

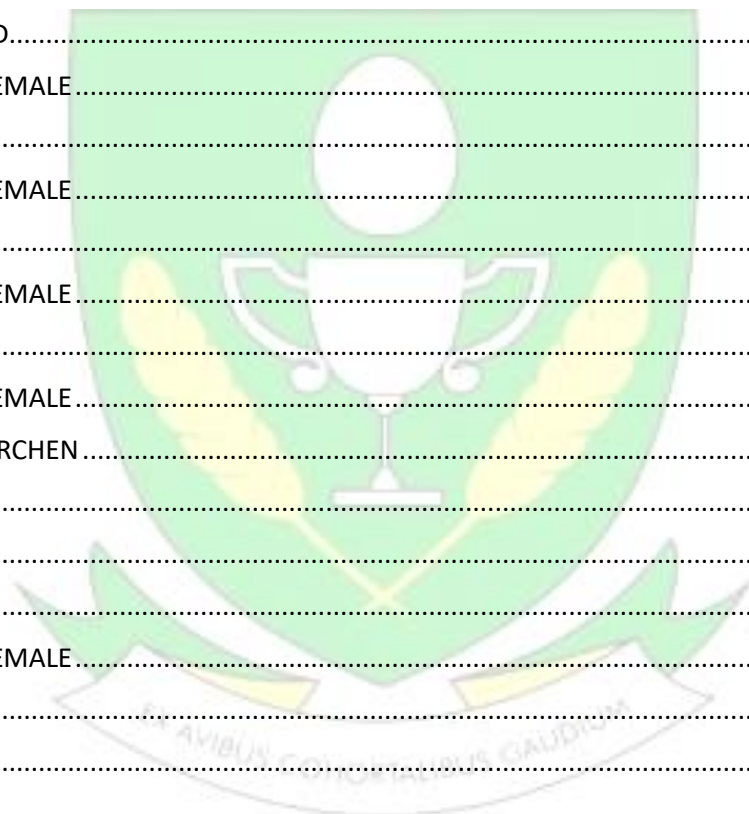
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# BELGIAN GAME (Lieges Type)

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**ORIGIN:** Belgium  
**CLASSIFICATION:** Heavy breed: Hard feather  
**EGG COLOUR:** Cream

**MASSES**  
**LARGE FOWL**

Cock: 5.0kg  
Hen: 4.0kg  
Cockerel: 4.0kg  
Pullet: 3.5kg

**BANTAMS**

Male: 1.5kg maximum  
Female: 1.2kg maximum

This breed is somewhat larger and sluggish when compared to the Flemish Game. They are too slow for anything but naked heels. Their size alone would be an attraction, and besides they are quite easy to keep and rear.

Compared to other game fowl, the hens of the Liège Game are very good layers. They produce about 150 cream-shelled eggs per year. In older hens the eggs may even weigh as much as 70 grams. Brooding occurs rarely. Besides an impressive number of eggs, the Liège also produces a large quantity of very fine and tasty meat.

## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

### THE MALE

**Carriage:** A large, broad shouldered, powerful, muscular bird with an upright stance and sloping back (+/- 30°). Large tail, carried medium high (+/- 60°) and spreading. Of very aggressive character.

**Body:** **Body:** of medium length, deep and broad, sloping downwards the tail. More slender appearance than that of the Bruges Type.

**Neck:** long, firm and carried upright. Neck hackles well developed, with long feathers covering the shoulders and top of back.

**Back:** Long, broad and flat sloping down towards the tail. Width carried well back to base of tail. Saddle feathers well developed and abundant.

**Breast:** broad with a long straight breastbone and large well developed pectoral muscles. The breastbone curves slightly up at the rear line of the legs. The breast should not be carried forward too strongly.

**Wings:** moderately large, long, well tucked up and carried tight to the body.

**Tail:** Large, carried well above the horizontal and well spread with curved sickle feathers.

**Shoulders:** broad and strong.

**Belly:** medium and firm.

**Head:** Skull: strong, broad with well developed overhanging eye brows.

Beak: strong and well curved.

Face: smooth, without wrinkles.

Comb: single comb, medium in size.

Wattles: the smaller the better.

Ear-lobes: small and smooth.

Eyes: deep-set, placed high in the skull, with a challenging expression.

**Note:** It was customary to dub Belgian Game males. In hens dubbing was not allowed, although trimming of lobes was permitted.

**Legs:** Thighs: set well apart and almost parallel to each other, strong, muscular, long and slightly curved.

Legs: strong-boned and set parallel to each other, thick and rather long.

Spurs: well developed, pointing slightly upwards.

Toes: four toes, very long, straight, clean and well spreading, the fourth and hind toe straight out and flat on the ground.

**Plumage:** Hard, firm and glossy plumage with limited fluff.

## **THE FEMALE**

The general characteristics are similar to those of the male, allowing for natural sexual differences. The growth of spurs is preferable.

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Lack in size, width and mass. Horizontal backline. Low appearance. Breast carried too far forward. Severely crooked breast bone. Comb other than a single comb. Pearl or yellowcoloured eyes; undertone to dark pigmentation acceptable but to be penalised accordingly. Enamel white in ear-lobes, blush allowed. Lack of black pigmentation in face and comb. Soft, rotten or broken plumage. Cock without spurs or with dud spurs. Short, weak or thin legs. Tail carried too low. Wings carried too low.

## **COLOUR**

**In all colours the following apply:**

**Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes:** Heavily pigmented and reddish purple to almost black in colour.

