

Ameraucana Bantam Bulletin

AMERAUCANA BANTAM CLUB, 6442 CHESTNUT AVE., ORANGEVALE, CA 95662

Summer, 1984

Vol. VI, No. 2

APA ACCEPTS AMERAUCANA BANTAM

At the semi-annual meet in April, the American Poultry Association Board of Directors voted to accept the Ameraucana bantam into the Standard of Perfection. The Ameraucana standard will appear in the upcoming supplement to the Standard and in the next APA Standard edition, scheduled for 1988.

APA acceptance of the Ameraucana bantam is the culmination of several years of work by a number of people both in and out of the Ameraucana Bantam Club. Your president and secretary worked hand in hand on this goal supported by Board members and others within the club. Charter members Bernard Kellogg, Harry Cook, Jerry Segler and others supplied required documentation, as did John Wunderlich and Bill Wenger and we owe these gentlemen our thanks.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to those who made our qualifying meet possible with their entries and/or their presence last November in Columbus, Ohio. Thanks to John Wunderlich, Ray Gwynes, Dave Horman, Jack Fugate, and especially Jerry Segler, who had the largest entry; we were able to exceed the minimum required entry to qualify the Ameraucana bantam. A special thanks too, to Corky Higbee, of Oklahoma, who did a fine job judging the meet and whose positive report to the APA helped secure recognition for the Ameraucana bantam.

President Mike Gilbert and your secretary appreciate the efforts of all of these gentlemen. Well done, men!

NATIONAL MEET TO WISCONSIN

The flip of a coin was necessary to break a deadlock in the voting by the Board of Directors in order to place our National Meet for 1984. This year it will go to the Wisconsin Poultry Breeders on October 6-7, in Milwaukee. This will also be the site of the APA National Meet, so it should be a large show well attended. Watch Poultry Press and Hen House Herald for details on premium list.

We will again offer our special club rosettes for Champion, Reserve and Best Display. Your secretary will offer \$20. for Best Display of Ameraucana bantams. If you would like to make an award of any kind for our National Meet, please contact your secretary soon, as we must coordinate our awards and get our copy to the host club before the printing deadline for the premium list. Thank you!

AMERAUCANA BANTAM CLUB
BREEDER'S DIRECTORY
-1984-

Blehm, John 4599 Lange Rd., Birch Run, MI 48415 BLUE WHEATEN
Burger, Richard 5046 Ogletown-Stanton Rd., Newark, DE 19713
*Cable, Don 6442 Chestnut Ave., Orangevale, CA 95662 WHEATEN & BLUE WHEATEN
*Carpenter, Ken Star's Haven Ranch, 50 Hoag Cross Rd., Ossining, NY 10562
Carr, Star Rt. 2, Box 315, Sunman, IN 47041
Chapman, W.S. Box 254 Steele Rd., Wildwood, GA 30757 WHEATEN & SILVER
Clifton, Larry 17217 Van Ogles Ford Elhi Rd., Sumner, WA 98390
*Cook, Harry Water St., RD#1, Box 130, Eatontown, NJ 07724 BLUE & BARRED
Cook, Robert 2463 Mechanicsburg Rd., Wooster, OH 44691
Donaho, C.L. 4401 Wilson Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76133 WHEATEN
Eiden, Claude 402 Louis St. E., Cologne, MN 55322
Foedish, Edgar 125 Calle El Centro, Tucson, AZ 85711
Fugate, John 304 W. Washington, Athens, TN 37303 WHEATEN, BLUE WHEATEN,
SILVER & BLACK TAILED BUFF
*Gary, Frank L. 5 Barbara Drive, Crosswicks, NJ 08515
*Gilbert, Mike W5171 Baker Rd., Holmen, WI 54636 WHEATEN, BLUE WHEATEN,
BUFF & WHITE
Gwynes, Ray P.O. Box 14, Andersonville, GA 31711 WHEATEN & BLUE WHEATEN
Hicks, Claire 224 Bragg St., New Orleans, LA 70124
Holland, Bill 421 W. 5th Ave., Jerome, ID 83338
Horman, Dave RFD#2, Holmen, WI 54636 WHEATEN & WHITE
Huffstutter, Ken 2239 Lobert St., Castro Valley, CA 94546 WHEATEN & WHITE
Jones, Mrs. Charles Schaghticoke Fairgrounds, NY 12154
*Keeney, D.L. Jr. 2211 Commerce St., Dallas, TX 75201
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Marcum, Olive 4557 Riggs Branch, Prichard, W. VA 25555
May, Kathleen 240 W. Center, Moab, UT 84532
Pfeiffer, Ray RD#1, Box 409 West Sand Lake, NY 12196
Price, John C., Jr. 317 South Broad St., Nazareth, PA 18064
Rayher, Marie 19822 W. Grant Line Rd., Tracy, CA 95376 WHEATEN & WHITE
Riedel, Charles Rt. C4, Athens, TN 37303
Roxburgh, Dorian Greystone Cottage, Colemore Lane, Kingwood Common
Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 5NA, England

