

# VARIOUS

## NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS AND 'BUY AND SELL' MARKET

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## ***A word from the editor.....***

Dear reader,

With pride we present you with the latest issue of Aviculture Europe. This time a Special edition, not only because of the fantastic compilation of articles, but with cooperation of a number of international Incubator Suppliers we are able to give you a Special on Breeding and Incubators; an important subject for all poultry fanciers and especially those in the Northern Hemisphere, where it soon will be Spring – and thus the breeding season.

As you know, our aim is to be a world-wide platform of friends in the fancy. We are able to present you news and breed specials from all over the world, while worldwide fanciers also appreciate learning more about our beloved birds. If you share this feeling with us, you are welcome to support by contributing to our magazine. Information on your Breeders' Club, Jubilee Show, a remarkable collection of birds or anything special; we are always interested!

For as long as there will be support and enthusiasm, Aviculture Europe will continue to be – free to read for everybody, with each new issue containing over 100 pages.

In the meantime the Year 2009 has amply started, but this being our first 2009 issue, we would like to thank you all for your beautiful cards and photos with Seasons Greetings. To all of you, also a happy, prosperous and most of all healthy 2009.

We wish you pleasant reading and if you have something to communicate, please contact the chief editor [redactie@aviculture-europe.nl](mailto:redactie@aviculture-europe.nl)

For those who have not done it already: please subscribe to our newsletter by sending us your e-mail address, so that you will be automatically informed about the publication of each new issue.

With thanks to all contributors and advertisers,  
on behalf of the team of Aviculture Europe,

Nico van Bente





# THE FRAME

In this very beautiful and striking painting you see an Oriental Owl Blondinet, painted by the famous Belgian painter René Philippe Delin in 1942.

The photo is from the archives of the Dutch writer R.R.P. van der Mark.

The editors of Aviculture Europe are planning an article on René Delin and are searching for all kinds of background information on this painter. If you are in possession of a Delin painting we would be very pleased if you would allow us to place a copy at our disposal to publish in our magazine.

We welcome your reactions at [redactie@aviculture-europe.nl](mailto:redactie@aviculture-europe.nl) or [vbc@xs4all.nl](mailto:vbc@xs4all.nl) (Nico van Benten, publisher)

# COLLECTING FANCY PIGEON BANDS – A NEW SERIES OF SHORT ARTICLES

By Jan Lombard – South Africa

My purpose with this series of articles is to promote the hobby to collect fancy pigeon bands or rings. Most band collectors specializes in racing homer bands only. In the fancy pigeon sport there is such a large variety of bands to collect due to the facts that 1) we use different sizes of bands; and 2) there are so many clubs all over the world that issue bands. I'm trying to collect all the bands ever issued as well as to document information about it. Pigeon clubs come and go. As a result it is sometimes very difficult to find any information about it, and we end up with a lot of bands that we cannot identify. We also fail to document the history of our favorite sport/hobby. At the time of writing this article (January 2009), I have close to 12000 different bands from over 90 different countries. My oldest band dates back to 1912.

## Part 1 - Domestic Show Flight bands

The topic of this article is Domestic Show Flight bands issued by Domestic Show Flight clubs. To the best of my knowledge there is only one club that issues bands made especially for the breed of the issue. This is the New York Combine that used the letters NYC on their bands. My oldest NYC band is a rolled edge aluminum band manufactured by the Gey Band & Tag Co. and dates back to 1986. I have NYC bands from the following years: 1986 to 1990, 1994 and 1998 to 2000. It appeared that the New York Combine became affiliated to the NPA as I have a modern yellow plastic band with the letter NPA NYC that was manufactured in Germany by Horste Stengel & Sohn of Schmalkalden. I will appreciate it if Domestic Flight fanciers can help me fill the gaps in my collection. Your help to conserve the history of the pigeon sport in this way will be much appreciated.



Anybody interested in this interesting hobby is welcome to send me an e-mail to [jlombard@tsb.toyota.co.za](mailto:jlombard@tsb.toyota.co.za) or send me a snail-mail to **J Lombard, P.O. Box 1544, Randburg 2125, Republic of South Africa.** If you have any NYC bands (or any other bands) to spare, please send it to me in a padded envelope.

Photo: On the left is a NYC band from 1986, while the band on the right is NPA NYC band from 2005.



