
Silkie

TABLE OF CONTENT

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.....	4
BEARDED AND UNBEARDED	4
MALE AND FEMALE.....	4
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	5
Colours.....	6
WHITE (COLOR CODE 550).....	6
Male and Female	6
BLUE (COLOR CODE – 148)	7
SPLASH (COLOR CODE – 528)	8
Male and Female	8
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	8
BUFF (COLOR CODE – 230)	9
MALE AND FEMALE	9
CUCKOO (COLOR CODE – 288).....	10
MALE AND FEMALE	10
PAINT (COLOR CODE- 429).....	11
MALE AND FEMALE.....	11
SERIOUS DEFECTS	11
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	12
BLACK (COLOR CODE – 120)	13
PARTRIDGE (COLOR CODE 432)	14
MALE.....	14
FEMALE.....	14
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	14
SILVER PARTRIDGE (COLOR CODE – 506).....	15
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	15
GOLDEN PARTRIDGE (COLOR CODE – 350).....	15
RED (COLOR CODE – 458)	16
THE MALE	16
THE FEMALE.....	16
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	16
GOLDEN (COLOR CODE 336).....	17
THE MALE & FEMALE.....	17

THE FEMALE.....	17
LAVENDER (COLOR CODE - 380)	18
MALE (bearded) AND FEMALE (un-bearded)	18
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	18
BIRCHEN (Colour code - SILVER - 118 & GOLDEN - 338).....	19
CHOCOLATE	20
Male and Female	20
Disqualification:	20
THE PYLE (Colour code - 446 (STILL ON TRIAL)).....	21
THE MALE	21
THE FEMALE.....	21
DISQUALIFICATIONS.....	22





Large Bearded Silkie 322 — Large Un-bearded Silkie 324

Origin	Asiatic
Classification	Light Breed Soft Feather
Egg Colour:	Tinted to Cream (Sitters)
Mass	
Large Breed	
Cock (Code: 01)	1200g min
Hen (Code 02)	800 min
Cockerel (Code 03)	900g min
Pullet (Code 04)	600g min
Bantam	
Cock/Cockerel	800g max
Hen / Pullet	700g max

It is now generally accepted that the Silkie originated in Eastern Asia where it was known to have existed in China some 1000 years ago. There was probably also some Japanese influence in the development of the breed particularly with regard to the soft feathers. During the sixteenth and seventeenth century the Silkie was brought to Europe, and it reached the British Isles towards the middle of the nineteenth century. Here it was developed further using strains with stronger feathers but still having the silky and fluffy appearance.

Although the Large Silkie is a small breed, larger individuals with the same good characteristics as smaller ones should thus be regarded as better. Bantams have their own category. Cocks reach adulthood at about 27 weeks but in many individuals the combs are only fully developed at about 40-45 weeks. Hens can start laying at 23 weeks but usually do so at about 27 weeks. Silkies are usually very tame and not aggressive.

NOTE: The eggs of this small breed are relatively large (35-50g) being whitish cream to light brown. If a hen is kept from incubating when she becomes broody, she should lay 90 to 120 eggs per annum. Silkies are very well known as “broodies”.

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. Bearded Silkies should be well feathered in the lower half of the face.
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.
Face:	dark blue-black, surface is smooth and soft in texture. In bearded Silkies the face is thickly covered with a full beard that extends from behind the eyes and projects from the side of the face.
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 Silkies the natural absence of wattles is preferred; otherwise, they should be very small.
Neck:	Short or of medium length, broad and full at the base with abundant flowing hackle.
Legs & Feet:	Dark and 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 or webbed where they emerge, they should, never-the-less, be recognizable 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. Mild webbing between all toes is common in silkies and accepted. webbing itself is not a disqualification. 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.

Examples of Correct feet:



DISQUALIFICATIONS

1. Not true silky feathers on body or hard feathers on shanks and toes. No middle toe feathering is not a disqualification.
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 combs, wattles, skin or shanks, except in Cuckoo and colored Silkies were specified.
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 colored beak, shanks or feet.
11. Too few feathers in the face of bearded Silkies.



