
SUMATRA GAME

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ORIGIN: Asia
CLASSIFICATION: Light breed: Hard feather
EGG COLOUR: White (Sitters)

MASSES:
LARGE FOWL

Male: 2.3 to 3 kg
Female: 1.7 to 2.3 kg

BANTAMS

Male: 750 g max
Female: 650 g max

Mr. J.A.C. Butters, one of the first breeders of the Black Sumatra in the USA obtained two hens and a cock from Angers Point Island of Sumatra in 1847. He observed that these birds were usually found in flocks of twenty or more birds and often flew from Sumatra to Java. The inhabitants of these islands kept these birds solely for fighting. Though there are no doubt that these birds belong to the game class of poultry, the long flowing tail places them in the long tail class such as the Phoenix, (Onagadori), Yokohama and Cubalaya. In 1883 the Sumatra Game was admitted to the American Standard under the name of the Black Sumatra.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

THE MALE

Carriage: These birds were often referred to as the "Pheasant Fowl" due to their resemblance to Asiatic Pheasants. Carriage is elegant and pheasant like with strong game qualities. The male is medium size, straight and upright in front, with a stately appearance.

Type: Body rather long, very firm and muscular. Broad, full and rounded breast, carried slightly upright and game-like. Back: medium length, broad at shoulders, tapering very slightly to tail. Saddle hackle: long and flowing. Stern: firm and compact, narrower than shoulders. Wings long and large carried with fronts slightly raised, folded closely together not drooping or over back. Long, drooping tail with large quantity of sickles and coverts, which rise slightly at stern and fall streaming behind, nearly to the ground, but not sweeping. Feathers not too broad.

Head: Skull small, rather short and somewhat rounded. Beak strong, of medium length, slightly curved. Eyes: large and very bright, with a quick fearless expression. Pea comb: low in front, fitting closely, the smaller the better. Face

is smooth and of a fine texture. Ear-lobes and wattles: as small as possible and close fitting.

Neck: Rather long, covered with long flowing hackle. Wiry and curved feathers are objectionable.

Legs & Feet: Medium length, thick and strong. Thighs: muscular, set well apart. Shanks straight and strong, set well apart, smooth, even scales, not flat or thin. Two or even more spurs on each leg is the hallmark of these birds, and should be encouraged when selecting for breeding, however one spur on each leg is not a disqualification. Feet flat and broad with four straight toes, well spread and flat on the ground. Soles/bottom of feet must show yellow, any other colour is objectionable.

Plumage: Very full and flowing, not soft or fluffy.

THE FEMALE

Main tail feathers are wide and well spread, the top two feathers curved in a convex manner and carried nearly horizontally. Coverts are moderately long, wide and abundant. Any red in the face is very objectionable. Otherwise, the general characteristics are similar to those of the male, allowing for the natural sexual differences.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Single or rose comb, any sign of dubbing. Other than four toes. Long dragging tail. Any deformity.

COLOUR

In both sexes and all colours:

Beak: Black.
Eyes: Very dark brown or black (black preferred).
Face, comb, ear-lobes and throat: Black or gypsy (black preferred).
Legs and feet: Dark olive or black (black preferred).
Soles: Bottom of feet must show yellow.

BLACK

MALE AND FEMALE

Plumage: Very rich black with beetle-green sheen throughout

THE BLUE

MALE

Plumage: Hackles, saddle, wing bow, back and tail very dark slate-blue. Remainder medium slate-blue, each feather to show lacing of darker shade as on the back.

FEMALE

Plumage: Medium slate-blue, laced with darker shade throughout, except head and neck, a dark slate-blue.

OTHER COLOURS

Black-reds are seldom seen but should be judged to that variety colour.

BANTAMS

Sumatra bantams should be miniatures of their large fowl counterparts and the same standard, points, colour and defects should therefore apply.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Type	20
Head, beak and eyes	20
Colour	15
Quantity of feather	15
Condition	15
Legs and Feet	10
Neck	5
TOTAL	100

