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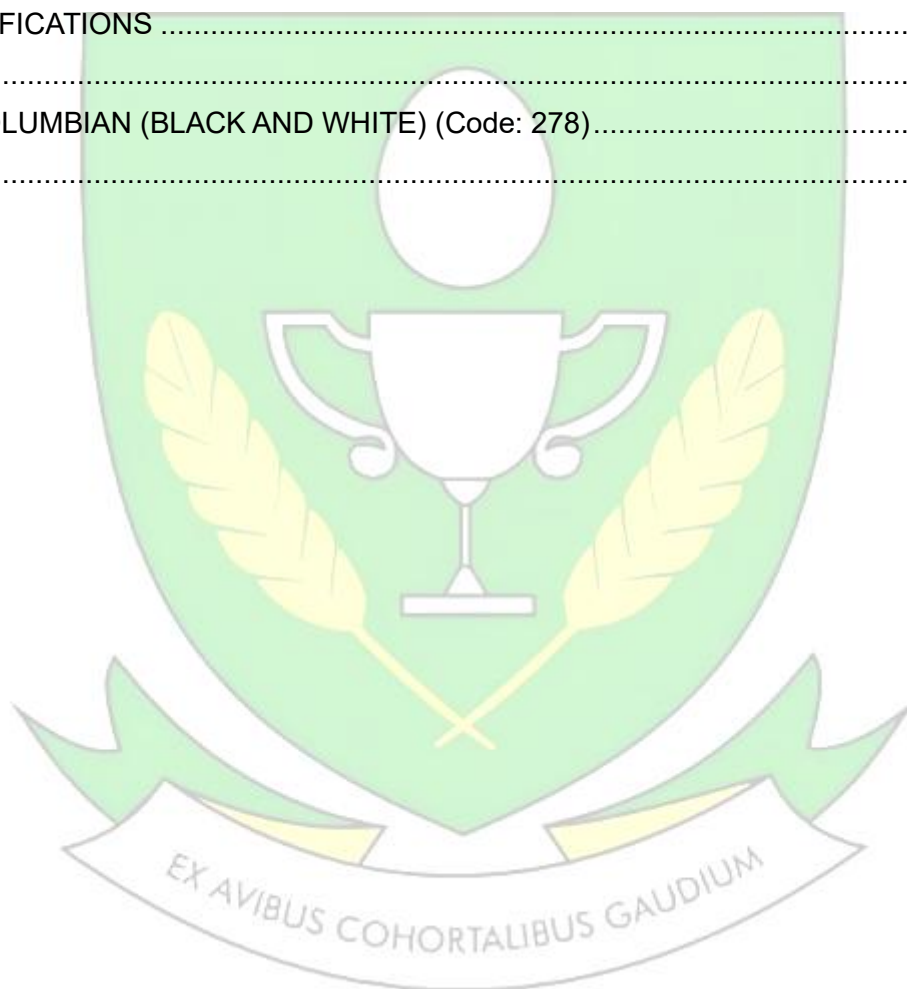
# SUNDHEIMER

## Provisional Standard

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### Table of Contents

|                                                  |   |
|--------------------------------------------------|---|
| GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS .....                    | 2 |
| THE MALE .....                                   | 2 |
| THE FEMALE.....                                  | 3 |
| DISQUALIFICATIONS .....                          | 3 |
| COLOUR .....                                     | 3 |
| THE COLUMBIAN (BLACK AND WHITE) (Code: 278)..... | 3 |
| BANTAMS.....                                     | 4 |





|                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>ORIGIN:</b>         | German                                |
| <b>CLASSIFICATION:</b> | Light breed: Soft feather             |
| <b>EGG COLOUR:</b>     | Tinted, sometimes speckled (Sitters). |
| <b>MASSES:</b>         |                                       |
| <b>LARGE FOWL:</b>     |                                       |
| Cock:                  | 3.5 kg max                            |
| Hen:                   | 3.0 kg max                            |
| Egg weight:            | 55 g min                              |
| <b>BANTAMS</b>         |                                       |
| <b>(Miniature):</b>    |                                       |
| Male:                  | 1.2 kg max                            |
| Female:                | 1.0 kg max                            |
| Egg weight:            | 45 g min                              |

Sundheimer chickens are a German breed that originated in Sundheim in the Baden area, in the south of Germany around 1886. They were first exhibited at the Leipzig Poultry Show in 1893. Sundheimers are the result of crosses between Houdan, Dorking, Brahma, Cochin and Bresse fowls. They were considered an endangered breed, but numbers have gone up and have now been ranked amongst the most popular breeds in Germany. A bantam version was introduced at the Dortmund Poultry show in 1980.

