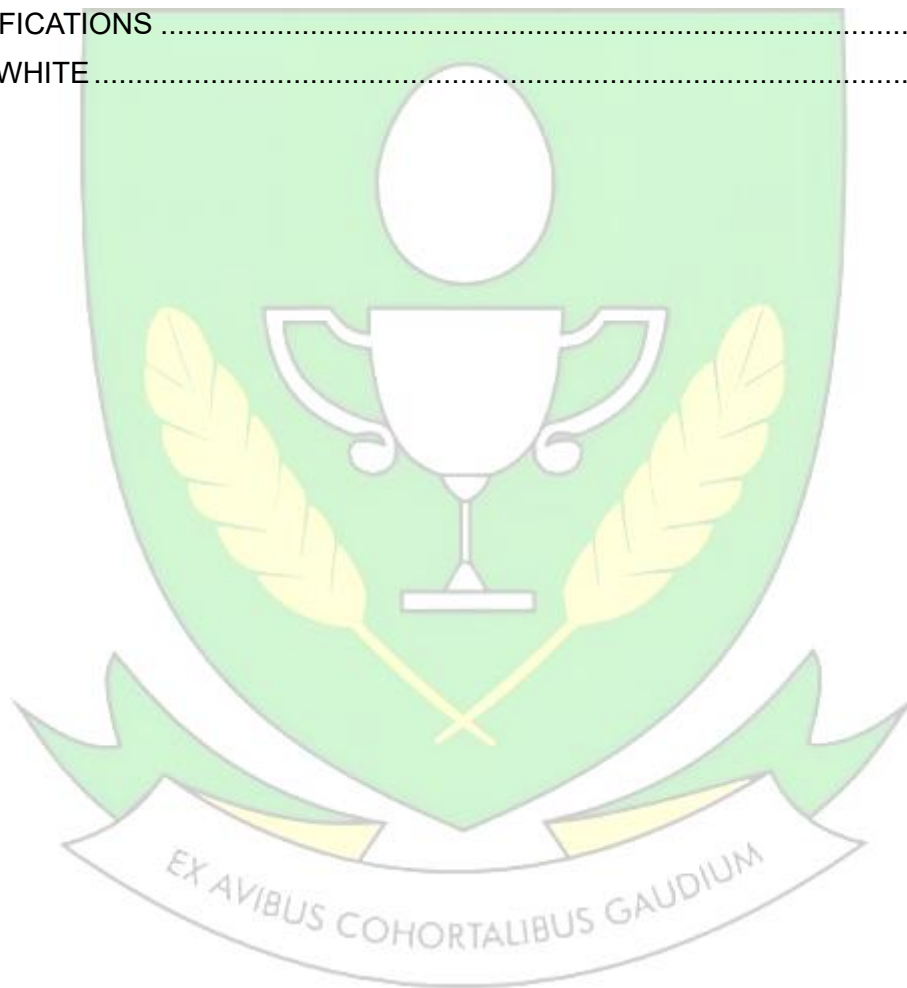

BRITISH WHITE OR LARGE WHITE (WHITE HOLLAND)

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ORIGIN:	Great Britain
CLASSIFICATION:	Heavy
MASSSES:	
Mature Tom:	12.0 - 18.0kg
Mature Hen:	7.0 - 10.0kg
Young Stag:	8.0 - 13.0kg
Young Hen:	6.0 - 8.0kg

The mutation to the white color (which is actually lack of color) is an ancient one. The Aztecs and others selectively bred white turkeys and they were certainly among the stocks sent to Europe. In Austria (the Austrian) and in Holland (the White Holland), white turkeys were favoured. It is quite possible, though not documented that Dutch settlers or other European immigrants came to the New World with White turkeys. By the 1800's, a white variety – now called the White Holland in the show ring – was known in the United States. It was recognized by the American Poultry Association in 1874. The name White Holland implied Dutch origins for the variety, but it originated in Mexico in the 1500's. It is an American breed developed from white sports of the Bronze turkey variety.

Producers, however, came to want the best of both worlds – a large, white feathered variety. In the early 1950s, researchers at Cornell University and elsewhere in the United States began crossing the White Holland and Broad-breasted Bronze. By the 1960s, the Broad Breasted White (or Large White) had surpassed the Bronze for commercial production.

The White Holland as a distinctive and historic population is close to extinction. White Holland turkeys are seen occasionally at poultry shows, but they often have the wide breasts and short legs reflecting genetic influence from the Large White. The American Poultry Association both recognized this fact and confused the issue in 1983 when a change in the White Holland standard added the following: "May be referred to in commercial terminology as Broadbreasted Whites or Large Whites". Thus the two varieties have merged, with the White Holland absorbed into the Large White. The same thing has occurred in Britain, with the lumping of all white varieties into a population called the "British White" turkey.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

MALE AND FEMALE

Type: Body: long, deep and well rounded. Back: curving with good slope to tail. Breast: broad, full, long and straight. Wings: strong and large. Tail: long in proportion to body.

Head: Long, broad and carunculated. Beak: strong, curved and well set. Eyes: bright, bold and clear. Throat wattle: large and pendent.

Neck: Long, curving backwards towards tail.

Legs and feet: Thighs: long and stout. Fluff: short. Shanks: large, strong, well rounded and of medium length. Toes: four, straight and strong and well spread.

SERIOUS DEFECTS

Wry tail. Pronounced debeaking.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Feathers other than white. Crooked or other deformity of the breastbone. Any other deformity.

COLOUR WHITE

Plumage of

Both sexes: Pure white with black tassel.

In both sexes: Beak: white to pale horn. Eyes: iris dark hazel, pupil blue-black. Face, wattle and caruncles: bright rich red, but changeable in the male to blue and white. Shanks and feet: pink flesh. Toenails: white to pale horn.

SCALE OF POINTS

Shape (type)	35
Head, neck and wattle	10
Legs and feet	5
Weight	25
Colour	15
Condition	10
TOTAL	100