



Bilateral red?/normal color chimera lobster.

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My Canadian friend, Jerry, sends:

I become confused when I hear the word “service” used with these agencies.

Internal Revenue ‘Service’. U.S. Postal ‘Service’. Telephone ‘Service’. Cable TV ‘Service’, Civil ‘Service’, Federal, State, City, and Public ‘Service’. And Customer ‘Service’.

This is NOT what I thought ‘Service’ meant.

Then I remembered my Grandpa talking to another cattle rancher, and one of them said he had hired a bull to ‘Service’ a few cows. BAM!! It all came into focus. Now I understand what all those agencies are doing to us.

You are now as enlightened as I am.

EDITOR:

Things are not always what they seem to be. Take for instance this picture of a male Cardinal published in the Gardening Club magazine.



This is the picture published.

Note the color of the grass beneath the bird. It should be green like the lower right corner. In the magazine the end of the tail over the green grass shows red. The bird is actually red not yellow.



This is the picture brightened.

How about these? Which is the right coloration?



Same bird reversed color

KERON ASKS:

I have two questions. Is Kite a dominant gene? Is it easy to transfer from the like of Tumbler to Homer? Is Indigo an asset or a hindrance in the makeup of almond?

EDITOR:

That is 3 questions. ☺ Yes, Kite is a dominant and is easily moved from one breed to another. The best combination for a good colored Kite is T-pattern and het rec. red along with Kite.

Indigo is too close to blue to make much difference. I think it is neither a hindrance nor an asset to making almond. Homo. Indigo would change the phenotype, of course.

GARY EMAILS:

Would Toy Stencil work similarly to Kite bronze when added to almond?

EDITOR:

Never had Ts show up in almond breeding, but since Ts affects the C area and Sooty areas, I doubt that Ts would work like Kite which bronzes the body and flight feathers.

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ALAN:

Here's an Indigo Almond.



EDITOR:

Beautiful birds; Indigo. extremely Sooty. Almond? Looks more like Qualmond. Not one of the Indigo almonds I bred looked like this. Since almond normally obliterates the pattern, I doubt this is almond. In fact, the indigo and blue almonds could only be told apart by breeding.

EDITOR:

From the Indian Fantail Forum comes this picture of a Milky Blue Almond owned by Lynn Kral. Comments about the picture include: Dan Stiles – I can see why you like her. Kind of looks like marble. Tina Tabur – Very pretty phenotype, Lynn, it is fun to see all the different color almonds you have. Wow, this is an awesome bird, Lynn. I wouldn't have thought it was an almond unless you told us.



ALAN WRITES: feb.20'12

What mutant genes do you suppose are involved in this "08 Oshaben Trenton?"



ABU AMER REPLIES:

I think ember is there. I have the same expression from my het. Arabian Tumblers.

OCTAVIAN SARAFOLEAN:

I think Ash red spread hetero blue and smoky.

ALAN:

I am leaning towards ash red as well, but it's strange (to me anyway) to see an ash red that is blue in color.

OCTAVIAN:

Ash red spread hetero for blue on T-pattern and homo Smoky, this is the whole thing that I wanted to write in the previous comment.

EDITOR:

It could be hetero Indigo Blue Smoky. The flights certainly look like Indigo not ash red.

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HEIN VAN GROUW WRITES: 13feb'12 EXCERPTS

Currently I'm working on an article about Silky and other feather mutations in Pigeons. During the years I've found several new mutations which are never described so far.

Do you know sources (breeders) where I can get photos of the different mutations which are described in the past? I can imagine that people like Gerald Dooley still keep certain rare genetic feather aberrations like Frizzy, Frayed, Scraggly and Porcupine. I corresponded with him in the past but unfortunately I lost his email address. And hopefully Tim Kvidera still keeps Fringe Fantails. Do you have his email address?

This year I'll start the first crosses to create a Naked-neck Tumbler with curly feathers. I thought this will be a nice project to keep me occupied for a couple years.