## RECTIFICATION DECEMBER ISSUE:

### MISIDENTIFIED HYBRID

#### From the editor

An attentive reader - Jörn Lehmus from Germany - addressed us with the following:

"I am not an aviculturist but a birder who accidentally found the very interesting Aviculture article on hybrids - a very interesting topic, as waterfowl hybrids frequently puzzle the birder community. Therefore I have been interested in this topic for 14 years now and gained some insight.

I am not sure on one of your waterfowl hybrids - that bird might be misidentified. The specimen that I think might be misidentified is the one labeled Mallard x Teal. I think actually it may be Mallard x Gadwall."

For comparison he included a collage from photos of this hybrid combination. These show the variability of head pattern in this hybrid and also show the wing.

There seem to be similarities to 'our' duck, as published in the article on Hybrids. Jan Harteman, another known birder, agreed with Jörn and when giving it a better look, also Hein van Grouw, one of the authors of the article and Senior Collection Manager Aves & Mammalia of the National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, Leiden, where the photo was taken, agreed that the mounted duck hybrid was probably misidentified and wrong labelled in the past (1868).

Jörn Lehmus wrote an article on this subject for us, including a number of unique photos of this hybrid duck, which still occurs regularly and even has a name: Brewer's Duck. The article is published further on in this February issue and hearty recommended.

**Photo: The Museum specimen, labeled as Mallard x Teal. (by Hein van Grouw)**

# EXHIBITIONS CALENDAR 2008/2009

## 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.kleintiere-schweiz.ch/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.bdrdg.de/termine.shtml>

## GREAT BRITAIN – pigeons

<http://www.nationalpigeonassociation.co.uk/#/championshipshows/4527485075>

## GREAT BRITAIN – poultry

<http://www.poultryclub.org/SHStructure.htm>





## Cockerel Show Avicorni 2008

By: Jan Willem Hondelink.

If you are a chicken breeder you will know of course that half the number of hatched chicks is male. These little male chicks grow up to become beautiful coloured cockerels. In the wild - by nature's law - when having such striking colours, only the strongest or smartest survive and will reproduce. The others become part of the food chain.

In our backyard we have to do this natural selection by ourselves, followed by the question: what to do with our surplus cockerels? Mind you; these birds were raised with good food and plenty of room to exercise, thus had a good life, so you should never throw them in the bin, as they are delicious food.

The Cockerel Show at the Avicorni Show was set up to highlight this aspect of the utility breeds (meat and eggs) for a larger public.



Some 80 Large Fowl cocks and cockerels were entered in this class and exhibited in a separate part of the Show. Amongst them were 27 North Holland Blue; a splendid and unique sight to see them lined up together. This breed was always wanted abroad for its large size and tasty white meat.

The exhibited birds were judged for 'meat' quality, thus size, breast width and such, so were allowed to have minor faults as fork-tooth in comb or a crooked toe. All that counted was the breed characteristic and 'best sized' as a table fowl.

**Right: Sigrid van Dort, known to breed the smallest chicken breed Serama, is impressed by this Cornish of 7 kilos!**

Many prizes were donated to stimulate this special event, such as money prizes, ancient poultry books, a clock, Belgian beers, wine and such. Each 'Best of Breed' gained 5 kg. of Garvo 'special for cocks' pellets, a plaquette from the Dutch Poultry Union NHDB and a Rosette.



**Left: 3 breeds to taste: North Holland Blue, Chaams Fowl and Volwaard.**



At the moment we are examining the possibilities of exploring a joint sale of our surplus cocks.

Well, OK, you might think, 80 cocks, I have seen more at other shows! However, here at the Avicorni Show there was also the opportunity to taste! We had 3 displays with a photo over 2 meters high of the breed that was to be tasted. Served was the rolled roast of North Holland Blue thighs, ragout of the Chaams Fowl and grilled chops in gingerbread sauce of the Volwaard Chicken (a semi-organic kept chicken).

This was very successful and can hopefully be scheduled again in the next year.



# INTRODUCTION OF A NEW WEBSITE ON LONG FACED TUMBLERS

With this new website,

<http://long-faced-tumbler-europe.com/en/START.html> the members of the Dutch LONG FACED TUMBLER club have created a new dimension in the 30 year existence of the club. This web site will give a platform to reach friends all over the world who are interested in the Long Faced Tumbler.