COLOURS
WHITE (COLOR CODE 550)

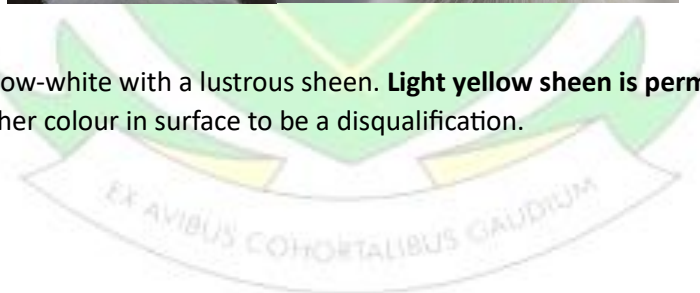


MALE AND FEMALE

Comb: White Silkies must have dark maroon to **dark purple** mulberry combs. **Dark Mulberry combs in the white variety**



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



BLUE (COLOR CODE – 148)



Beak:	Lead blue or slate.
Eyes:	Dark or light brown.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry to dark Mulberry
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred
Skin:	Blue slaty to black.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate.
Nails:	Blue white to horn.
Plumage:	An even shade of light or dark blue the shade should not matter. A "self-colour" and neither laced nor barred. Any other color feathers to be a disqualification.



SPLASH (COLOR CODE – 528)



MALE AND FEMALE

Beak:	Lead blue or slate
Eyes:	Dark or light brown.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred.
Skin:	Blue to black.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate. Nails: Blue white to horn.
Plumage:	Slatey blue and white that has a faint bluish grey tinge. Blue in feathers in the form of large, irregular, different shaped blobs or splashes. Main tail and primary wing feathers with a lesser amount of blue than the rest of the plumage. Under-colour slatey blue and sooty white. Must have a blue tint. Washed out effect with too much white is not preferred.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Red, Rust or gold in upper plumage

BUFF (COLOR CODE – 230)



MALE AND FEMALE

Beak:	Lead blue or slate.
Eyes:	Orange/yellow to reddish brown eyes depend on melanisation.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry.
Skin:	Dark to light blue. The presence of Di means that the black of the skin can be lightened.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate. Nails: Blue white to horn.
Plumage:	An even shade of golden buff, avoiding pale lemon on the one hand and brownish orange on the other. A clear color throughout preferred some white or blue under feathers are permissible, some darker feathers permissible in tail of both sexes. Light Peppering (black spots) allowed in wing feathers only.

CUCKOO (COLOR CODE – 288)



MALE AND FEMALE

Beak:

Lead blue or slate.

Eyes:

Orange to reddish brown can have blotches in iris.

Comb, face and Wattles:

Head and face lack the black, being red some older hens may have darker skin



Ear-lobes:

Red some may have turquoise-blue and white inside.

Skin:

Light blue grey or white. In contrast to other Silkie colors the skin is white can have mottled effect

Legs & Feet:

Shanks and toes are also white with a blue to pale grey appearance. Mottling or uneven skin pigmentation is normal

Plumage:

Each feather has a blue-grey or grey-black color, with three or four light blue-grey bars across the length of the feather. Bars to be inverted V-shaped. Produces a barred or cuckoo pattern (light and dark feather bands). Soft barred pattern in black/grey shades. Expression can differ between males and females. Sometimes less defined than in other breeds due to Silkie feather texture.

Shades can vary from light to dark see example below of light double barring:

PAINT (COLOR CODE- 429)



MALE AND FEMALE

- Beak:** Slate or Light.
- Eyes:** Light Brown, orange or yellowish, blotchy eyes or holes in the iris pigmentation allowed **not a disqualification** this is due to pigmentation.
- Comb, face and Wattles:** Mulberry
- Ear-lobes:** Light or dark mulberry
- Skin:** Black to blue. With light pinkish/white skin (pigment holes where blotches of white/pink spots can appear).
- Legs & Feet:** Mulberry, Slaty blue, lead to dark mulberry. Soles of feet: **Pink / White** due to pigment holes or dark skinned. **Nails:** Blue white to horn.



- Plumage:** The feathering over the entire surface of the bird should be white with varying black un-uniform or irregular spots and/or patches. This includes crest and beards, foot feathering, hackles and saddles. Black feathering may appear as stripping rather than spots or patches in hackles and saddles of male and hackles of female. There should be an overall brightness of sheen to both male and female. **Preferably not more than 50% of khaki coloring. Roosters are allowed to have khaki in hackle, and some have an overall smoky color due to the double silver gene which is not a disqualification.**
- Note:** Large spots or patches preferred and should be the aim not a splash effect with small lines

SERIOUS DEFECTS

LACK of distinct pronounced spots and/or patches of black feathering. Rust color taking away from the appearance of the white or black feathering.

