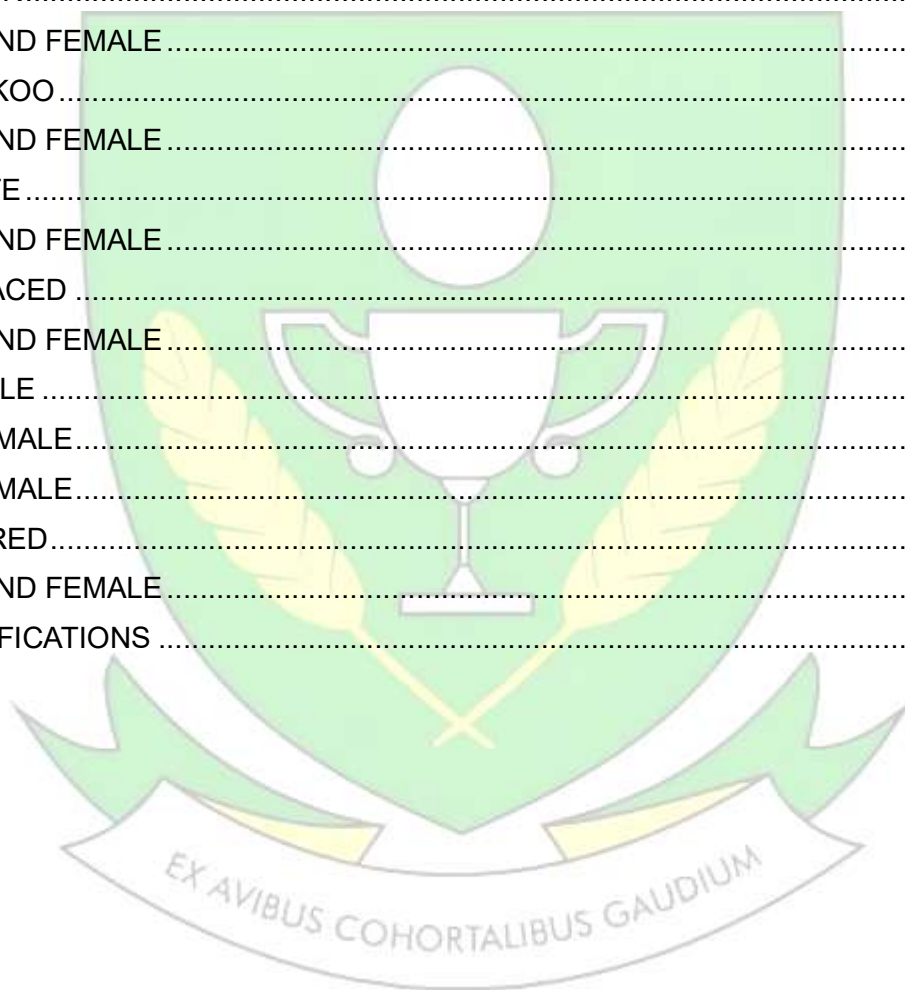

Cochin

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ORIGIN:	Asiatic
CLASSIFICATION:	Heavy breed; Soft feather
EGG COLOUR:	Tinted (Sitters)
MASSES:	
Cock:	6.0 kg min
Hen:	5.0 kg min
Cockerel:	5.0 kg min
Pullet:	4.1 kg min

The Cochin, as we know it today, originally came from China in the early 1950's where it was known as the Shanghai, and later still as the Cochin-China. The breed created a sensation in Britain in poultry circles because of its immense size, and table properties. Moreover it was an excellent layer. It was developed, however, for wealth of feather and fluff for exhibition purposes to the extent that its utility characteristics were neglected, if not made impossible, in the winning types.

There are no Cochin bantams, although Pekin Bantams are called Cochin Bantams in several countries (USA, Germany and Holland.)

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

THE MALE

Carriage:	Rather forward, high at stern, and dignified.
Type:	Body: large and deep. Back: broad and very short. Saddle: very broad and large with a gradual and decided rise towards the tail forming a harmonious line with it. Breast: full and as low down as possible. Wings: small and closely clipped up, the flights being neatly and entirely tucked under the secondaries. Tail: small, soft, with as little hard quill as possible and carried low or nearly flat.
Head:	Small. Beak: rather short, curved and very stout at base. Eyes: large and fairly prominent. Comb: single, upright, small perfectly straight, of fine texture, neatly arched and evenly serrated, free from excrescences. Face: smooth, as free as possible from feathers or hairs. Ear-lobes: sufficiently developed to hang nearly or quite as low as the wattles, which are long, thin and pendant.

Neck:	Rather short, carried somewhat forward, handsomely curved, thickly furnished with hackle feathers which flow gracefully over shoulders.
Legs and feet:	Thighs: large and thickly covered with fluffy feathers standing out in globular form, hocks entirely covered with soft curling feathers, but as free as possible from any stiff quills (vulture hocks). Shanks: short and thick, wide apart and heavily feathered down the outside, the feathering to start from the hock and continue to the ends of the middle and outer toes. Toes: four, large straight and well spread.
General shape:	Massive and deep.

THE FEMALE

With certain exceptions the general characteristics are similar to those of the male, allowing for the natural sexual differences. Comb and wattles: as small as possible. The body more square than the male's and the shoulders more prominent. The back very flat, wide and short, with the cushion exceedingly broad, full and convex, rising from as far forward as possible and almost burying the tail. Wings nearly buried in abundant body feathering and the tail very small. Breast: full, as low as possible. General shape is "Lumpy" massive and square. Carriage is forward, high at cushion, with a matronly appearance.

