



SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHOW POULTRY ORGANISATION BREED STANDARDS

FRIESIAN



COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN:	Germany / Netherlands
CLASSIFICATION:	Light breed: Soft Feather
EGG COLOUR:	White
MASSES:	
LARGE	
Cock	1.4 - 1.8 kg
Hen	1.2 - 1.6 kg
BANTAM	
Cock	700 - 800g
Hen	600 - 700g

This is an old rural breed from Germany and the Netherlands. The silver and golden Friesians belong to the group of speckled fowls found in East Friesland and neighbouring territories, approximately 160 years ago. In Braunschweig, Germany, fowls resembling the golden coloured Friesian existed in the year 1850. The characteristic markings of the breed, as at present, have been developed by selective breeding after the turn of the century.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

THE MALE

- Carriage:** An agile rural fowl of moderate height. Feathers: full and carried close to the body. Active and alert.
- Body:** Strong, rather long, square and well balanced. Back: as horizontal as possible and tapering to the back. Breast: full and carried forward, deep keel-bone. Wings: fitting closely to the body. Abdomen: rather broad and full.
- Head:** Moderate size and narrow. Comb: single, moderate size, evenly serrated. The comb should not follow the line of the neck, but should not stand up at the back either. Eyes: bright and rather large. Beak: moderate length, slightly curved at the tip. Ear-lobes: rather small and oval. Wattles: moderate length, well-rounded.
- Neck:** Well developed, medium length with full hackle feathers.
- Legs and feet:** Thighs: strong and prominent, not too long. Shanks: wide apart. Legs: moderately long with no tendency to coarse bone structure. Four toes well spread.
- Tail:** Broad and carried high at about a 90 degree angle. Sickle feathers: long and flowing. Coverts well developed.

THE FEMALE

Allowing for the natural sexual differences the characteristics of the female are the same as for the male, with the following exceptions: The breast and abdomen are bigger and fuller without being clumsy. A small evenly serrated comb with a slightly falling comb end. Tail carried slightly lower.

SERIOUS DEFECTS

Pencilling in neck feathers of male. Brassiness in hackles, wings or saddles. No edging on lesser sickle feathers. Faded or blurred pencilling. Tail carried too high (squirrel tail) or too low (less than about 70 degrees). Eyes brown to dark brown. Comb too big, especially in female. Wings too long.

GENERAL IN ALL COLOURS

- Beak:** Blue to horn, varies according to feather colour.
- Face, comb and wattles:** Red.
- Ear-lobes:** White.
- Eyes:** Orange to dark orange, varies according to feather colour.

Legs and toes: Slate to slate blue.

COLOURS

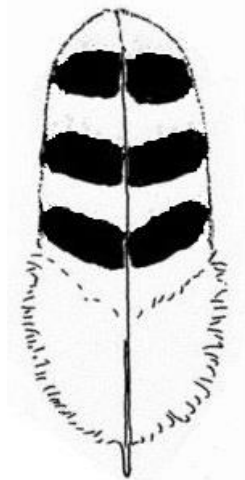
SILVER PENCILLED

**Plumage of
the Male:**

Surface colour silvery white, under-colour grey. Hackles, white. The upper back shows underneath the hackles, deep black pencilling. The wings show a white surface when the wing is folded. Inner web greyish-black, slightly pencilled, concealed deep black pencilling exists. Main tail feathers: black, lesser sickles: black with white edging.

**Plumage of
the Female:**

Head, neck, neck hackle and upper part of breast white. The remainder a white base, marked with deep black pencilling with a green sheen (not grey or brown). The pencilling to extend from the middle of the breast over the entire body. Some pencilling also in the neck hackle and the abdomen. Three to five pencilling lines on each feather are from edge to edge across the shaft, just touching the edges and the shaft. The pencilling is distinct at the rump and tail, but the ends of the sickle feathers are white with no or faint pencilling. Under-colour grey.



GOLD PENCILLED

Marked exactly like the silver variety, except that the silver is exchanged for gold and the black tail is exchanged for a white tail in the male. In the female, only the silver in the neck, head and neck saddle feathers is exchanged for gold and the black pencilling is exchanged for gold pencilling.

OTHER COLOUR VARIETIES

Citron Pencilled, Red Pencilled and Yellow-White Pencilled where the gold and gold pencilling are exchanged for citron (lemon), red and white respectively.

BANTAMS

The same standard as for the large fowl applies.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Type	30
Colour and markings	30
Condition	10
Size	10
Comb and head	10
Legs and feet	10
TOTAL	100