### **GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Sundheimers are only bred in the Columbian black and white (Columbian) colour pattern. They are fast growing, tender meat, easy to fatten, dual purpose fowl for meat and egg production. They are calm tempered, medium weight and have a fine bone structure that is not too tall, body is fully feathered with some foot feathering. Bad fliers because of relatively small wings.

### **THE MALE**

**Body:** Medium length, broad, deep, well-rounded, narrowing slightly towards the back, carried almost horizontally. Breast: full, wide and bulging. Shoulders: wide. Back: wide, medium length, flat, rising only slightly to tail. Wings: relatively small, carried rather high and close to body, wing bow slightly curved.

**Head and neck:** Head: medium size, medium in length, broad. Beak: stout, horn coloured. Eyes: orange-red to red. Comb: single, small, straight and erect, with 4 to 6 points and blade following curve of neck. Face: red, with small white feathers or fluff. Earlobes: red, oblong, slim. Wattles: red, short, wellrounded. Neck: broad set, medium length.

**Tail:** Medium length, slightly raised and carried loosely.

**Legs and feet:** Legs: medium length, set well apart. Thighs: stout, of medium length, nicely rounded, fully feathered. Shanks: medium length, set well apart, lightly covered with feathers on the outer sides. Toes: four in number, medium length, well spread, short feathering on the outer toes.

**Plumage:** Moderate hackle, saddle feathers abundant and of medium length, tail sickles of medium length. Fluff full, fitting closely to the body.

### **THE FEMALE**

Corresponding to male except for the gender-related differences, with a broad back, sloping slightly to the tail. Tail: small, curved backwards, otherwise as in the male.

### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Narrow body, concave back, flat chest, square shoulders. Legs too high, too low or too narrowly spaced. Long neck. Long tail. Not enough feathers on the legs. Feathers on the middle toe. Big spurs. Black in white banding of shanks. Visible white in black web of wing feathers. Visible white in the black tail feathers of the male. Pure white tail feathers. Black deposits (spots) in plumage. Yellow plumage. White in earlobes. Other than four toes. Wry tail or any other deformity. Foreign colours.

### **COLOUR**

#### **THE COLUMBIAN (BLACK AND WHITE) (Code: 278)**

**Beak:** Horn colour may have dark stripe down upper mandible.

**Comb, face, wattles and earlobes:** Bright red.

**Legs and feet:** Lower thighs: white, shanks and toes: pinkish white.

**Skin and flesh:** White and fine

**Eyes:** Orange-red to red.

**Head and neck:** Head: pure silvery white, neck hackle: the wide lustrous black centre (web) of each feather to be entirely surrounded by a silver-white margin (hem). Closure of collar above breast is not important.

**Breast:** White.

**Wings:** Primary wing (flight) feathers predominantly black with a white outer edge. Secondary feathers black on the inside, white on the outside, so that the folded wing appears white.

**Back and saddle:** Feathers of the upper back under the hackle show black teardrop markings. Back of the male without black shaft lines if possible, but hints of black permitted in males with particularly dark hackle. Female's saddle always pure white.

**Tail and tail coverts:** Male: sickle feathers are black with green sheen, main sickles: white edging are permitted. Small tail feathers are lined with white. Female: Tail coverts are lined with white.

**Body, fluff and undercolour:** White to silver-grey.

### **BANTAMS**

Sundheimer bantams are large bantams or miniatures and should be miniatures of their large fowl counterparts and the same standard, points, colour and defects are applicable.

| SCALE OF POINTS           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Head and comb             | 10         |
| Colour                    | 25         |
| Type and flatness of back | 25         |
| Size                      | 10         |
| Legs and feet             | 20         |
| Condition                 | 10         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>100</b> |