



SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHOW POULTRY ORGANISATION BREED STANDARDS

NAKED NECK SILKIE (AMERICAN SHOWGIRL)



ORIGIN: United States
CLASSIFICATION: Light breed: Soft feather
EGG COLOUR: Tinted to Cream (Sitters)
MASSES:

LARGE:

Cock:	1020 g
Hen:	910 g
Cockerel:	910 g
Pullet:	790 g

BANTAM:

Cock:	600g max
Hen:	500g max

The Naked Neck Silkie was developed in America and is also known as an American Showgirl. It is a cross between a Silkie and a Naked Neck Bantam and is exhibited with a bib, either bearded or non-bearded.

NOTE: To maintain true beards, bibs (also called bowties), dark skin pigment and silkie feathering, a true Silkie must be bred in from time to time. Continuous breeding of Naked Neck Silkies will breed all non-bearded and non-bibbed off-spring.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

BEARDED AND UNBEARDED

MALE AND FEMALE

- Carriage:** Stylish, compact and lively.
- Body:** The body is compact and rounded and let down between the legs. The breast is very full, well rounded with great depth and width and carried well forward but low. Back short and broad rising into the tail.
- Wings:** Well rounded, short and small and carried nearly horizontal. Both primaries and secondaries having a shredded-like appearance over the whole, or at least 50% of the feather.
- Tail:** Short and broad, carried moderately high in the male. The tail feathers should also have the shredded-like appearance over the entire length of the feather. The under tail is abundantly covered with soft, fluffy plumage. In the hen the tail is very short and only just visible beneath the saddle feathers
- Head:**
- Skull: short, fairly small and rounded with a crest. The crest is like a powder puff, large, full, soft and round. The male has a number of longer feathers streaming backwards. The crest of the female should not be inclined backwards or be split by the comb.
 - Face: surface is smooth and soft in texture. In bearded Naked Neck Silkies the face is covered with a beard that extends from behind the eyes and projects from the side of the face. The beard may be less feathered in thickness and not as abundant in length in the lower half of the face, resulting in a smaller, less dense beard.
 - Comb: moderately small, oval to nearly round but it must be broader than long with the entire surface covered with a number of very small prominences, and having a slight indentation or furrow transversely across the middle (sometimes called a cushion comb). Two or more small points at the rear of the comb are allowed but combs without points are preferred. Female same as male but much smaller. A comb without much structure is allowed but not preferred.
 - Eyes: large, round and prominent.
 - Beak: short and stout.
 - Ear-lobes: oval and smooth in texture.
 - Wattles: of medium size to relatively small being semi-circular to oval with a concave outer surface. In females the wattles can be very small. In

bearded Naked Neck Silkies the natural absence of wattles is preferred; otherwise they should be very small.

- Neck:** Short or of medium length, broad.
Back of Neck: There should be no feathering from back of the head, starting just under the crest, all the way down to where the neck enters the back.
Front of Neck: There should be no feathering starting under the lower beak, except where there should be beard, all the way down to end of neck and the crop area of the upper chest; except where a bib is present.
- Bib or Bowtie:** An abundance of soft silkie feathering at mid to lower neck forming an oval to round formation of feathering covering the lower neck and upper crop area of the chest and blending feathers on each side of shoulders. Lower section of crop area bare and free of feathers, bib should be wide enough vertically to almost conceal the crop area. As a whole forming a bibbed like appearance to lower neck area.
- Legs & Feet:** Short. Thighs wide apart, covered with very abundant silky fluff. Shanks fairly short, free from excessive scaliness and well feathered on the outer sides. Toes (five) the fourth and fifth separate, but emerging close to each other. If these two toes are fused where they emerge, they should, nevertheless, be recognisable as two toes by each having its own row of scales. The fifth toe should be longer than the fourth and should be horizontal or curving slightly upwards. The outer, or preferably, both the outer and middle toes should be feathered with soft silky feathers. Lack of feathering on the middle toe is not a disqualification, but feathering is preferred.
- Plumage:** Very silky and fluffy with a profusion of hair-like feathers.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

1. Not true silky feathers on body or hard feathers on shanks and toes. No middle toe feathering is not a disqualification, but a serious defect.
 2. Wing or tail feathers without the shredded-like appearance over at least 50% of the feather length.
 3. Flowing tail in males.
 4. An erect comb. Any comb not conforming to standard.
 5. Red or reddish comb, wattles skin or shanks, except in Cuckoo Naked Neck Silkies.
 6. No crest, a small or badly formed crest or a split crest.
 7. Four toes on one or both feet. Fifth toe hanging lower than horizontal.
 8. Featherless legs or feet.
 9. Vulture hocks.
 10. Green coloured beak, shanks or feet.
 11. Any eye colour foreign to the breed.
 12. Feathering in any area of the neck (back and front) except where beard and bib are present.
- Note:** The absence of a bib shall be a severe defect.

COLOUR

In all colours:

- Beak:** Lead blue.
- Eyes:** Dark brown or brilliant black.
- Comb, face and wattles:** Mulberry to dark mulberry.
- Ear-lobes:** Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred. Legs and feet: lead. Nails: blue-white. Skin: mulberry.