We intend to use this web site to give you a virtual preparation of how we could support each other in reality to improve the Long Faced Tumbler and share the fun and pleasure of the breeders of this favourite fancy pigeon.

The quality of our LFT is very high and we feel that now continental Europe is not behind in comparison to the quality in the United Kingdom. There are also contacts with top breeders in the USA and we always feel that the contacts are smooth and fair.

Most important for us is to gather a nice group of fanciers who want to work on the pigeon's quality and use this website as a forum to increase communication, exchange of birds and experiences and bring us all to a higher level of quality and pleasure in this beautiful hobby.

We express our thanks to our "web master" in Spain who is willing to facilitate and maintain this website. But above all we rely on all Long Faced Tumbler fanciers world wide to give input in information and to send your pictures to show us all where we stand.

The Board of the Long Faced Tumbler Club Netherland

We also like to recommend the new LFT website of our webmaster, Leo Hulst in Spain. Same breed, same inspiration, same enthusiasm! <http://engelse-langvoorhoofd-tuimelaar.com/>





# NOORDSHOW

7 – 10 January 2009

The Noordshow is National Show of the Dutch Poultry Union NHDB and also the largest poultry show in the Netherlands.

Penning evening was freezing cold, but the halls were cosy and crowded with fanciers from all over the country penning their animals.

This year were entered:  
Large Fowl and Bantams: 5098  
Waterfowl: 516  
Ornamental fowl: 140  
Fancy Pigeons: 710  
Doves: 142  
Rabbits: 3413  
Cavies: 159

Penning evening is always very busy, but we managed to take some photos of the fanciers while penning their beauties.

Right: A.Fictorie, a long time breeder of the Polish, is probably holding his champion bird here, although he couldn't know at that time. The black bantam cockerel won Best in its Class.





Left: Martin Straver with one of his black Cochin pullets. Martin entered white, black and buff Cochins and won Best in every colour variety. His buff cockerel was awarded 'Excellent' with 97 points.

Below: Ruurd Bosma (l) holding his black mottled Frizzle Chabo, a real beauty, according to the Judge and awarded 'Outstanding'-96 points. Standing next to him is another Chabo Club member, holding a White blacktail Chabo pullet.



Ruurd Bosma is Secretary of the Dutch Chabo breeders' Club, which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year. Over 150 Chabo were entered here at the Noordshow.

Above all, everybody is here to win, still these breeders are even more interested in showing their birds than in the prizes they might win.



Above right: A last check before entering the show pen: H.A. Ruitter with one of his Australorp bantam pullets; very hand-tame birds!

Left: J. Palsma with a beautiful silver black laced Wyandotte bantam pullet.

An extended photo report of the Noordshow will be published in one of our next issues.

# INDIAN RUNNER DUCKS

By: Robbert van Til

Indian Runner ducks are sometimes called 'bottle ducks' due to their extreme long and slim body shape and upright posture, which at first sight resembles the form of a bottle.

These ducks have been kept for ages in Indonesia, where they eat slugs and worms and insects found in the rice plantations there. At night they are locked up in bamboo coops above the water, as a result of which the droppings fall into the river and serve as food for all kinds of small organisms, which serve for their part as food for fish, which can be eaten by people. Moreover these ducks excel in laying eggs.



Approximately around 1850 the Indian Runner ducks came to Europe and because of the good laying capacities they were crossed with several European duck breeds. Thus the Pekin Ducks arose and also the Buff Orpington was created this way. Indian Runner ducks are often very nervous. Giving the ducks much attention will make them more confident.

Keeping Runner Ducks is giving me much pleasure. If I cannot locate them in the backyard, I just follow their sound. And if they don't make a sound, then I watch for a wobbling bush; probably they will pop up there and run. When I see them running, to me they always look like very little men without arms.

They are really splendid and by their curiosity and contradictory nervousness also very funny. For example, when I refresh the pond or refill the waterer with fresh water and keep standing there, they do not dare to come closer, but they very much want to go to the fresh water. Their behaviour always makes me smile and to me Indian Runner ducks are the best.

