

VARIOUS

NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS AND 'BUY AND SELL' MARKET

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A Word from the editor . . .

Dear reader,

Keeping animals is as old as the hills. The diversity of human and animal world is practically unlimited, and for a long time, it could hardly be surveyed. At first, information came from sailors and true-to-nature drawings made by explorers. Later it was brought through photographs and films, and even completed with sound recording. But nowadays, by means of the Internet, we can share everything with everybody, regardless of geographical barriers.



During the last years, Aviculture Europe's digital magazine has succeeded in creating a platform where citizens of the world can learn about the most beautiful poultry and pigeon breeds, in all their splendid varieties. So whenever you feel like having a view of the poultry in an Australian show or admiring the top quality pigeons at a South-African show, or want to see with your own eyes how a fancy breeder somewhere in Europe selects his birds for the breeding pen and looks after his animals..... then www.Aviculture-Europe.nl is the Place to Be on the Internet!

A unique website, as all interviews, articles on breeds, show reports and - not the least! – the beautiful pictures are exclusively made for or by Aviculture Europe and are nowhere else to be found on the Internet. Everyone who likes or keeps fancy pigeons, poultry, waterfowl or ornamental fowl is welcome to join in, so don't hesitate any longer and register as a reader!

Together with our fantastic team of authors, translators, editors, illustrators, photographers and webmaster we hope to continue for years in successfully contributing to this 'new discovery of the world'!

With thanks to all contributors and subscribers,
on behalf of the team of Aviculture Europe,
Nico van Benten



AVICORNI KLEINDIERESHOW THE NEDERLANDS



**21-22-23 December 2007
in the Veemarkt Halls in Utrecht**

**Organised by The Royal Dutch
AVICULTURA and ORNITHOPHILIA**

NATIONAL SHOW

Poultry, Waterfowl, Ornamental fowl, Fancy pigeons, Rabbits and Cavies

Including:

The Dutch National for Pigeons

The National championship for Young Animals NBS

**Many stands and as usual many foreign visitors
This show gives a splendid opportunity to buy animals**

Info: G.J. de Bruin, phone: 0031-(0) 346566372. E-mail: bruinrooijen@casema.nl

websites: <http://avicultura.sierduif.nl> - www.ornithophilia.nl – www.ter.nl

Housed at the UTRECHTSE DIERENDAGEN

Also presenting EXOKNAAG, a fantastic rodent event, at Sunday 23 December.



THE FRAME

October 2007: Which breed is this?



Take your chance to win a free subscription!

Every reader may GUESS which Poultry breed is portrayed in 'The Frame'. Please mail your answer to redactie@aviculture-europe.nl stating: 'Answer The Frame'. With the issue of each new edition we will choose a winner amongst the correct entries. He or she gets **a one year free subscription to Aviculture Europe**.*

Answer August Frame: Holle Cropper

The pigeon in the frame was a Holle Cropper as they were around 1950. Although the present day Holle Cropper is even more 'round', it was clear to see which breed name we were looking for. So we had a lot of correct answers this time!

The painting was made by C.J. van Delft in 1951; unfortunately we have no further information on this painter. The owner of this piece of art is G.J. van de Kaay, a former Dutch Pigeon Judge.

The happy winner of the one year free subscription is: **Mirza Baig**

*Only to be won once per person.

Advertisement

Don't miss it! Each issue of Aviculture Europe contains at least 100 pages with lots of full colour photos and a great variety of articles written by well known international authors; more and more join our team! Moreover, our subscribers will have unlimited admission to the archives where all former articles are saved. Over the years this will give an enormous database! The cost compares very favourably with 'printed' Magazines – US\$ 15,00 / UK £ 8,50 / € 11,45 per year - and the magazine gives a good insight into bird keeping all over Europe. For more information, see 'Subscription' (button left) at our website.

FASCINATING FEATHERS



Sometimes just looking at a single feather emphasises the beauty and uniqueness of a bird's plumage.

Pictured here is a feather of an Emu.

Emu feathers do not have barbs and almost look like hair. For this reason, emu feathers are much softer and more flexible than the feathers of other birds. The feathering is of a brownish grey colour. Males have a dark coloured neck.

Something remarkable in emu feathers is that all emu feathers consist of two feathers coming out of one shaft.

Feathers on an emu range greatly in size and texture. These are Emu body feathers, which range from 3" to 12". The smallest emu feather may only be an inch long and very soft while the longest feathers are 18 inches or more and feel like straw.