Sargent, Steve 11076 Shire Court, Grass Valley, CA 95945 WHEATEN
 *Segler, Jerry A., Sr. Box 23, Sparland, IL 61565 BLACK, BROWN, BROWN RED,
 SILVER & WHITE
 Shaffer, Harold RD#1, Box 23E2, New Ringgold, PA 17960
 Shry, Heather 11683 Vickey Dr., Marysville, CA 95901 WHEATEN
 Spinus, Virginia Rt. 3, Box 3760, Roseburg, OR 97470 WHEATEN
 Stoner, David Lee 1410 East 50th St., Chattanooga, TN 37407
 Trent, Jeanne RR#1, Box 196H, Central Lake, MI 49622
 Tuckwood, Jim Rt. 3, Box 21, Boscobel, WI 53805 BLACK, WHITE & BLUE
 Tutaj, Duane 17W. 661 Lorraine Ave., Addison, IL 60101 BLACK & BROWN
 Wenger, Bill 29207 42 Ave. South, Auburn, WA 98002 WHEATEN
 Wilburn, Frank Rt. 2, Box 449, Fort Payne, AL 35967
 Wunderlich, John 3512 Maywood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63121 WHEATEN

Membership as of 6/18/84

* Indicates charter member

"LARN 'EM TO EAT 'MATERS"

By John Fugate

A problem that the Ameraucana breeder has in this large country is disseminating breeding stock. I think all of us agree that shipping eggs leaves a lot to be desired and shipping mature stock is prohibitively expensive. There is an alternative; it is illegal and I understand the Post Office will prosecute- but it works!

On June 11th Jack Fugate shipped Don Cable a dozen three and four-week old bantam chicks. They left Athens, Tennessee at 12:30 PM on a Monday and arrived at the Orangevale, California Post Office at 6:30 AM on Tuesday, June 12th. They spent only a little over 18 hours door to door! Jack lives in an area where there are a lot of game chickens raised and asked a cocker friend how they shipped chickens. The cocker told him to "Larn 'em to eat 'maters," so several days before the planned shipping date, Jack would put tomato halves on the brooder floor and the chicks learned to eat tomatoes. On the shipping day, food was withheld four hours prior to shipping, but were allowed to eat and drink their fill just before they were boxed. One tablespoon of sugar and ½ teaspoon of salt were added to the vitamin supplemented water per pint. The chicks drank copiously and ate some starter/grower. The top and bottom were cut from four large tomatoes and these pieces were placed in each corner of a 25 chick size shipping box. The box was sealed and the chicks were on their way West.

Don reports that they were not apparently stressed nor even excessively thirsty, but- they had eaten the "'maters!"

P.S. This method also works with watermelon, soft pears, apples and lettuce for ducks.

SILVER, LIGHT BROWN AND GOLDEN AMERAUCANAS

By John Fugate

I raise Dutch bantams and the premier color varieties of the Dutch are Light Brown (almost a BB Red but with hackle striping and hopefully, some saddle striping), Silver and Golden, which is a melding of the above varieties. The Golden does not breed true. Stated more simply, the gene for Silver (S) is dominant and sex-linked; the gene for gold, which makes the Light Brown color pattern, is recessive to Silver and is also sex-linked. Males carrying the Silver genes will be (SS) and males carrying the gold genes will be (ss), but Golden will be (Ss). The females will carry one or the other- that is, S and be Silvers or s and be Light Browns and Golden females are "S" and therefore look almost like Silvers.*

An accidental mating between a wheaten Ameraucana cockerel and a Dutch hen produced a pair of wheaten/light brown chicks which were obvious by being neither the white of the wheaten, nor the striping on brown chicks of the light brown, but a buffish striped chick. Both chicks had the dark shanks of Ameraucanas and Dutch, smallish beards and muffs and a pea comb of sorts. I might add that even though we have selected against it in wheaten Ameraucanas, many do carry the gene for hackle/saddle striping, and apparently, I got a double dose of the gene for striping and ended up with some rather good light brown Ameraucanas with acceptable combs and beards and muffs, but unfortunately, some white in earlobes from the Dutch side.

When I went to Columbus for our National Meet, I brought back some Silver Ameraucanas which were the handywork of Jerry Segler via Don Cable. This particular strain of Silvers (actually they turned out to be SS- pure for Silver, but still carried the gene for non-sexlinked gold which gave them red backs). They lay a beautiful egg and have good type, but are somewhat large. I reasoned that they would inter-breed just like the Dutch and they do. The Golden produced from the Light Brown Ameraucana X Silver Ameraucana are all good exhibition quality, that is, they have good straw colored striped hackle and saddles, a deep red back, good pea combs, are much smaller than the Silvers, have good muff and beard development and are as gentle as their Dutch ancestor. They are somewhat short of tail.

