

September 2018 Newsletter.

The Pigeon Genetics Newsletter, News, Views & Comments. The Pigeon Genetics Newsletter, News, Views & Comments.

(Founded by Dr. Willard .F. Hollander)

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"The latest updates from around the World brought to You Monthly"

WOW!! The past Month has been extremely busy with many new people asking to get on our mailing lists as well as join our Genetics Facebook Groups. Additionally there has been more activity from Members to provide us with articles and Loft activity information for future issues!

Topic : " GRAY" (photos provided by Octavian Sarafolean)

First we are visiting a project presented by Octavian Sarafolean, in collaboration with Gina Mergeani (Galatzer Roller), Catalin Radu, and Adrian Stanciu on the Facebook Group Serictly Colour Genetics for Pigeons . Octavian said , {edited to extend the English} : following a question by Jith Peter.



[Jith Peter](#) How would you describe the factor, both phenotypically as well as genotypically, Octavian?

[Octavian Sarafolean](#) Our new { Gray } trait seems to be dominant, but not sure yet. The expression that we first named appears to be a complex of factors. We are still trying to figure out exactly how it works.

When we started to make the blue version of the breed, as they were at first only on ash red bar, ash red dilute and blue dilute, we found out that blues are darker, with white beak, the wing has a grayish color , similar to smoky, but with white "albescent"stripes on the tail that suggested that they weren't smoky. After a while we began to get the smoky ones and saw the difference between them....

[Brad Stuckey](#) Could they be Ember as well?

[Octavian Sarafolean](#) No ember.

[Bob Rodgers](#) Looks more like "Atlas"., or Atlas bronze with some variations perhaps due to being hetero (e)., and/or as you say Opal.

[Brad Stuckey](#) That was the direction I was heading.

[Octavian Sarafolean](#) I'll post some photos with those grays so you can understand why are they like that.

[Octavian Sarafolean](#) [Catalin Radu](#), you could put some with smoky and without Od , And het rec red.



Octavian Sarafolean this is how a blue gray het rec red looks like. this one has Toy stencil too . some have even more red on them than this one .. which is a very light blue check.



Octavian Sarafolean this one was a blue bar gray + smoky and i think it was without red.



Octavian Sarafolean and his dilute sister that is het rec red.



Octavian Sarafolean and a blue bar gray without ts and het rec red



Brad Stuckey Can we see pics of the parents too?

Octavian Sarafolean of which ? If you are referring to the smoky ones, this is the mother blue bar Od with gray(not 100% sure but by the looks of the colors she seems so)



Octavian Sarafolean this is the father....but i don't have a better photo of him



[Brad Stuckey](#) I see that neither are Rec. Red. How do you know that almost all the babies carry the gene? I notice that you've pointed that out in most of the descriptions. Is that what you are relating the reddish fronts to or something else?

[Octavian Sarafolean](#) [Brad Stuckey](#) the hen is het rec red, the ones without rec re are always with less red on them and that gray complex(seems to be a combination of at least 2 genes) intensifies that thing , and the ones i tested for it were always like that 😊 i got rec red youngsters from them .

[Octavian Sarafolean](#) this is how a rec red with gray looks like some show through the bars but still, don't change the color too much ,, only white feathers on the pattern



[Octavian Sarafolean](#) and a dilute one below .



[Octavian Sarafolean](#) at first i thought about ember....but look ... it moulted with white feathers ...and appeared more



[Adrian Stanciu](#) Intense rec red t.pattern with gray. Afther the first molt, some feathers, especially the tail and flights, turn white, because of the bronze.



[Adrian Stanciu](#) This chick is intense rec red t.pattern with gray, brother of the female above after his first molt.



Octavian Sarafolean We just started to get more birds on blue, and we can start to test them better 😊

Mike Bordelon don't see dominant opal .

Octavian Sarafolean **Mike Bordelon**, you are right... on the dark bird Od is almost invisible, but, here is a photo of the dark one with open wing she will probably get darker...but on the wing it is visible the Opal markings.



and this is the light one

Octavian Sarafolean The Romanian Barred Highflyer had only 3 colors in the breed, Dilute blue bar, Ash red ribbontail bar and Ash yellow ribbontail bar. The blue dilutes were a little different in darkener quantity than the other 2 as all breeders didn't mix ash red with blue. in 2012 i started 2 projects in this breed, the blue nondilute and the dom opal. Last one was in the breed 20-30 years ago but they were extinct and i really liked them from the old photos and i started to recreate it(phenotipically). So they dont have too many factors in them to confuse it's color.