In Australia there are many Emu farms, the birds are kept for the eggs, the meat and the feathers. Emu feathers are used for decorating, handicrafts and fishing (tying fish flies).

Photo left: The head of an Emu cock.

All photos were taken at Jetty van der Hulst and Hans Diehl in Nederweert, NL.



The Emu is native to Australia. They are ratite birds that lost the power of flight, but have long legs and can travel great distances at a fast trot. (if needed up to 50 km/h for a while!) Other ratite birds are the ostrich, (Africa), cassowary (Australia), rhea (South America) and kiwi (New Zealand), the kiwi being the smallest.

Emus feed on a variety of plants, seeds and insects. The voice of an Emu is a 'drumming' sound 'e-mu'. Just as with the Ostrich and the Rhea it is the male Emu that incubates the (green) eggs. The incubating takes 8 weeks and all these weeks the bird doesn't eat or drink. Like all Galliformes the young are nidifugous, meaning that they are active and running about soon after hatching and can almost immediately look after themselves, although the father keeps an eye on them for about half a year.

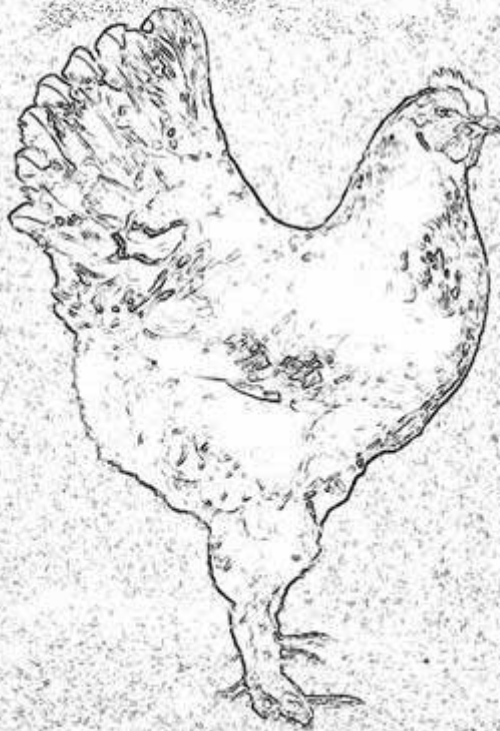


The OHIO NATIONAL

America's Largest Annual Poultry Show

November 10th & 11th, 2007

Columbus, Ohio



ENTRIES CLOSE
OCTOBER 21, 2007

THE OHIO NATIONAL

SPONSORED BY THE OHIO POULTRY BREEDERS
ASSOCIATION

November 10th & 11th, 2007

You'll find us in Columbus, just north of downtown on 17th Avenue off I-71. In the OHIO EXPO CENTRE – Home of the Ohio State Fair

Schedule for the Voinovich Centre

Friday, November 9

- 11:00 AM to 10:00PM for cooping in

Saturday November 10,

- Barn will open at 7:00AM Judging begins at 9:00 AM,
Building will be locked at 6:00 PM

Sunday November 11

- Barn will open at 7:00 AM Champions of the show
will be awarded, Dismissal at noon.

Youth Showmanship will be on Saturday and will start
at Noon.

**Youth show Awards Sponsored
by TIZ WHIZ**

See <http://www.ohionational.org/>
for Hotel information, Road Map
and more.



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE – WITH AN UPDATE

In the fall of the year 2000 we visited the van Vliet family in Voorschoten on behalf of the former magazine Avicultura, to make a photo reportage of an enthusiastic mother/daughter breeding "team" ... Paula (mother) bred the large Barnevelders and the nine year-old daughter Marjolein bred bantam Australorps. While we were there we also met Marjolein's "special" big ole Barnevelder rooster 'Makkie' (the Dutch name refers to a very easy-going and laid back character) ... "special" because Marjolein was allowed to keep him as a pet because of the special bond she had built up with him... the roo would come to her when called by name just like a dog (and was just as easily handled and cuddled on the nine year-olds lap!) She had personally picked the bird out as a chick but when the tell-tale signs of "roo-dom" appeared (and keeping in mind this is not the most

handsome of roos) appeared (and keeping in mind this is not the most handsome of roos) she was allowed to keep him as a pet because of this special bond they had. The name "Makkie" however, turned out to be truly misleading as the only one he was truly "easy and laid-back" with was Miss Marjolein as he immediately went into "attack" mode as soon as we stepped foot onto the terrain to photograph "his" girls! We revisited them recently to see how things had progressed with with the Van Vliet breeding team and we found them still breeding with as much enthusiasm as they had back during our first visit...



imagine our delight when we were also "greeted" seven years later (and just as "enthusiastically" as the first time) by Makkie! Marjolein called him over to her (yep...ran right over to her for a cuddle) he still obviously enjoyed his special relationship with Marjolein, enjoying the cuddles and attention she gave him as she talked with us.



