



Lavender fields in Texas.

PIGEON GENETICS NEWSLETTER

EMAIL OCTOBER 2011

EDITOR: LESTER PAUL GIBSON, PhD
417 S. Chillicothe St, Plain City, Ohio 43064

Page 1044

I was so depressed last night about the economy, wars, jobs, my lack of savings, SS benefits, etc., I called the suicide hotline. I got a call center in Pakistan, and when I told them I was suicidal, they got all excited and asked me if I could drive a truck.

EDITOR:

Going to start this newsletter with some odds and ends. The first set of pictures is some of Bertus Pretorius' Gimpels.



These first three pictures are selections for overly bronze 'C' marking to try to produce Toy Stencil Gimpels.



The 4th picture is a nice brown light check that shows no bronze on the body at all, therefore cannot be classified as a Gimpel. It also shows the white cap and flights of a Mookiee. The 5th picture is an overly bronze shield with the white Mookiee type cap and white flights. The 6th bird is a squeaker that shows a good amount of bronzing on the

shield. This is what a young bird that will molt to a nice green sheen over the shield area looks like. Some of these do not molt to green sheen but the better ones do.



This first picture shows a barless dirty. The next picture is of a light check dilute ash red (ash yellow) and a solid T-pat pale with white cap and flights. The third is of a nice dilute ash yellow checker. Whether any of the 2nd & 3rd pictures will show enough bronze to be considered Gimpel pattern cannot be seen here but I really doubt that they will. They are nice stock birds to be used to develop nice Gimpels in the future.

The rest of these pictures are just informational pictures that came from several fanciers:



This first picture, sent in by Dina, is of a Tula Chigrash (a very old Russian breed) that has breast pigeon traits. It is obviously a pencil trait breed. The middle picture, sent in by Lupe Garrou, is picture of a pair of Blagodarer Tumblers. The third picture looks like a Syrian Sabuni Tumbler with a nice beak crest similar to the Chinese Nasal Crested pigeons.

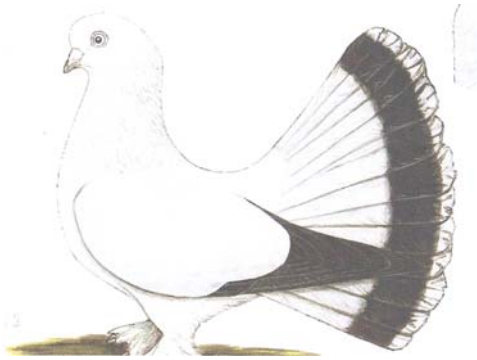
These next 5 drawings are included because they show some interesting traits.



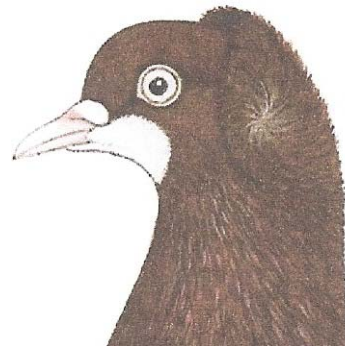
This first is of an all black bird, with an ideal peak crest, that has a nice beetle green sheen on all the feathers. That does not show well here. The second is also of an all

1046

black bird that has a beetle green sheen throughout the bird. It is known by several names, including Abu-Abse, and has a unique facial crest, sort of a sidecombed upward swept facial feathers that form a semi circular crown-like crest. The third ghostly bird is, I believe, an Old German Frill (saddle & tail pattern) with excellent white T-pattern Toy Stencil markings..



This bird is basically barless ice with black flights and with a modified fantail



This head shows a nice white beard marking along with its excellent shell crest and rosettes.



For those of you that have not seen a rec. red Checker, here is one. The pattern will molt away.



These two youngsters are Chinese Pigeons with very, very short beaks.



The first picture above shows one of these with a peak crest and one with a Chinese nasal crest. The center picture shows a close up of a squab with the nasal crest. The beak is very hard to see and barely discernable on this squab behind the beak cere. The third picture of an old bird with a dark beak that lets one see the actual tiny beak between the beak ceres. Notice that they also have a fairly large eye ceres.

JIM DEMRO:23sept'09 SENT THE FOLLOWING PICTURE and NOTE:

Paul, here is a photo of that same bird (as the last email) taken today. Each molt it gets more grey.



Extreme dilute??.

EDITOR: I thought the bird perhaps was a poorly marked dilute almond. Not sure what it is but it does resemble a dilute brown. It certainly is not typical of ecru (lemon-line).

JIM DEMRO:24sept'09

Paul, I have gotten around 7 young out of her the last couple years. None this year. They never have done this conversion to darker feathers. Definitely no almond in her. I do have the lightest almond I have ever gotten before. She is not a good fantail, but I think I will keep her a year to see how dark she molts in.

I also got my first almond this year that wasn't spread or T-checked. It has a tail bar. It looks like a combination of almond and qualmond. No qualmond in it though.

I have a silver T-check indigo cock bird that looks qualmond. It just doesn't have that grizzle type effect in the tail. Just some lightening tail bars.

