

JAPANESE or CHABO

Table of Contents

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS	2
THE MALE	2
THE FEMALE	3
DISQUALIFICATIONS	3
COLOUR	3
THE BLACK	3
MALE AND FEMALE	3
THE BLACK TAIL WHITE (SIRO)	3
MALE AND FEMALE	3
THE BLACK TAIL BUFF	4
MALE AND FEMALE	4
THE WHITE	4
MALE AND FEMALE	4
THE BIRCHEN (GREY)	4
BIRCHEN (SILVER)	4
THE MOTTLED (BUTSCHI)	5
Black Mottled:	5
Blue Mottled:	5
Red Mottled:	5
THE BLUE	5
THE LAVENDER	5
THE CUCKOO	6
THE WHITE BARRED BUFF / BARRED BUFF	6
THE RED	6
THE TRI-COLOURED	6
THE MILLEFLEUR	6
OTHER COLOURS	7



ORIGIN:	Japan
CLASSIFICATION:	True Bantam: Soft feather
EGG COLOUR:	White to light brown (Sitters)
MASSES:	
Cock	600 to 750 g
Hen	500 to 650 g

True bantams of great antiquity, it is without counterpart in a large breed. It is the shortest legged of all varieties. It most probably originated in China or Indochina and was brought to Japan, where it was given its present shape and characteristics. It may have arrived in Western Europe in about 1650 as a painting is known from Jan Steen (1626 - 1679) showing a couple of black tailed buff bantams of the Japanese type. But the present stock hails mostly from imports into England and Germany in the latter parts of the 19th Century. The Chabo with its large head and comb, a very large upright tail, very short legs and shuffling gait is certainly a bantam to draw attention. Somebody called it "the little Grotesque".

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

THE MALE

- Carriage:** Very small, low built, broad and cobby with deep full breast and fullfeathered upright tail. Appearance: somewhat quaint due to a very large comb, dwarfish character and waddling gait. Plumage: very full and abundant.
- Body:** Back: very short, wide, and seen from the side it forms the shape of a small letter U, the sides being formed by the neck and tail. This shape, however, is almost lost in fully feathered males. Saddle hackles: rich and long. Body: short, deep and broad. Breast: very full, round and carried prominently forward. Wings: long with the tips of the secondaries touching the ground immediately under the end of the body. Thighs: very short and not visible. Tail: very large and upright. The main tail feathers should rise above the level of the head about one-third of their length, spreading well and with long sword-shaped main sickles and numerous soft side hangers. The tail may touch the comb with its front feathers, but must not be set so as to lean forward at too sharp an angle.

Head: Skull: rather large and broad. Beak: strong, well curved. Eyes: large. Comb: single, large, erect, straight and evenly serrated. The blade of the comb to follow the shape of the neck. Face: smooth. Ear-lobes: of medium size, smooth. Wattles: pendant and large.

Neck: Rather short, curving prominently backwards. Abundant hackle feathers which should drape the shoulders well.

Legs and feet: Shanks very short, clean (free from feather), strong and sharply angled at the joints. The shanks to be so short as to be almost invisible. Toes: four, straight and well spread.

THE FEMALE

The general characteristics should follow closely those described for the male regarding type. Breast should be all as described for the male. Tail well spread and rising well above the head. The main tail feathers broad, the foremost part being slightly curved (swordshaped). Comb large, evenly serrated and preferably erect, although falling to one side being no defect.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Narrow built. Long legs. Long back. Wry tail. Tail carried low. Deformed comb and lopped comb on males. High wing carriage. White in lobes. Any physical deformity.

COLOUR

In all colours and sexes:

Face, comb, wattles and ear-lobes: Bright red.

In Birchens and Blacks: A gypsy face with black beak, black legs and feet, dark brown to black eyes.

THE BLACK MALE AND FEMALE

Beak, legs and feet: Yellow, or yellow shaded with black but soles must be yellow.

Eyes: Red to dark.

Face: Red, although gypsy is allowed.

Plumage: Lustrous black throughout.

THE BLACK TAIL WHITE (SIRO)

MALE AND FEMALE

Beak, legs and feet: Yellow.

Eyes: Red or orange.

Plumage: White with the following markings: primaries and secondaries dark slate or black edged with white, the wing, when closed, showing white only, black tail, the sickles and coverts edged with white. The tail of the hen is with white coverts.

Note: A small bit of black ticking in the neck is acceptable.

THE BLACK TAIL BUFF

MALE AND FEMALE

Beak, legs and feet: Yellow.