Makkie in 2000



Makkie in 2007

Marjolein explained that although he had his own coop (as he had become a bit "grumpy" in these last years) her cuddles hadn't spoiled him for the girls! We noted a few aged wrinkles in his comb, the crooked toes and how the wattles were sagging a bit, however; the extra spur growth above the first one was an obvious tell-tale sign confirming that although he might not be as quick on his feet, he still loved to strut his stuff in the chicken yard!

Note the extra spur



In addition to all the common teenage interests and friends that automatically come with being sixteen, she is still enthusiastic about her bantam Australorps and has become a very competent breeder, now breeding the blues as well as blacks.

We'll no doubt be hearing her name often at the breeding shows!

Text and photos: Aviculture Europe



TOP LODGE

Of course pigeons and doves don't 'house' just anywhere! They have preferences, just like human being and when top-quality housing is available, then why not chose that!

This picture was taken in South Africa. You see a number of Senegal Doves (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) in front of a typical South African Lodge with a 'AA Highly Recommended Accommodation' Sign!

Text and photo: Mick Bassett.



Tip:

WATERER

Although actually made for dogs, such a waterer is super practical for chickens! It will not tip over, not even when the chickens stand at the rim. Easy to clean and to carry. Contents 7 liter.

For sale at the pet store, or ask for info at redactie@aviculture-europe.nl





1e European Championship BRAHMA and COCHIN 23-24-25 November 2007 in Affligem-Belgium



See also <http://users.pandora.be/ludwig.van.roy/europese/informa.htm>

Auction sale of Brahma and Cochin

Saturday 24/11 an auction sale will be organised at 17 o'clock for the best Brahmans and Cochins which are for sale at the exhibition (with the agreement of the owner). The aim of this auction sale is to offer everyone, and especially the many Brahma and Cochin lovers who come to Affligem on Saturday for participation in the Fanciers evening, the chance of making a bid on quality birds which can be useful in their breeding pen.

Fanciers Evening

This European Exhibition is a fine chance for Brahma/Cochin lovers to make contact, so we offer all participants the opportunity of assisting at the Fanciers Evening on Saturday 24-11-2007 at a cost of 20 Euro. This European Fanciers Evening includes dinner (soup, entrée, main course, dessert) and an after dinner party. Reservations obligatory!

Overnight stay

We offer the opportunity of staying overnight in the abbey of Affligem for the price of 10 euro per night. Only about 3 kilometres from the show ground. Group accommodation reserved by 'The Pajottenlanders for participants and visitors of the Show. Please bring your own sheets/sleeping bag.

Register for overnight stay at L. Van Roy (ludwig.van.roy@pandora.be). Those who register also get the opportunity to have breakfast and lunch, served in the 'Bellekouter' for an additional cost of 11 euro.





A NEW, UNIQUE COLOUR OF THE BARNEVELDER BANTAM

When visiting a friend we noticed that there were some extra pens in the garden, with remarkably coloured chickens in it. The birds were staying here for a few weeks only, because their owner was on holiday. We were really astonished to find out that this was a totally new creation: a silver-double laced Barneveld bantam! In this variety the black double lacing is on a silvery white ground colour, instead of on a chestnut brown ground colour.

Right: One of the older hens. Photo: Archives Kleindier Magazine. Breeder and Owner: Bert Beugelsdijk.

The creator of this new colour is Bert Beugelsdijk, a Dutch top breeder in Barnevelder and Australorp bantams. According to Bert this new colour variety doesn't yet exist in any other breed in Europe!

Bert has been breeding this colour for some year now and as you can see in the pictures, the perfection achieved so far is truly striking!

You can read more about the creation of this beautiful contrasting colour pattern in this months' issue, in CONCISE, A collection of three extraordinary short articles, article 2: A new, unique colour of the Barnevelder Bantam.