In our backyard they mostly forage in the shrubs, looking for beetles, maggots, and even mice and other small animals are not to be despised. Just as you can see in the photograph, they prefer to sit in the bushes than in the water. The drake weighs approximately 1.75 to 2.75 kilos and the duck weighs approximately 1.5 to 2 kilos. The ring size is 14 mm.

They are recognised in several colour varieties, but in Holland, the trout colour is the most well known colour. Moreover there are also black, blue, white and fawn (to name a few).

I have a pair in the colour apricot trout plus a trout duck for 'fresh blood' (against inbreeding).

Runner ducks are perfectly suitable to free range in the garden or kitchen-garden. They won't ruin your plants, flowers, vegetables or fruits, but only eat slugs, beetles and other vermin. There is no better way!

More tales concerning my animals and my (bamboo) garden can be read at:

<http://www.robbertsflorafauna.nl:80/index.html>

Right: To get a good shot, I had to lure the ducks with some corn, thus the crops are rather full.





## Pigeon Boy

This is a photo of Robert (Pigeon Boy) Forrester who is 4 years old, taken at a Florida Junior Show on 20 December 2008 in conjunction with the North Central Florida Pigeon Fanciers annual "Big Sun Classic."

Robert is the owner of the bird on his shoulder and he named the English Short Face Tumbler dun hen "Peetzy". He enjoys holding his bird as well having it sit on his shoulder.

The photo was sent in by his grandfather Bill Burnside, Florida, who added the following info:

"Robert has owned the bird for two years. I had it at a prior show and he said he wanted it, so I gave it to him. He did not show the bird at the show, but the ribbon was given to him by me as every child is a winner in their own way.

I am preparing him for the future showing of the bird. Right now he just wants to travel the show hall looking at the birds and playing with the other children.

Also, I did not want to have the bird place in the show. To many are taking their best birds and entering them in the junior shows under the child's name. The child wins, but I don't think this is very good, especially when the other kids can figure out the winner did nothing for the bird they won with".

# FAVEROLLES IN GERMANY

Text: Aviculture Europe

The Faverolles is a French chicken breed and is known by the same name in other countries world wide, although they are a bit different in type in each country. Germany is an exception: there the Faverolles breed is named 'Lachshuhn'. However, in the early years in Germany they were known as Faverolles too. Around 1900 the English succeeded in establishing these chickens from France as a uniform breed in the 'salmon' colour variety. In those days, the French breeders did not yet have the intention of having these tasty chickens recognized as a 'breed'. Faverolles were spreading throughout Europe, also in Germany, where they became very popular and soon ousted the other French breeds from the market. They were known as the 'Fowl of the Future'.

**Left: Drawing by Kurt Zander - Late 1800s - Lachsfarbige Faverolles Hen (Salmon Faverolles hen)**

**Below: Drawing by Kurt Zander - Late 1800s – Weisse (White) Faverolles Hen and Cock.**



The Germans imported Faverolles from the UK, but due to the 'impossible' colour differences between male and female, they preferred the Faverolles of France. To breed the standardised 'English' salmon colour, a separate breeding pen for cocks and hens was needed. Still the first German Faverolles Standard, drafted in 1902 by the German Breeders' Club of French Poultry Breeds, was a literal translation from the English Standard. The German name for the colour variety was Lachsfarbige Faverolles (Lachs = salmon; the colour of the female birds resembled the smoked salmon.) It was also decided to breed a white variety; this was established by using the white Wyandotte, another praised utility breed in those days.





Soon the Faverolles were bred more and more to conform to their own ideals, growing apart from the English Faverolles and from the French ones, and this concerned both type and colour. In 1912 a new standard description was drafted, describing the salmon colour in a way that correctly coloured/marked males and females could be bred from one breeding pen. Kurt Zander made the drawings from live chickens.

**Photos: White German Faverolles bantams, by Dirk de Jong-FHC.**

Now the breed had fairly changed, the new founded *Faverolles-Züchterklub* (Breeders' club) decided in 1915 to re-baptise the breed in Lachshühner; literally translated that means: Salmon Fowl. Thus the White Faverolles was now named White Salmon Fowl.... The Whites became rather popular in Germany and for a while even had their own breeders' club. In 1932 there were black and Light Lachshühner too. After 1945 the breed began to lose its value as utility chicken. Today they still are a very wanted breed in Germany, bred according the Standard that has not been adapted since 1912, and that is very special!