(The second picture] is a dilute Deroymond. I have gotten two dilute regular almonds out of him this year.)



1048

EDITOR:

Jim, the first picture is not a light almond but is a qualmond. You have had a mutation.

JERRY STERNADEL:3sept'09 edited.

This is part of the non sex-linked Orojo stuff that Gary Young discovered and got me involved. I have raised several of the reddish Orojo. Gary said they really vary and it amazes me how much they do vary. I have two orojo out of F1 parents that were almost completely yellow looking, but molted to almost white sides.

There are some bronzes involved, do not think it is kite though. Orojo do change with the molt. They may have two or three shades of red and also yellow and white mixed in the plumage. These came originally from a Catalonian Tumbler that Gary purchased as an almond, only to discover the bird did not breed as an almond.



EDITOR:

I replied: "There was a bird there? I just saw hunks of bird not a whole bird. Always good to see a whole bird.

JERRY WROTE:

It takes close ups to see the markings clearly. Here is a shot of a whole bird.



EDITOR: some editing

Jerry, I am not sure what the base color is on this bird. It looks like a combination of brown, bronze and recessive red?? I see a whitening of the flights basally. Is this normal with the undergrizzle showing? Does this whitening recede or diminish in the adult?

JERRY:

So far the whitening tends to expand. The bird pictured is a cock that is het. dilute or pale. I have bred the original cock to a blue bar hen and most of their young show gold

or bronze necks, chests, etc. all but two who do not show the bronzing. I have one that looks to be pale but is a cock, so it can't be pale. Gary believes that rec. red is involved. Some of them have darker wing edges. Many also have a kind of grizzled effect on the neck. [Editor: undergrizzle normally only expands on a recessive red bird.]

JERRY STERNADEL WRITES: 25oct'09

Below is a picture of an F1 Orojo. I found these sooty (assumed sooty) to be unusual. The back feathers which I believe are the result of sooty, start on the chest and continue on pretty much a straight line under the wing. The bird is a 4 month old hen.



ARPAD CSEPLO EMAILS:

It might sound strange but I consider the squab below as an ash red blackwing!?



The parents are a [white headed, white flight blackwing Archangel X ash red saddle OGO.] So the progeny is Ash red//black, with blackwing darkening pack (many ingredients can be homo), het Ka.

1050



The point is that this combination is not enough to bronze up the tail feathers to become ribbontail. The other thing, how the pied patterns work together. I found that Baldhead X saddle crosses mostly gave the regular pied pattern.

STEVE JARVIS WRITES: edited (Steve' email was much longer}

When you take out the gp (symbol for archangel bronze) [actually the symbol for gimpel pattern] you get a bird very much like the gold colored Egyptian Swifts. I have a photo of the bird Gibson sent me years ago. Basically it was a blue dp [pale] hen with solid gold wing shield and typical head, neck, undercarriage was gold bronze. It was more intense color than a Swift possibly because of other modifiers in the archangel. I have to say, it doesn't make much sense to me that gp when taken out will produce a ribbon tail. You have to remember it is a pattern gene, that restricts K (bronze) from certain areas of the bird. But in this scenario with B*A, it's puzzling. Even Egyptian Swifts in ash red have no K expression in the flights and tail area, so how does that commute into an ash red with a red tail? ...Others have reported succeeding in producing a ribbon tail with gp bronze. ...Some speculated that the Swifts were the same bronze without the gp. As a diluting mutation in the swifts is not sex linked. Not to mention the collar and head coloration.

The main point I would like to make is that the tail area is difficult and a waiting game.



[This is the all pale-bronze Arch mentioned by Steve above. This second picture is also a pale bronze crossed with white.]



An Almond F2 Arch.



Pale brander Arch made by John Potter.



Pale Deroy Arch made by John Potter



Pale indigo Archangel

DAVE RINEHART EMAILS:4nov'09

I said that Blue and Black Lebanons are frill stencil. There is no Toy Stencil in Lebanons. And you need to rethink the TS1,TS2, and TS3 Toy Stencil theory as it is BS. Please visit Ron Huntly's site (Google if you don't have the URL) and look at the work that Cryberg has done on Modena bronze.

There are three independent codominant genes for bronze in a Modena. There is one bronze that only affects the flight feathers, and the bronze of the wing pattern is due to two independent codominant genes. Now if you stop and think about it, that pretty much explains why no one has been able to put Modena bronze in any other breed! No one has been able to make a Modena colored Roller, Homer, or anything else. Hum.....

There is no Modena bronze in Toy Stencil. Talk with those that raise Argent Modenas and ask them what happens if you cross a Modena into an Argent Modena. Takes about four or five generations to get back to nice white Toy Stencil pattern. Well heck yes as they just introduced three bronzes into the breed! It takes that long to get rid of them.

The fellow that came up with the idea of three bronzes in Toy Stencil NEVER published any data to support the belief. It is a wild-*** theory that no longer holds water. If you are going to maintain that Modena bronze is part of Toy Stencil, I would be

1052

most interested in hearing which bronze(s) are involved. Or does the theory need to be revised to add a couple more TS genes?