Left: Three pullets, breed 2007. Note the perfect double lacing, even in the tail feathers! Photo: Aviculture Europe.



EXHIBITIONS CALENDARS 2007/2008

THE NETHERLANDS

<http://www.sierduif.nl/rooster.htm>

BELGIUM

<http://www.neerhofdieren.be/VIV/index.htm>

- tentoonstellingen Vlaanderen

<http://www.neerhofdieren.be/AIW/index.htm>

- calendrier des expositions en Wallonië

SWITZERLAND

<http://www.sgk.org/index.cfm?Nav=110>

FRANCE - poultry

<http://perso.orange.fr/volaillepoultry/expositions.html#expoF>

FRANCE – pigeons

<http://www.pigeons-france.com/rubriques/evenement/>

GERMANY - pigeons

<http://www.vdt-online.de/main/index.html>

- termine

GERMANY – poultry

<http://www.bdrq.de/termine.shtml>

GREAT BRITAIN – pigeons

<http://www.zyworld.com/NPA/Shows.htm>



BREED SPECIFIC EUROPEAN SHOWS 2007/08

POULTRY

- Australorp and Australorp bantam, 9.- 11. November 2007 in Ostrau (D)
- Twents Fowl and Twents bantam, 17.- 18. November 2007 in Welper (B)
(applied for)
- Silkies and Poland Bantams Club , 17.- 18. November 2007 in Germany (applied for)
- Brahma, Brahma bantam, Cochin, Cochin bantam, 24.- 25. November 2007 in Afflichem (B)
- Sussex, Sussex Bantam, Orpington, Orpington Bantam, Dorking, Dorking Bantam, January 2008 in Zuidlaren (NL)

PIGEONS

- English Pouter and Pygmee Pouter, 17.- 18. November 2007 in Zagreb (HR)
- Danzig Highflyer, 23.- 25. November 2007 in Keulen (D) (granted)
- Short beak Owls, 23.- 25. November 2007 in Keulen (D) (granted)
- Ghent Croppers, 23.- 25. November 2007 in Keulen (D)
- Montauban, 8.- 9. December 2007 in Metz (F) (granted)
- Komorner Tumbler, 5.- 6. January 2008 in Dachau (D)
- Chinese Owl, 12.- 13. January 2008 in Herford (D)
- Jacobin, 18.- 20. January 2008 in Schopfloch (D) (granted)
- Vienna and Budapest Tumbler, 26.- 27. January 2008 in Barleben (D) (granted)

Source: Entente Europeenne <http://www.entente-ee.com/>



DOLK MEDAL FOR JAN DE JONG



On the 1st of June the 'Dolk' Medal was presented to the well-known Fancy Pigeon Judge and Artist, Jan de Jong, an exceptionally valued Contributor to the Hobby.

This beautiful and unique Medal, specially minted for the 'Dolk Commission', was presented to Jan de Jong during the Congress of Fancy Pigeon Judges by Dick de Boer, the Chairman of the Dolk Commission.

Jan de Jong was highly honoured by the presentation of this Prize with it's special significance.

This Medal, named after Mr. Dolk, a well known Pigeon Judge of the previous Century, is intended for a very popular and respected Judge who is also known for his illustrations, drawings and writings.

This Prize is only awarded once every 5 years, the presentation of the Award rotating between Pigeon, Poultry or Rabbit Judges.

Other well known Judges who have been presented with this Award are: Henk Moezelaar (1977), Coen Albers (1982), Ben Wermer (1987) Adrie van Wel (1992) Wim Voskamp (1997) and Jo Vanhommerig (2002).

Photos: Aviculture Europe.



THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

By: Tom Bowden

The last exhibition poultry were imported to Australia in 1948. The threat of a number of diseases such as Newcastle Disease was the reason for the ban. Consequently many of the breeds that were imported from England and America have developed a very Australian character.



Left: Silver grey Dorking cock. Photo: Greg Davies
Right: Peking buff bantam pullet. Photo: Greg Davies.

Commercial companies are able to import eggs because they can meet the very high costs of the quarantine programme. Some years ago State Poultry Associations approached the Federal Government to negotiate an import programme but this failed because of lack of funds. The matter has been raised again in the last year.

It was proposed that eggs of rare breeds could be imported to a Government quarantine station where they would be incubated and rear-ed to 10 weeks and if the chickens passed all quarantine requirements they would be released.