TOPIC : Colour phase identifications. (photos provided by Jijo Thomas).

Are these silver or milky? I think they were born short down but not sure.



Bob Rodgers They may not be either , what can you tell us about the parents ?

Jijo Thomas Dad is a dark check with bronze Hana Pouter and Mom is a homer whose background is unknown . She looks like a lemon. I raised this youngster to the left out of the mom and a frill stencil homer cockbird.

Bob Rodgers Then if the hen is indeed "Lemon" , the cock must carry dilution and thus both young are dilutes. Both parents would have to carry milky in order for the young to be milky. If one young is a male , he will carry the Lemon gene. I am assuming that they will be barred pattern so the male would carry Bar , and perhaps the hen is barred , as Lemon would imply. Beyond that you will have to wait for them to feather out and moult. They seem to have short down also indicative of dilution.



[Jijo Thomas](#) [Bob Rodgers](#) what do think of these updated pics

[Bob Rodgers](#) . Remember my first comment regarding them being milky or silver , I said they may not be either. They appear to both be dilute blue bars and also smoky factor. The dark one may be the hen and the light one the cock which would also carry Lemon , and thus perhaps express that a bit in its phenotype . If I am wrong on the genders , then something else is involved. The dark one seems to have the gold crescent on the breasts of dilute blue. They likely will darken in contrasts after the moult.

[Layne Gardner](#) Note the dark eye color.

[Bob Rodgers](#) I did not consider the eye as they appear pre- first moult , so we will have to see a close - up of the eye colour after the moult , but yes Layne , that could indicate the "something else " involved.

{ The topics this Month are ongoing topics on three of our Genetics Groups that we have on Facebook. We always enjoy adding new members and having your input , so do not hesitate to look us up or simply request to be a friend on Facebook , and I will add you to the Groups ! }

Topic: Questionable light area in flight feather. (photo provided by Adam Archer.)

[Adam Archer Pigeons](#) Picked up another bird with the "undergrizzling", again a cock. This time on only one feather.

I think Richard Kirschner may be correct in that it is somehow related to a pied gene, as I only have it on very lightly pied/white flights cocks. Any idea what causes this bronzing [Bob Rodgers](#)? I'm very far from knowledgeable on bronze genes. It is a racing homers cock.



[Bob Rodgers](#) There seems to be a rather close link between Kite bronze and undergrizzle . However if this is indeed simply an expression of pied factor , that does not rule out Kite bronze. Having said that , it would not surprise me to learn that there is Meuleman red in the pedigree of this bird. The red travels to the tip of the flights which usually indicates hetero recessive red. Pied factor is common in that strain.

[Adam Archer Pigeons](#) Thanks, I had an inkling it may be heterozygous recessive red also, but even in young inbred to this cock by my father it hasn't popped up yet. I'll test him against a e//e hen when I get a chance.

{ There was no further input to this topic , we perhaps should have had a spread out wing and tail shot to give us a better look , even though he stated the lightening was only in one feather .}

TOPIC: Expressed Tail Bands in Stipper/and Almonds in general.

This young black sprinkle is clearly showing a tail band. What does that mean for its genetic background? Is it non-spread? Is it because recessive red is pushing through? Curious about your opinions.



[Jith Peter](#) It looks like a spread. I feel safe to say that the faint black tail band of the bird has no direct relation with recessive red as we know that all classic almonds are heterozygous recessive red and show white tailband. In my opinion the bird is either a stipper and some unknown modifier that causes the tail band or the bird is not stipper, but an allele of it. I rather feel likely the latter as I have noticed some phenotypes similar to it in the past and found that they take much longer time to get darker than the normal stipper birds do. But that doesn't mean this case is necessarily the same.

[Quido Valent](#) Thanks [Jith Peter](#), this bird looks darker than most of its peers at this age, rather than lighter.

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That is it for this Month Folks ~ Thanks for your input both on Facebook , also via Chat , and Email . It is most appreciated ! Always good to hear from you , I answer all mail as soon as possible. I may be behind with sending out back issues of the Newsletter. You can access them via the net .

{ Let us hear what goes on in your Loft , so we can share it with the Good Folks around the World ! }