Eyes: Red or orange.

Plumage: As in the Black tailed white except that white is replaced by buff.

Note: A small bit of black ticking in the neck is acceptable.

THE WHITE MALE AND FEMALE

Beak, legs and feet: Yellow.

Eyes: Red or orange.

Plumage: Pure white without sappiness.

THE BIRCHEN (GREY)

All Birchens to have yellow legs or yellow legs shaded with black, but with yellow soles.

Beak: shaded with black or horn. Eyes: red, orange or dark brown iris. The Birchen may have a dark comb, flesh and face, called gypsy. When it is gypsy faced – beak, legs and feet are black with eyes dark brown to black.

BIRCHEN (SILVER)

Plumage: The hackle, back, shoulder coverts and wingbows silver-white. The neck, saddle hackle and saddle with narrow black striping. Remainder charcoal grey or black, the breast feathers having a narrow light grey or silver edging around each feather, thereby giving a laced appearance. In hens the neck hackle is light grey or silver with narrow black striping. Breast: laced as for cock, remainder charcoal grey or black. (There is also a light Birchen with a silver-grey breast, mealy in both sexes.)

Silver Hackled:

Plumage: As Birchen but the feathers of the hackle in front and on the breast are lacking the silver edging. The hen is almost all dark with striped hackle.

Note: For showing purposes, the Silver Hackled should be entered as Birchen.

Golden Birchen:
Plumage: As Birchen but the silver-white is substituted by gold.

Golden Hackled:
Plumage: As Silver Hackled, but the silver white is substituted by gold.

Note: For showing purposes, the Golden Hackled should be entered as Golden Birchen.

THE MOTTLED (BUTSCHI)

Beak, legs and feet: Should be yellow or yellow shaded with black. Soles of feet must be yellow.

Eyes: Red or orange.

Plumage: **Black Mottled:** The black should be dominant over the white. A distribution of 2 parts black to 1 part of white would be ideal. More white could be allowed in wings and tail, but solid white feathers should be kept to a minimum.

Plumage: **Blue Mottled:** As above but blue is substituted for black.

Plumage: **Red Mottled:** As black mottled but red instead of black.

THE BLUE

Beak, legs and feet: Should be yellow or yellow shaded with black. Soles of feet must be yellow.

Eyes: Orange or dark brown.

Plumage: All feathers blue. Neck and tail feathers may be a darker blue than the remainder. Lacing is permitted.

THE LAVENDER

Beak, legs and feet: Yellow or yellow shaded with grey. Soles of feet yellow.

Eyes: Orange to dark red.

Plumage: All feathers a lavender blue to the skin, even shade throughout.

THE CUCKOO

Beak, legs and feet:

Legs: yellow. Beak: yellow marked with black.

Eyes:

Orange or red.

Plumage:

The feathers throughout including body, wings and tail to be generally uniformly cuckoo coloured: transverse bars of dark bluish-grey on a light grey ground colour.

THE WHITE BARRED BUFF / BARRED BUFF

Beak, legs and feet: Yellow

Eyes:

Orange or red.

Plumage:

Similar to Cuckoo except that the barring is white and buff.

THE RED

Beak, legs and feet:

Yellow. Both legs and beak may be marked with red.

Eyes:

Red.

Plumage:

All feathers deep red, solid to skin, an even shade throughout.

THE TRI-COLOURED

Legs:

Yellow or yellow shaded with some black.

Eyes:

Orange or red.

Beak:

Yellow.

Plumage:

The colours white, black and brown-yellow to dark ochre (basic colour) should be as equally divided as possible on the whole plumage and preferably on each feather.

THE MILLEFLEUR

Legs:

Yellow or yellow shaded with some black.

Eyes:

Orange or red.

Beak:

Yellow.

Plumage:

For colour description of the Millefleur see Barbu d'Uccle.

OTHER COLOURS

Black Red, Black Red Partridge Bred, Black Red Wheaten Bred, Blue Red, Blue Birchen, Silver and Golden Duckwing as in Old English Game Colours. Also, Lavender Mottled, Porcelain, Blue Tail White, Silver Partridge Pile, Black Tail Red, Red and Splashed (Blue). The following secondary colours are permitted: Ginger, Blue-dun, Honey-dun, Furnace also as in OEG Classes.

In Japan a **black headed type** is also bred, and **bearded ones**. Varieties with **extra large combs** do also exist.

Besides the normal, smooth feathered type the Japanese is also recognised in both **Frizzle** and **Silky** varieties.