The proposal suggested that units (80 eggs) at a cost of \$A 3,000 per unit would be made available. The total cost of approximately \$A150,000 for quarantine, incubation, rearing etc was the same whether the incubation facility was filled to capacity or not. The proposal was that there would be a 50% hatching rate. This is debatable. There were other complications and to my knowledge the scheme has not got of the ground. It is not financially viable for hobbyists to be involved in such a costly exercise that has so many unknowns.



The main breeds in Australia have taken on their own 'Australian' Characteristics. In these the gene pool is diverse enough to maintain breed vigour. It is the rare breeds that are suffering mainly because they are in the hands of very few dedicated breeder. Importing 'new blood' would no doubt boost these breeds but the costs would be very high or out of reach of the dedicated few.



**Left: White Wyandotte Bantam Cockerel.
Right: Sussex large. Photos: Tom Bowden.**

The situation with pigeons is different. There is a regular importation of pigeons from Europe and the United States via Canada. The cost at one stage was approximately \$A1,000 per bird. Birds were held in quarantine in their place of departure for 9 weeks and then held in quarantine on arriving in Australia for around 6 weeks. Then they were released to their new owners. In Australia the Quarantine Service required that the cost of covering the quarantine period of \$A35,000 be paid regardless of the number of pigeons imported. This was over come by importers banding together. If 70 pigeons were imported the cost was \$500 per bird. The other \$500 to make up the \$1000 mentioned earlier covered overseas costs and freight. Many new breeds of pigeons have been imported in recent times. Breeding stock to improve established breeds has also been very regular. Compared with the poultry situation the cost per bird is relative low. The main advantage is that an adult breeding bird is introduced and can be

used immediately. Its quality can be assessed by photograph before it is sent. (The figures quoted may have changed slightly I have relied on information from a fancier who actually imported birds some time ago.)

Compare that with poultry where eggs are supplied. They have to be incubated, the chickens reared and only then will their true quality be determined. One danger would be that if the chickens contacted some disease while being reared in quarantine they would be destroyed. That would make the exercise very expensive indeed.





NATIONAL SHOW ONETO

7, 8 and 9 December 2007

in the Twente Halls, Enschede The Netherlands.

www.oneto.nl

Poultry, Waterfowl, Ornamental Fowl, Pigeons, Doves, Rabbits, Guinea pigs.

Show open:

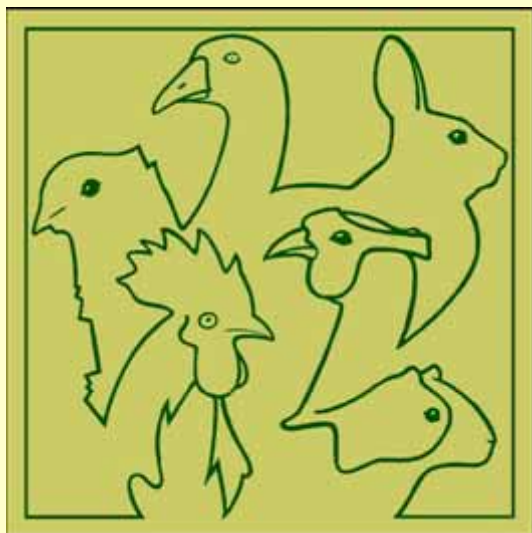
Friday 7 December 15:00 to 22:00 o'clock

Saturday 8 December 9:00 to 22:00 o'clock

Sunday 9 December 9:00 to 16:00 o'clock

Entrance fee € 5,00 Groups over 20 persons: 20% off.

In the spotlight at this Show: Special Championship for The Rosecomb bantam and the Figurita Owl.



KEMPEN SHOW

14 - 15 - 16 December 2007

Domein Teunenberg, Boerenkrijglaan 51, 2250 Olen, Belgium

Visitors information:

Show open:

Friday: 17 - 22 o'clock

Saturday: 10 - 22 o'clock

Sunday: 10 - 17 o'clock

A fine collection of pigeons, poultry, waterfowl and ornamental fowl, rabbits and guinea pigs.

Several animals will be for sale; sale starts at Saturday 9:00 o'clock.

Free parking at the Show Ground, restaurant for snacks and drinks.

Special attraction: Game Fowl competition.