Below Image is correct:



DISQUALIFICATIONS

Red or any other off-color feathers or markings.



BLACK (COLOR CODE – 120)



Beak:	Lead blue or slate.
Eyes:	Brown or brilliant black.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred.
Skin:	Dark blue-black.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate. Nails: Blue white to horn.
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:	Slate to dark
Face:	Unripe to ripe mulberry, dark maroon to approaching black.



PARTRIDGE (COLOR CODE 432)



MALE

- Head:** Crest, orange-red but with a slightly darker tint than the hackles, but not totally black. Beard the same colour as crest. Hackle warm orange-gold with a black shaft running parallel to the edge of the feather.
- Breast:** Body and fluff black. Slight brown edging on thigh feathers permissible. Back: Crimson-red with orange gold tail coverts and black shaft as in hackle. 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 or blue. The total colour pattern is of great importance.

FEMALE

- Head:** Crest: deep yellow brown-orange to blackish. Beard same as crest. Hackle: orange-yellow, starting at the connection between the head and hackle. Shafts of feathers black. Front of hackle same as upper chest.
- Breast:** Warm greyish-yellow-brown, pencilled with black. The pencilling parallel to the edge of feather, extending from chest to throat.
- Back:** Same as breast
- 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 breast.
- 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 /blue.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

White in sickles, tail and flights.

SILVER PARTRIDGE (COLOR CODE – 506)



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

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Insufficient feather shaft coloring in the hackle and saddle feathers of the male or female. Lack of lacing in the chest feathers of both sexes. Lacing below the bottom line of the breastbone.

GOLDEN PARTRIDGE (COLOR CODE – 350)



Un bearded



Bearded

RED (COLOR CODE – 458)



THE MALE

- Head, neck, shoulders, back and saddle:** A vivid shiny warm deep red
- Tail:** Some black is allowed on the tail.
- Wings:** Large flight feathers: deep red, outer deep red black is permissible on primaries.
- Breast and abdomen:** Shiny warm deep red. Down colour all red feathers.

THE FEMALE

- Head:** Glossy deep red.
- Neck:** Warm collar deep red. The lower neck hackle red; feathers on the front of the neck warm deep red.
- Tail:** Some black is allowed.
- Wings:** Large and small flight feathers: identical to those of the rooster; wing coverts: warm deep red, black is permissible on primaries.
- Shoulders, back, saddle:** Warm deep red. Chest, abdomen, thighs, flanks warm deep red. Down colour all red feathers.
- Note:** Top plumage shiny warm deep red, except where black is allowed.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Cloudiness or mottled appearance.

GOLDEN (COLOR CODE 336)



THE MALE & FEMALE

Beak:	Lead blue or slate.
Eyes:	Variety of light to Dark brown or brilliant black except where specified.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred.
Skin:	Dark blue-black.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate. Nails: Blue white to horn.
Tail:	Main tail black. Sickles and coverts black with golden buff. Saddle golden buff.
Wings:	Primaries, inner web golden buff & black. Secondaries, with the exposed portion of the outer web forming a golden buff wing bay. Black on tips allowed.

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.

LAVENDER (COLOR CODE - 380)



MALE (BEARDED) AND FEMALE (UN-BEARDED)

Beak:	Lead blue or slate.
Eyes:	Dark brown or brilliant black except where specified.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred.
Skin:	Dark blue-slate to black.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate. Nails: Blue white to horn.
Plumage:	Lavender, also referred to as “self-blue”, cannot be regarded as a lighter shade of the ordinary blue; it clearly differs from blue, also genetically. It is of a lighter and more silvery tone with no tendency to form darker blue or black in some sections. The silver tint is most obvious in the neck and saddle hackle feathers of the cock. Minor black spots in the hackle of the male and female can be present. Lavender is a silvery grey colour, also described as soft lilac.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Other coloured feathers; clearly observable yellow or rust-colour or markings. However minor black spots also called peppering in the hackle of the male and female is permissible.

