
AFRICAN GOOSE

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ORIGIN: Africa
CLASSIFICATION: Heavy
MASSSES:
Adult gander: 10.0 – 12.7kg
Adult goose: 8.2 – 10.9kg

The African goose is a breed of domestic goose. They descended from the wild Swan Goose, just like their close cousin the Chinese goose. Though they share some similar characteristics (such as colour variations), the two can be distinguished by the African's larger dewlap and different knob shape. African geese are also quite a bit larger and heavier than Chinese, and are better known for their docile temperaments.

Two origin theories persist for the fowl: the first purporting that Africans are the result of crosses of Swan Geese and Chinese, while the other asserts that they are pure derivations of the Swan Goose, and their unique traits are simply the result of selective breeding. Whichever the case, it has existed as a distinct breed since at least the middle of the nineteenth century.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

GANDER AND GOOSE

Carriage: Reasonably upright.

Type: Body: large, long, carried moderately upright. Stern: round and full, free from bagginess. Back: broad, moderately long and flat. Breast: full, well rounded, carried moderately upright without keel. Wings: large, strong, and smoothly folded against sides. Tail: well elevated.

Head: Broad, deep, large. Dewlap: large, heavy, smooth, lower edges regularly curved and extending from lower mandible to below junction of neck and throat. Bill: rather large, stout at base. Knob: large, broad as the head protruding slightly forward from front of skull at upper mandible. Eyes: large.

Neck: Long, moderately arched. Throat with well-developed dewlap.

Legs and Feet: Lower thighs: short, stout. Shanks: medium length. Straight toes connected by web.

COLOUR

BROWN

In both sexes:

Bill and knob: Black.

Eyes: Dark brown.

Legs and webs: Dark orange.

Plumage: Head: light brown. Neck: very light ashy brown with distinct broad, dark brown stripe down center of the back of neck and extending its entire length. Front of neck under mandible: very light ashy brown, gradually getting lighter in colour until past dewlap where it is almost cream in colour, then gradually deepening in colour as it approaches the breast. Breast: very light ashy brown shading to a lighter colour under the body. Body: lighter shade than the breast, gradually getting lighter as it approaches the fluff, which is so light as to be nearly white. Sides of body: ashy brown each feather edged with a lighter shade. Lower thighs, upper part: similar to sides of body, ashy brown edged with a lighter shade; lower part: similar in colour to under part of body. Back: ashy brown. Wingbow: ashy brown, slightly edged with a lighter shade, coverts ashy brown, distinctly edged with a lighter shade. Primaries: dark slate. Primary coverts: light slate. Secondaries: dark slate, distinctly edged with a lighter shade approaching white. Tail: ashy brown heavily edged with a shade approaching white. Tail coverts: white.

WHITE

The shape is identical to Brown African goose. The colour details are similar to the White Chinese.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Size	20
Colour and markings	10
Condition	10
Legs and feet	5
Breast	10
Head and throat	15
Neck	5
General carriage	15
Tail and paunch	10
TOTAL	100