For more information please see our website www.kempenshow.be

HEALING QUAIL EGGS

By: Dirk de Jong

In Spain and France quail are often kept in aviaries together with pigeons. They eat lots of insects and all sorts of creeping vermin, and also seeds that have fallen on the ground, so less chance of mice. It is said that when you eat the eggs of these quail you have a better resistance to various Chronic Non Specific Lung Diseases (CNSLD) such as Chlamydia psittacosis. If this could be true! Many pigeon lovers could keep pigeons again!



In Belgium, quail eggs are collected to be fed to children with asthma. The eggs are beaten up and eaten by the children, as it is said it will give them free breathing. Another old recipe is eggs beaten up with stout beer. Apparently quail eggs contain a substance that has a positive effect on the bronchial tubes, although I cannot confirm if this is scientifically researched.

**Photo above: Quail hen, wild-type.
Right: A pair of quail.**





RING BEATER

By: Mick Bassett

These are Rhine Ring Beater.

As you probably know there are several varieties of Ring Beater breeds; the Rhine Ringschlager, the Anatolian Ringschlager and Belgian Ringschlager. The German name Rhine Ringschlager meaning Ring Beater = Circle Beater, is a description of the unusual flying habit of this Group of Breeds. The pigeon (males) flies in circles descending to the ground and claps loudly (beats) it's wings together in a courting display.

The primary feathers are frayed by this action and apart from newly moulted birds, this is actually accepted as a distinctive Breed Point in the Show pens and a bird without these 'frayed' flights (except newly moulted feathers) would be looked on with suspicion as 'Not flying correctly'.

Even with exhibition birds the flying ability is looked on with utmost importance. Show birds are selected with great care for this particular flying action when selecting breeding stock, irregardless of the fact that apart from the frayed flights, it would not be obvious in the show pen.



Gut Ringschlag

Every year in February, before the breeding season begins, the Specialist Breed Club at the Clubs Shows, alongside the 'Beauty' Show/Competition, organises a Ring Beating Flying Competition, where the flying ability of the Pigeons is tested. The Best Flier in every Breed receives a Special Prize of Honour.

See <http://members.aol.com/gutringschlag/>

These Breeds will all perform in a limited space, as long as there is some height to the aviary (over 7 feet but ideally more) so there is no excuse even for aviary birds NOT to exhibit this breed characteristic!



These 'Rhine Ring beater' belong to my Neighbour and are allowed 'Free-fly' every day. They seem to be attracted to the old mortar in the walls between the sandstone foundations? Although I know he gives a good quality Pigeon Grit, the mortar must contain some trace elements missing in that; lime, minerals, maybe salt as all pigeons like salts.

I must find out how that mortar was made? Few of the houses around here are younger than 1930's many much, much older, the Village going back to 1428.

Each issue of Aviculture Europe counts ±100 pages. To be able to read all the articles - including all former issues from October 2005 onward! - you need to register. See 'subscription' button left at the home page. If you have any questions about Aviculture Europe or have any ideas how we can make our magazine even more interesting for our readership, do not hesitate to contact us. Together we can make Aviculture Europe an even more interesting magazine. We look forward to hearing from you! The best way to reach us is by sending an e-mail to redactie@aviculture-europe.nl

NAIL CUTTING IN CHICKEN

If chooks do a lot of scratching on a hard surface, their nails are usually in good shape. Otherwise you will need to give them a clip every now and then.

Just like us, a bird has two parts to the nail: the dead part and the living part, commonly called the quick. Trim only the dead part at the very end of the nail.

The quick is where the blood flow is, and cutting into it is painful and causes bleeding. The quick is easy to see in birds with light coloured toes as the darker part of the nail. Holding each foot up to a flashlight may help see the dreaded vein through the nail. With dark nails it is difficult to see where the blood vessel stops though.

In cases where the nails are extremely overgrown you had better clip a small amount (2 to 3 mm) each week until the normal length is attained in order to give the blood vessel a chance to recede between cuttings. If a nail begins to bleed, apply a coagulant and trim the other nails another day.



Do not ignore the bleeding; it may seem like no big deal but the bird can actually bleed to death! Use some type of styptic powder like Quick-Stop; this can be found at most pet stores. In an emergency, corn starch or flour will work. The best remedy to stop the bleeding is to cauterize it. This basically means charring the nail.

Be sure to keep your bird's nails clipped at all times. Nails that are too long can get caught up in anything, and break, causing at very least pain and at worst, bleeding.