In the fall I will make up a mating of the Golden X Golden (Which is NEVER done) and try to improve both the Silvers and the Light Browns. Theory says that I should get a little bit of everything from such a mating and it will be difficult to get the genes lined up the way we want them in an individual bird, but to the freezer with the whole lot if production is poor and egg quality is not good. Incidentally, the Silvers are the best layers of any of my Ameraucanas and my Dutch are better layers than my Ameraucanas, The Light Brown Ameraucanas lay well, but a smallish, lighter colored egg, showing the influence of the Dutch bantams.

* This is only part of the story as there are other genes involved which I have not dealt with here.

ED. NOTE

Our thanks to Jack Fugate for this excellent item on color breeding. Jack has joined Jerry Segler and Mike Gilbert as one of our best breeders and on the cutting edge in the development of new varieties of Ameraucana bantams. Perhaps we can prevail upon others developing new varieties to share their experiences by way of the Bulletin - how about it Harry?

UNDER THE MULBERRY TREE

My apology to those of you that have been waiting for me to ship hatching eggs. The single cockerel that I depended upon for fertile eggs turned out to be an absolute dud. If it had not been for the kindness of Ray Gwynes, down Georgia way, who bailed me out with some chicks, the entire season would have been a disaster. I hope that those folks on the Breeder's List may be of help and if not, just as soon as I get fertile eggs again, I'll honor those commitments. Sorry Ginger, Robert and Claire, I hope that you will understand and be patient with me.

I receive a good deal of mail from various fanciers and club members as well, and occasionally one with something I like to share. This from club member Richard Burger, of Delaware: "Have you ever given thought to the various bird breeder organizations contained in the U.S.? This includes local, state, national and international clubs. Encompasses breeders varying from Canaries, Cage Bird, Psittacine, Dove/Pigeon, Bantam/Poultry, Waterfowl, Pheasant, Peafowl, Ratites, etc., etc...the majority of us remain fragmented from one another and this adds to our combined downfall. Our COMPLETE downfall is the goal of those forces enlisted against we "backyarders" as they demeaningly refer to us. Part of the list would include Humane Societies, SPCA, commercial poultrymen and the U.S. government. They represent big bucks and money talks via lobbyists in Washington D.C.! Now if we "backyarders" would all join together, we could also form a united effort and be extremely vocal. It may cost each of us some cash, but I am sure the expenditure would be worth it. In the April '84 American Pheasant & Waterfowl Society magazine an article informing of a new Wildlife Coalition International. I have a reprint to send to you. Think about it."

Speaking of "backyarders", Backyard Poultry magazine is changing to a bi-monthly and expanding the number of pages. Subscription price is \$12. per year to Rt. 1, Box 7, Waterloo, WI 53594. They have printed a good deal of information about Ameraucana bantams and our Club over the years and I look forward to receiving it along with Poultry Press and Hen House Herald. Let's support our press, folks- they're all we have!

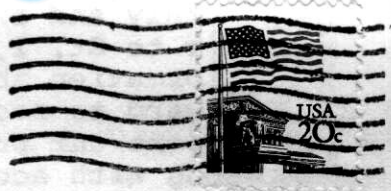
Along with acceptance of our breed standard in the forthcoming supplement and Standard of Perfection, will be illustrations in color of male and female wheaten Ameraucana bantams by poultry artist Diane Jacky, of Baldwin Park, CA, who painted the majority of the new illustrations in the APA Standard. The arrangements have been made and Ms. Jacky should be at work on the paintings by the time you receive this. Wheaten was chosen since it is at present, the most popular and widespread variety of Ameraucana and will be the only wheaten male and female pair in color in the APA Standard of Perfection. A unique color and a unique breed.

Those members of the APA will have received their 1984 Yearbooks by now and I believe you will agree that it is a great improvement over past years- the article on Ameraucana bantams didn't hurt- and member Bill Holland, of Idaho, had a hand in improving this publication. We as a Club ought to start thinking about supporting future APA Yearbooks just as we have the ABA Yearbook for several years. Incidentally, the Ameraucana Bantam Club is now an associate member of the APA and the ABA. As the ad says, you've come a long way, baby! We have indeed.

Finally, I would like to make one last plug for awards for our National Meet in Wisconsin this October. We don't need the \$ until a few weeks before the actual show, but a pledge would be sufficient for now and can be included as a part of our club ad in the forthcoming premium list. We also picked up several enthusiastic new members at our last National Meet, so please support our National Meet and help our club grow.

WEST VIRGINIA MAIL ROOM

AMERAUCAANA BANTAM CLUB
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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