EDITOR:

To my knowledge, the best source of pictures of these feather anomalies are found in my book, "Genetics of Pigeons, 2005" and Axel Sells latest book, "Pigeon Genetics 2012". Haven't heard from Gerald for quite a while. Tim's email address is Ltskvidera@netzero.net.

Good luck with your curly naked necks.

MICHAEL SPADONI WRITES: 12feb'12 excerpts and editing

Took me a while to find it, but here it is: I wrote this in 2003 when I first started studying Trumpeter Bald (Tb), there is one big correction I have to make. I said whites produced were homo Tb but that is incorrect.

The whites proved to be genetically recessive white and hetero Tb. I introduced rec. white to increase the Bald marking early on.

Paul, I tried to breed homo Tb by mating 2 siblings het for Tb. I have yet to breed a homo bald.

With Tb balds, rec. red birds are almost always under marked (not enough white). [Non rec. reds are well marked, rec. red Tb do not molt in white areas like Bh does. Also Tb seems to be a unit that produces white head, flight, and tail; whereas the Bh really only affects the head. The flights and tail are controlled by other whitening genes].

EDITOR:

Pertinent emails concerning Grizzle (G) and White Grizzle (G^W).

GENE HOCHLAN: edited

A number of years ago I acquired a Flying Cumulet cock, all white with light pearl eyes. Mated him to several solid color hens. All offspring were nearly white with just a few scattered colored feathers. F1s produced either White Grizzles or solid color young, no intergrades.

Bred "Bandit" White Grizzle Homers. They are the same thing as the hetero White Grizzle Cumulets. Mated together they produce either White Grizzle or solid

colored young. The mutant is an autosomal dominant like its typical counterpart

JERRY STENADEL:

Mike said, "A hetero White Grizzle on blue gives a stork marked bird."

How do we account for the stork marked from het any grizzle other than White grizzle. I guess it could depend on each parties description of stork marked? Also if Cumulets are the source and/or spontaneous mutation in your case, and maybe others, why wouldn't white grizzle be more wide spread. Just maybe some of these near white birds are white grizzle? Of course, they may be something else also. I just do not want to rule out the possibility of the white grizzle being more wide spread but not defined.

Isn't it also possible that depending upon other factors that one may get more or less color with white grizzle? I have seen quite a bit of variability in the Bandits.

GENE HOCHLAN RESPONDS:

The true Stork-Marked grizzle is actually homozygous Typical Grizzle [G] and the best example is the Budapest White-Storked Tumbler.

And the possibility of more than one of the Grizzles being present further complicates the issue. This is one of the reasons that "Bandit" Racing Homers can be all over the place with color. Most Racing Homer fanciers don't have a clue what White Grizzle is and probably don't care and will readily mate them to typical grizzle and most anything else.

Mate a Stork-Marked Budapest Tumbler to a Blue Bar and you will get perfectly colored heterozygous Typical Grizzles.

EDITOR:

To clarify: G produces Grizzled phenotype when hetero and storked phenotype when homo. G^W produces White with maybe a few scattered colored feathers when hetero and White with or without a few scattered colored feathers when homo. Both of these in juvenile feather are the color they will be as adults G^T produces hetero young that are solid color in the nest and molt to a 40 to 50% white phenotype as adults. G^T produces homo young that may be somewhat grizzled in juvenile feather and molt to a 40 to 60% white phenotype as adults.

Ash red Grizzles may mimic G^T but are easily separated by mating to a blue and producing hetero Grizzle young, not all white young.

Tail marked whites which some call stork marked are not any of the above. The tail mark is evidently a phenotype that is recessive to white. Whether this white is recessive white (?) or another white mutation is not known at this time. Tailmarks may be modified and appear as solid color, Undergrizzle, flash grizzle, and other modifiers.

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JERRY SINDELAR WRITES:mar4'12

Here are photos of my two birds, they are brothers hatched 2010. Father is rec. red and mother is grayish like this son from well coloured almond cock and black hen.