THE BLACK

- Plumage:** Black with a green sheen. Red feathers or violet sheen in the surface colour is highly objectionable. White in under-colour to be a disqualification. Beak, shanks and toes black. Face dark mulberry approaching black.

THE BLUE

- Plumage:** An even shade of blue. A "self colour" and neither laced nor barred. Any other colour feathers to be a disqualification.

THE WHITE

- Plumage:** Snow-white with a lustrous sheen. Light yellow sheen is permissible but any other colour in surface to be a disqualification.

THE BUFF

- Plumage:** An even shade of golden buff, avoiding pale lemon on the one hand and brownish orange on the other. A clear colour throughout preferred but some darker feathers permissible in tail of both sexes.

THE PARTRIDGE

MALE

- Head:** Crest, orange-red but with a slightly darker tint than the bib, but not totally black. Beard the same colour as crest.
- Bib:** Body and fluff black. Slight brown edging permissible.
- Back:** Crimson-red with orange gold tail coverts and black shaft.
- Wings:** Bow: red. Coverts: black showing a black bar across wing when folded. Secondaries: black laced with brown on the edges. Primaries: black laced with brown to show a brown triangle when wing is closed.
- Tail:** Sickles and coverts: black. Lesser coverts: black edged with orange-gold.

Under-colour: Slate. The total colour pattern is of great importance.

FEMALE

Head: Crest: deep yellow brown-orange to blackish. Beard same as crest.

Bib: Warm greyish-yellow-brown, pencilled with black. The pencilling parallel to the edge of feather.

Back: Same as bib.

Wings: Primaries: black laced with brown. Secondaries: inner web brown, outer web brown pencilled with black. Pencilling to conform to the shaft of feather. Coverts: same as bib.

Tail: Black. Both top tail feathers black with grey-brown colouring. Tail coverts: grey-brown and coloured same as back.

Thighs: Abdomen and flanks grey yellow-brown with black lacing.

Under-colour: Greyish.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

White in sickles, tail and flights.

THE SILVER PARTRIDGE

Same as the partridge except that White replaces the Gold, Red, Brown, Orange or Yellow.

THE CUCKOO

MALE AND FEMALE

In contrast to other Naked Neck Silkie colours the skin is white, shanks and toes are also white with a blue-grey appearance. Head and face lacks the black colouring, being reddish. Each feather has a blue-grey or grey-black colour, with three or four light blue-grey bars across the length of the feather. Bars to be inverted V-shaped. Barring to appear throughout plumage. In the female the barring is narrower than that of the male.

THE BIRCHEN

MALE AND FEMALE

Head: Silver-white. Beard silver-white, shaft of each feather black. Black shaft not to extend to tip of feather. Bib black with a narrow silver-white lacing. This lacing not to extend below the breast-bone.

Back: Back and shoulders, black with saddle feathers same colour as bib.

- Flights:** Tail, thighs, abdomen, all black.
- Plumage:** The plumage is alike with the exception of the female's shoulders and saddle which is black.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Insufficient feather shaft colouring in the beard and saddle feathers of the male or female. Lack of lacing in the bib of both sexes. Lacing below the bottom line of the breast bone.

THE GOLDEN

THE MALE

- Tail:** Main tail black. Sickles and coverts black with golden buff. Saddle golden buff.
- Wings:** Primaries, black with outer web golden buff. Secondaries, black with the exposed portion of the outer web forming a golden buff wing bay.

THE FEMALE

- Tail:** Lesser black than that of the male.
- Wings:** The same as that of the male but with lesser black.
- Plumage in Both sexes:** An even shade of golden buff, avoiding pale lemon colour on the one hand and brownish orange on the other. Clear colour throughout to be preferred

THE SALMON

THE MALE

- Head:** Creamy-white. Bib: creamy-white to straw-yellow with a black shaft in lower half.
- Tail:** Top tail coverts partially red-brown.
- Back:** Wing bow and shoulders: brown-red mixed with lighter tints of yellow to light-red. Abdomen, thighs, wing bow, tail and sickles: black. Saddle: creamy-white to straw-yellow with a black shaft in lower half. Primaries: black with a narrow white lacing on outer web. Secondaries: black inner web, white outer web so that the wing when closed, exhibits a white triangle.

THE FEMALE

- Head:** Creamy-white. Bib: wheaten-white.

- Back:** Shoulders and saddle salmon, each feather with a light lacing and shaft. Tail coverts: same as saddle. Main tail feathers: salmon-red.
- Breast:** Thighs and breast: wheaten white with a reddish gloss, while the flanks and abdomen are a shade lighter in colour.
- Wings:** Coverts: same as back. Primaries: outer web salmon. Inner web spotted with black. Secondaries: outer web salmon. Inner web: blackish-grey.
- Under-colour:** White to light grey.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Spotted feathers in breast and abdomen. Lack of red in the back and shoulders of males. Uneven salmon or rusty colour in females.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Type and carriage	25
Head, neck and crop area (bib, beard or unbearded)	35
Legs	10
Colour	10
Plumage	20
TOTAL	100