BIRCHEN (COLOUR CODE - SILVER - 118 & GOLDEN - 338)



Silver Female & Male

Golden Male

Beak:	Lead blue or slate.
Eyes:	Dark brown or brilliant black except where specified.
Comb, face and Wattles:	Mulberry.
Ear-lobes:	Turquoise-blue or mulberry, the former preferred.
Skin:	Dark blue-black.
Legs & Feet:	Black to slaty blue or lead. Soles of feet: light slate. Nails: Blue white to horn.
Head:	Silver-white. Hackle: silver-white, shaft of each feather black. Black shaft not to extend to tip of feather. Front of neck and breast, 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 hackle.
Flights:	Tail, thighs, abdomen, all black.
Plumage:	The plumage is alike with the exception of the female's shoulders and saddle which is black.

CHOCOLATE



MALE AND FEMALE

Head: Even Chocolate colour with comb and face light mulberry (maroon) due to dilution of eumelanin pigmentation. Females can have darker facial features than the male.

Tail: Top tail covers an even Chocolate colour but can be darker on male.

Back: Wing bow and shoulders sometimes darker on the males: Chocolate variations as long as it's an even colour.

Down colour: Brownish grey.

Plumage: Colour on the whole is a deep, rich even chocolate brown. Chocolate Silkies can sometimes appear sun-faded, shifting to a lighter shade. Only in the ornamental feathers of the cock is a moderate shine. The ornamental feathers of the cock are sometimes coloured darker as well as back and shoulder feathers as stated above. The chocolate colour results from the dilution of eumelanin pigmentation; a type of pigment found in feathers and skin.

NOTE: It is a sex linked colour.

DISQUALIFICATION:

Foreign coloured feather parts.

THE PYLE (COLOUR CODE - 446 (STILL ON TRIAL))



THE MALE

- Head:** The head is typically a soft creamy white or pale orange, fluffy crest giving it a rounded appearance. Some birds may show a slight golden or straw tint, especially in males. The comb is red or a light red (maroon mulberry) color, with a light face.
- Tail:** The tail feathers can vary, with some Pyle Silkies having black or dark feathers, sometimes with red edging. Top tail coverts mostly white, some not all with orange or red-brown/pale straw feathers in between others only mostly white.
- Back:** The back displays a straw tint /rust coloration, with males often showing a more pronounced rich golden or pale red-gold tone across the shoulders and saddle. The feather texture remains silky and soft. Shades can vary from dark to light as long as it is evenly distributed.
- Breast:** The breast is usually pure white underneath with reddish straw or very pale orange covering the breast. The silky feathers make the colour appear plush.
- Wings:** The white wing bows may show pale gold or darker rusty color specially on the males. Few black feathers are permitted

THE FEMALE

- Head:** The head is typically a soft creamy white OR pale orange. Some birds may show a slight golden or straw tint but not all females.
- Back:** The back displays a pale cream coloration or rich golden orange with a reddish tone across back and front. The feather texture remains silky and soft. Females lighter than males with mostly white in tail.
- Breast:** The breast is a very pale cream with light golden orange feathers or a reddish soft tint, creating a soft contrast all over.
- Wings:** The wing bows may show pale gold or light buff, while the wing coverts and flight feathers tend toward white or off-white. The silky feathering mutes' transitions, giving a smooth, blended look. Reddish straw spots or tint allowed on wings.
- Description:** Under-colour: White in both sexes.
- Body:** Red Pyle Silkies is full of contrast—bright white bodies with fiery red shoulders, back and breast (specially in males). The red Pyle variation adds deeper richness to that warm tone.

The main body of a Pyle Silkie is typically a clean, crisp white or pale cream. These areas are adorned with bright orange or red feathers, creating a striking contrast with the white. Females much lighter

than males. In both sexes the Pyle can be a variation of light and dark overall colour, and the shade should not be a disqualification.

Note: Due to the silkie feathering and genetics the Pyle pattern is not the same as in other breeds.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Lack of red/orange in the back and shoulders of males.

BANTAMS

Silkie Bantams are miniatures of their large counterparts. The standard for the large Silkie should thus be followed.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Type	20
Head (including beard and muff where present)	30
Legs	10
Colour	10
Plumage	30
TOTAL	100