The nail on the 5th toe (Silkies, several French Breeds) can grow too long because it isn't used for scratching. Often it starts to curl around on itself, so clip it in time. Extremely long nails or beaks could indicate medical problems, such as liver disease or poor nutrition. Have your bird checked by a veterinarian.

Nail clippers designed for dogs are best, but other clippers, i.e. for human toe nails or even pincers are also satisfactory.

Below: This sort of nail clipper (designed for dogs) is also ideal for chicken nails.





THE BELGIAN BANTAM SHOW

Saturday 27 October
in the Veenendaal hall,
Nijverheidslaan 8 in Veenendaal,
The Netherlands



Saturday 27 October the two Dutch Breeders Clubs, the ABC (Antwerp bearded Bantam Club) and the ZOBK (Breeders club for Rare True Belgian Bantams) together will organize a Special One Day Show Event especially for Belgian Bantam Breeds, of which there are 9 recognised in Holland, being:

- Antwerp bearded Bantam
- Bassette
- Belgium bantam
- Waas bantam
- Tournaisis
- Grubbe Bearded bantam
- Uccle Bearded bantam
- Everberg Bearded bantam
- Watermael Bearded bantam

In the morning the birds will be judged by 10 qualified poultry judges; you are welcome to watch and ask questions. This day is a perfect opportunity to meet other breeders and to learn more about the breeds. In the afternoon a mini-workshop is organised by Hans Schippers.

There is also a possibility to buy Belgian bantams.

For more informations please see www.antwerpsebaardkriel.nl en www.zobk.nl

Onder: Grubbe bearded bantam.
Photo Archives ZOBK.



FUNNY CREST

Text and photos: Aviculture Europe.

Breeding for crests is possible in all ducks except Muscovy, so we have i.e. North Holland White Bib, Crested Miniature Duck, Crested Call Duck. Though crested ducks can be controversial in some circles, a small crest doesn't seem to be a problem for the ducks health and well-being.



Above: The North Holland White bib in the right has a good and centrally placed crest.

Right: This crest isn't a well shaped little ball but is a sort of slipped long curl. However as you can see in the picture it doesn't interfere with normal eating and such.



The breeder of this crested duck pictured below believes that cross-breeding probably had some influence on this "David Bowie" funky crest result. The owner doesn't find the curly-que extension trailing down its neck problematic at all... a bit of "funk" in the backyard flock to liven things up is certainly to be seen here with this little fellow.



NEERHOFDIERENFESTIVAL

in the Beurs halls in Bruges, Belgium

Saturday 27 October 9:00-19:00 and Sunday 28 October 9:00 to 17:00

Again this exhibition is held during the last weekend of October in the 4200 m² exhibition halls of the Beurs Halls close to the Bruges Railways station. For the 11th time the organizer VZW Angora will surprise you with an animated programme and as usual a specific animal will be in the spotlights; this year being **THE GOOSE**.

Without any doubts the goose is the most fascinating of waterfowl. Not only in history – the origin and varieties guarantee never ending stories- but also in fairy tales and bedtime stories the goose is omnipresent. The goose is one of the oldest domesticated feathered fowl. As long ago as 3000 years these birds were kept by Egyptians.



Apart from the domesticated geese our visitors can also learn about wild geese which are to be found in our country, such as the pink-footed geese and the White-fronted geese. At the exhibition you can learn about the spectacular distance that they fly each year.

Geese were kept for many reasons; not only the meat, fat and down were valuable, but also the wing feathers were of great importance. During the Show children can practise writing with these feathers.

6.000 flyers were spread among the primary schools in and around Bruges. The children are invited to exhibit their goose-drawing in the 'Geese Street' at the Halls.

From the many curiosities we like to mention the nostalgic 'Game of Goose' which is unearthed again for our exhibition. This game is still popular today and we will also reveal the history of the 'Game of Goose' which is interesting to know.

Other attractions are:

- Entertainment of the Bruges Seniors
- Mystery tour for Children
- Cuddling counter with Pet animals
- Promotion Local and Belgian Agrarian products.



We hope to welcome 10,000 visitors or more. The Beurs Halls will once more be the MECCA of small livestock lovers and keepers. VZW Angora will be proud to organise the 2007 event!



Children of all ages can visit the show for free.

Further information can be read at www.angora-vzw.be or address the secretary of the show at secretariaat.vzwangora@telenet.be

We welcome you all at the Neerhofdierenfestival in Bruges!

Rik Vanhooren
Chairman VZW Angora