One of the confusions in studying pigeon colors is the “general consensus” idea that all phenotypes that look alike must be alike. Well, that just doesn’t hold water any more. We now know that the baldhead pattern in Russian, pardon me, Bokhara Trumpeters is a complete dominant, while that of all European and Asian breeds is a codominant. I believe part of the problem with studying Toy Stencil is that there is more than one way of white bars, check or T-checks. I no longer believe that there is only one way of making white bars on a bird. I believe that in some breeds, Toy Stencil is a single gene and in others it may be due to two different genes. But we need data. I’m tired of hearing about “my test showed....” That’s what data is for. If your testing indicated something, let’s redo the testing to confirm the test. Can’t redo the test if I don’t know what the testing was!

I do know one thing about Toy Stencil though. I know that Modena bronze is not part of it.

BILL PETERSON EMAILS: excerpts

Thanks for the reminder on the stencil in Lebanons, I had forgotten how it went.

I too, questioned the Ts topic and was left with question after reading the explanations. I don’t have better explanations for it only more questions. Just sorting out the phenotypes and genotypes for two stencil factors considering them both het and homo, would get pretty complicated in itself. Quinn suggested that it was probably two or more genes that made up toy stencil bronze since breeding F1s together did not result in stenciled birds.

I read over Cryberg’s report but need to go back and reread it. I had also heard that Dick questioned his own findings, maybe he has tested further and is more certain now.

Yes, there are many look-a-likes in pigeons and it can get very confusing at times ... White bars and stenciling can be made a number of ways, as you say. Od and o can accomplish them with or without the aid of the stencil gene, so it seems.

I had asked before about what goes into the frill stencil types with marking fully into the shield, lace, spangle, bar, whatever and Paul stated that it was toy stencil and frill stencil combined. Dal [Stone] claims that his stencil birds have only frill stencil and no toy stencil but the shields are stenciled just as Oriental Frills are. Has this been sorted out by someone yet? I’m getting conflicting info and I suppose both could be right, only in different cases.

JAMES GRATZ WRITES: 5nov’09

I have had a couple spread black classic old frill cocks in the spare/odd section for a couple of yrs. Saving them in case I need them. Would rather have had hens but you have what you have.

Both are “white” white in the shield with black lace. Mated to different breeds they have NOT produced any bronze in the shield. Always black or brown indistinguishable from wild type. Is part of TS there? I don’t know. But I am not seeing it.

I have seen in a different loft a helmet/COF cross. It was full blown bronze in the shield. Is TS in oriental frills? Maybe, sometimes, always? I don't know. I have heard more than once that Dal's FS birds prove to be opal as well.

BILL PETERSON EMAILS:5nov'09

I have a blue COF hen (white bar, spot tail) that shows a tinge of pinkish bronze in the bars. Mated to a black fig, the produced blacks with no evidence of any bronze either. One show very heavy ug which I don't understand exactly either. The black fig father shows ug, the mother none. This same blue hen mated to a blue check fig/COF produced young with heavy bronze.

In fs rollers, I don't get any bronze either. I have had some that were dull blacks with darker bars, wondered if this was the start of ts or fs but I don't know. In reds, I've seen no evidence of fs in F1s except in a case where opal was used and a spot tail was produced in F1. I haven't bred from Dal's stencil birds yet. I don't see opal in them but that doesn't mean it isn't there. I know Dal has some opal in his birds. Gary Young said it is often in his rosy necks, I'm not sure if it's in mine but doesn't look to be.

I'm not sure if our findings would be different if wild type were used as opposed to spread or recessive red but it might be. I wouldn't be surprised to see bronze with wild type.

GARY YOUNG EMAILS: excerpts

Dave's reply really got me laughing—especially the part about four or five generations to get the bronze out of argent Modenas. If Modena bronze is not Ts1 then it is an exact duplicate that's for sure. We all know who the "gentleman" is that introduced the Ts theory. All I know is Toy Stencil is a bugabear. That's one of the main reasons I am importing those Spanish birds. The cock with the green band was bred on the Spanish Island of Minorca and is 100% pure ancient Catalonian.

EDITOR:

Gary, thanks for your email. The part about Dave's letter that bothers me is that I think he thinks he is spreading the truth. Many people have used the Ts1, Ts2, ts3 idea and found it does work very well.

Dave states that the Lebanons are frill stencil and have no Toy Stencil in them. I worked with red Lebanons (Shikli Amar). Matings of this red Lebanon showed it to be ash red without recessive red. I did not find any bronze in the birds. However, I was able to reproduce this same intense red coloration with white tail bar and flight tips using Kite bronze and Archangel bronze and Brander bronze. Each of these, were ash red plus a bronze, so there probably is a bronze in the Shikli Amar. I did not find either fs or Ts in these.

Concerning the Lebanon breed, there is frill stencil the blue base breeds but not all of them. The Bayramli Aswad and 'Umai are not frill stencil but are Toy Stencil. I have seen some Lebanons in Michigan that had frill stencil, Toy Stencil, and Dom. opal combinations.

More about Dave's statements and Cryberg's Modena paper, etc. in the next issue.