow.

Another thing I have always noticed on homo indigo is that the beak and toes are darker than the same type color in het.

EDITOR:

Gosh, where to begin. I guess with Mario's comments. Brett's comments are right on. Mario's second email – Add indigo to spread blue (black) and you get andalusian not red barred. With blue bar you can get red barred.

The color of a bird does not spread from the tail. Color is derived from pigment cells that migrate from the head in the developing peep. And the color then is the programmed color of the spread bird = black, brown, and ash.

Bill Petersons is right about the albescent strips.

Jim Demro's bird may be het or homo spread but it is definitely not homo indigo. If it were homo indigo it would be an ash red mimic. The picture Jim sent above probably is only ash red, no indigo. If it were indigo the face would be somewhat indigo.

Like so many other colors, indigo phenotypes can vary in color depth, and because of other genes in the genome of the bird. Indigo easily hides in ash reds, ash yellows, rec. reds and yellows. And even in plain sight in other colors. In Almonds, one really has to know it is there since the color change is hard to see most of the time. Combined with T-pattern Ts1 on Saxon White Tails, it turns the whole bird bronze.

I had a dark andalusion male that molted to black after three years. He continued to produce indigo young even though the effect of indigo did not show on him.

Here are a few pictures of some indigo pigeons:

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A phenotype of an ash red indigo bar.



A phenotype of a dirty blue bar indigo.



Phenotype of a blue bar indigo.



Phenotype of a homozygous spread het indigo.



This is a homozygous indigo blue bar.



This is a homozygous indigo blue check



Homo indigo bar (blue)



homo indigo bar dirty (blue)





Homo indigo T-pattern (blue)



Andalusian Roller (het spread, het indigo)



Andalusian Mookie



Andalusian WOE

Lace effect on these two birds is probably because they are T-pattern under the spread.



Andalusian Egyptian Swift with halstring.



Right bird is dilute homo indigo spread ES. light color on neck is caused by halstring.

Several things can cause the indigo effect to vary. These include genome and photo light.

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YOU JUST CAN'T FIX STUPID.sent in by a local friend.

Headline seen in the Register-Guard.

COUNTY TO PAY \$250,000 TO ADVERTISE LACK OF FUNDS.

(And these people are elected?)

VOLUNTEERS SEARCH FOR OLD CIVIL WAR PLANES.

(Let me know how that works out.)

ARMY VEHICLE DISAPPEARS. An Australian Army vehicle worth \$74,000 has gone missing after being painted with camouflage. (Wow, great paint job.)

CASKETS FOUND AS WORKERS DEMOLISH MAUSOLEUM.

(Gosh, we had no idea anyone was buried there.)

TEN COMMANDMENTS:

Supreme Court says some OK, some not.

(Wow, didn't know we could choose.)

UTAH POISON CONTROL CENTER REMINDS EVERYONE NOT TO TAKE POISON.

(I certainly think that says it all.)

FEDERAL AGENTS RAID GUN SHOP, FIND WEAPONS.

(Now I ask. "What is the odds of that!")

STATISTICS SHOW THAT TEEN PREGNANCY DROPS OFF SIGNIFICANTLY AFTER AGE 25. (Let's see, I would have guessed 19.)

ONE ARMED MAN APPLAUDS THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS.

(Now that is just plain mean.)

Redneck Seafood Dinner.



Now that is funny, I don't care who you are.