EDITOR:

Both are the same color genetically except the gray one is a spread which covers the bronze in the Almond series of birds. Believe they are Qualmond.

GARRY GLISSMYER SENDS:

Bird belongs to David Turner of the U.K. Garry states: this is a Blue color base Modena, showing the effects of the pale color modifying gene on Blue with Bronze [barred] wings. It becomes a pale sulfur.



JERRY SINDELAR SENDS:

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Iranian birds, Almond 1, Almond 2, what are they? Tail and wing of yellow one are attached.



EDITOR:

They are almonds. A lightly flecked variety which seem to be intermediate between Almond and Qualmond . The gray one is spread which obliterates the pale bronzing. Very interesting and attractive phenotype.

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ARPAD CSEPL SENDS:6mar'12

What tail and bar colors [do] you suppose from this couple?



EDITOR:

The blue bird looks like it may be indigo?/or a cobalt blue which I have seen a few times but do not know what produces it. It's white tail appears to be a recessive white so will disappear in the young only to pop up later. However, some Dom. white tails also appear like this if it is Dom. white, then the young will be partly white tailed. The Gimpel looks like it is probably Dom. opal. The young birds should be blue or look like the blue bird if it is Indigo. The bars of the blue bird are homo Toy Stencil complex. The bars on the Gimpel are probably from Od but may be a combo.

ARPAD RESPONDS:

The blue one is a true breed, called steel blue. What I can say is that they are dirty and smoky. I find them attractive and they are darker than it shows on the picture(flash used).

No white tail is known in the Gimpel breed and steel blue is a white tailed breed. Each of them appear to be homo for their own genes. According to Mendel's rule, whether the white tail is rec. or dom. the F1 should be uniform. [Not if they are heterozygous for one gene or more than one gene pair is involved]. One of the chicks has seven white tail feathers, the nest mate has none.!???

Same happened in my loft a year back: Gimpel X Thur. white tail produce in F1, 3 incomplete white tail, 2pcs with 3-5 white feather, and 4-5 pics with full colored tail!???

One more strange point: Gimpel F1s used to wear bronze chests, these youngster has no sign of the Gimpel bronze.!???

EDITOR:

BIT OF PHILOSOPHY:

Had a professor ask if $1 + 1 = 2$. When part of the class answered yes, he said, "No, they do not! Unless all the integers are the same in both." Now ain't that fun? But he was wrong! It is true that one pear and one apple does not equal two apples or two pears, but they do equal 2 fruit.

Along this line Doc. Hollander often said there is no such thing as a blue gene and then smile. He was right, of course, just as there are no brown or ash red genes. But a gene produces the colorations that we call blue, or brown or ash red.

Along those lines, there is no such thing as a chromosome. (The dictionary says it is a rod shape body formed by the incorporation of chromatin in a cell nucleus during mitosis and meiosis. They carry the genes that convey hereditary characters.)

Ok, so what is chromatin? (The dictionary says it is “a protoplasmic substance in the nucleus of living cells that readily takes a deep stain. Chromatin forms the chromosomes and contains the genes.”)

Now which is it? Chroma means color but the rod shaped bodies are not colored naturally but do take a stain. Therefore chromosomes are a figment of scientific manipulation and thus by definition do not exist. Rod shaped bodies, which are now part of the helix, contain the genes. And these rod shaped bodies which are erroneously called chromosomes are microscopically visible during the growth stages in mitosis and meiosis.

Thus there are no such things as chromosomes, just as there are no such things as blue genes.

JUAN PEDRO ALONSO WRITES: 30apr'12

These are 3 Racing Homers. They are brothers and they have some white in their tails. Is it caused by Undergrizzle?



EDITOR:

There are three genes that are known to produce some basal whitening in the tail feathers. They are penciled, Flash Grizzle, and Undergrizzle. You did not state what color the parents were but since the whitening is arrow shaped, my guess would be that this is probably caused by hetero pencil.