**Eyebrows:** Dark brown to black.

**Eyes:** Dark reddish brown to black.

**Beak:** Dark horn to black.

**Legs:** Slate-blue to black.

**Toenails:** Horn to black  
**Soles of feet:** Flesh white preferred.  
**Skin:** White.

## **THE BLUE**

### **MALE AND FEMALE**

**Plumage:** Hackles, back and tail an even shade of rich blue (pigeon blue is preferred), free from rusty, sandy, black, straw or bronze stains or spots.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Entirely other coloured feathers. Entirely deviating colour. Distinctly visible lacing. Hackle feathers too dark.

## **THE BLUE LACED**

### **MALE AND FEMALE**

**Plumage:** **Head:** Slate blue.  
**Body:** The entire body an even shade of rich, dark bluish slate, each feather distinctly laced with glossy bluish-black.  
**Under-colour:** Slate blue.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Entirely or partly white, black or any other coloured feathers. Rusty sandy or bronze markings. Ground colour too dark. Lacing not well or clearly defined.

## **THE BLUE RED**

### **MALE AND FEMALE**

**Plumage:** The colour pattern to follow that of the Black Red with the black being replaced by blue (See Bruges Type).

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Any feather entirely white, black or any other coloured feather. Any mismarked feathers in the tail and flight feathers. Rusty, sandy or bronze markings. Ground colour too dark. Male bird showing any sign of a triangle or wing bay. The female showing any sign of marking or lacing except in the neck hackle.

## **THE BLACK**

### **MALE AND FEMALE**

**Plumage:** Body: Lustrous black throughout with a beetle-green sheen. Under-colour: Dull black.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Lack of gloss. Red in feather. Clear indication of purple sheen. White in under-colour.

## **THE WHITE**

### **MALE AND FEMALE**

**Plumage:** Body: Pure snow-white throughout, free from any yellow or straw tinge or any black splashes.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Any yellow or straw tinge or any black splashes, ticking or peppering. White or yellow legs.

## THE GOLDEN BIRCHEN

### MALE:

**Plumage:** **Head:** deep orange.  
**Neck hackle:** deep orange with slender black stripe through middle of each feather, terminating in a point short of its lower extremity, to match saddle.  
**Back:** deep orange with some lustre. Saddle same as hackle.  
**Tail:** Main tail black. Sickles and lesser sickles: black with brilliant greenish sheen. Coverts: brilliant black with golden orange lacing.  
**Wings:** Shoulders and fronts: black.  
**Bows:** deep orange with some lustre.  
**Coverts:** brilliant black, forming a distinct bar across the wing.  
**Primaries:** black.  
**Secondaries:** black, exposed portion of outer web forming wing bay, brilliant black.  
**Breast and front of neck:** Upper breast: black, each feather finely laced with golden orange to approximately the middle of the breast.  
**Lower breast:** black with some lustre.  
**Under-colour:** Dull black.  
**Ground colour:** Black.

### FEMALE

**Plumage:** **Back:** black with some lustre.  
**Tail:** Main tail black, coverts black with some lustre.  
**Wings:** Shoulders, fronts and bows: black.  
**Coverts:** black with some lustre.  
**Primaries:** dull black. Secondaries: black, exposed portion of outer web, forming wing bay, black with some lustre.  
**Note:** Lacing on the backs and wings is not allowed. The rest is the same as for the male allowing for the sexual differences.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Positive white in any section of the plumage is not allowed.

## THE BIRCHEN

### MALE AND FEMALE

**Plumage:** Similar markings as in the Golden Birchen, but substituting the deep orange and golden orange lacing with white to silvery white lacing.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Similar to that of the Golden birchen

## THE SALMON

### MALE

**Plumage:** Head: silvery white. Neck hackle and side hangers: silvery white, each feather having a greenish black middle stripe. Back and shoulders: deep orange-red. Breast: black with a green sheen. Wings: Primaries – inner web black, outer web silvery white, secondaries – inner web black, outer web silvery white forming a silver white triangular wing bay when the wing is closed. Wing bar: brilliant green black. Thighs and under parts: black. Tail, main feathers, sickles and tail coverts: green black, the tail coverts near the side hangers with a silvery edge underneath at the tip. Under-colour: greyish black.

### FEMALE

**Plumage:** Head: silver white or cream. Hackle: ivory, white or cream, each feather having a black middle stripe; feathers on the front, creamy wheat coloured. Wing bow and wing coverts: light cream wheat; outer web wheat coloured, inner web wheat grey with brownish black pencilling. Back and saddle: light cream wheat coloured. Breast: cream wheat coloured. Thighs, rump and rear: light cream wheat coloured. Tail: the uppermost feather on each side darker cream coloured with black spots, upper feathers dull black either with or without a cream-coloured edge along the underside and the tip.

**Serious defects for which a bird should be disqualified:** Excessive red in cream wheat colour pattern. Red or rust in the wing feathers of the hen. Yellow tinge in the neck and saddle hackle of the male. Excessive white in the breast, thighs and under parts of the male. In both sexes, colour excessively gay or unevenly distributed.

**NOTE:** In judging Belgian Game special attention should be paid to type, carriage and size, which are of more importance than colour and markings.

### **Other recognized varieties are:**

Silver Duckwing, Golden Duckwing, Blue Golden Duckwing, Blue Birchen

## BANTAMS

Belgian Game bantams should be miniatures of their large fowl counterparts and the same standard, colours and defects are applicable.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Type and carriage	40
Colour and markings	20
Head points	20
Legs and feet	10
Condition	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