SERIOUS DEFECTS / DISQUALIFICATIONS

Primary wing feathers twisted on their axis. Utter absence of leg feather. Badly twisted or falling comb. Legs other than yellow or dusky yellow, except blacks and blues. Black spots in buffs. Brown mottling (if conspicuous) in partridge males, or pale breasts destitute of pencilling in partridge females. White or black feathers in cuckoos. Crooked back, wry tail, or any other deformity.

COLOURS

THE BLACK

MALE AND FEMALE

Plumage: Rich black, well glossed, free from golden or reddish feathers.

In both sexes:

Beak: Yellow, or horn or black.
Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: Bright red.
Eyes: Bright red, dark red, hazel or black.
Legs: Dusky yellow or lizard.

THE BLUE

THE MALE

Plumage: Hackle: back and tail level shade of rich dark blue free from rust, sandiness or bronze. Remainder even shade of blue free from lacing on breast, thighs or fluff and free from rust, sandiness or bronze.

THE FEMALE

Plumage: One even shade of blue free from lacing; pigeon blue preferred.

In both sexes:

Beak: Yellow, horn or yellow slightly marked with horn
Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: Bright red.
Eyes: Dark
Legs: Blue, with yellow tinge in pads.

THE BUFF

THE MALE

Plumage: Breast and underparts any shade of lemon-buff, silver-buff or cinnamon provided it is even and free from mottling. Head, hackle, back, shoulders, wings, tail and saddle may be any shade of deeper and richer colour which harmonises well-lemon, gold, orange or cinnamon-wings to be perfectly sound in colour and free from mealiness. White in tail very objectionable.

THE FEMALE

Plumage: Body all over any even shade, free from mottled appearance. Hackle of a deeper colour to harmonise, free from black pencilling or cloudiness, cloudy hackles being especially objectionable. Tail free from black.

In both sexes:

Beak: Rich yellow.
Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: Brilliant red.
Eyes: To match plumage as nearly as possible, but red eyes preferred although rare.
Legs: Bright yellow with shade of red between scales.

THE CUCKOO

MALE AND FEMALE

Plumage: Dark grey bars or pencilling (across the feather) on blue-grey ground, the male's hackle free from golden or red tinge, and his tail free from black or white feathers.

In both sexes:

Beak: Rich bright yellow, but horn permissible.

Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: As in black.

Eyes: Bright red.

Legs: Brilliant yellow.

THE PARTRIDGE

THE MALE

Plumage: Neck and saddle hackle: rich bright red or orange red, each feather with a dense black stripe. Back, shoulder coverts, and wing bow: rich red, of a more decided and darker shade than the neck. Wing coverts: green black, forming a wide and sharply cut bar across the wing; secondaries: rich bay outside and black inside, the end of every feather black; primaries: very dark bay outside and dark inside. Saddle: rich or orange-red, the same colour as, or one shade lighter than, the neck. Remainder glossy black, as intense as possible, white in tail objectionable.

THE FEMALE

Plumage: Neck: bright gold, rich gold or orange-red, with a broad black stripe in each feather, the marking extending well over the crown of the head. Remainder (including leg feathering) brown distinctly pencilled in crescent form with rich dark brown or black, the pencilling being perfect and solid up to the throat.

In both sexes:

Beak: Brilliant yellow or horn.

Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: As in black.

Eyes: Bright red.

Legs: Yellow, but may be of a dusky shade.

THE WHITE

MALE AND FEMALE

Plumage: Pure white, free from any straw or red shade.

Beak: Rich bright yellow.

Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: As in black.

Eyes: Pearl or bright red.

Legs: Brilliant yellow.

SILVER LACED

MALE AND FEMALE

Beak:	Dark horn, shading to yellow at point.
Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes:	Bright red.
Eyes:	Reddish bay.
Legs:	Lower thighs: web of each feather, white with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black, conforming to shape of feather. Shank and toe feathers: white with a sharply defined lacing of black to conform to shape of feathers. Shanks and toes: yellow.

THE MALE

Plumage:	Head: silvery white, each feather having a black stripe tapering to a fine point near its extremity. Neck hackle: lustrous greenish black with a narrow lacing of silvery white, uniform in width, extending around the point of each feather; shaft, white. Front of neck: same as breast. Back saddle: silvery white in appearance, a black stripe through each feather, laced with white, conforming to shape of centre, the black stripe having a long, diamond-shaped centre of white. Main tail is black with lustrous, greenish black sickles and coverts. Smaller coverts: black, laced with white, with diamond-shaped centers of white. Wing fronts: black with white centers. Bows: silvery white. Coverts: web of each feather white, with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous greenish black, forming a double bar of laced feathers across wings. Primaries: black, lower edge white. Secondaries: black, lower half of lower webs, white with narrow black edgings wider at tips; upper webs, edged with white. Breast: web of each feather white, with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black. Body-fluff: web of each feather, white with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black, with slate fluff. Under-colour of all sections: slate, shading to lighter slate at base.
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THE FEMALE

Plumage:	Head plumage: silvery gray, with neck, silvery white in appearance, each feather black with narrow lacing of white; shaft of each feather, white. Back: web of each feather, white with a narrow sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black. Main tail feathers: black, with coverts and lesser coverts, white laced with black. Wing fronts, bows and coverts: web of each feather, white with a narrow sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black. Primaries: black, lower edges white. Secondaries: black, lower half of lower webs, white with narrow black edging wider at tips, upper webs, edged with white. Breast: web of each feather, white with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black, with the same body fluff. Under-colour of all sections: slate.
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GOLDEN LACED

MALE AND FEMALE

Beak:	Dark horn, shading to yellow at point.
Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes:	Bright red.
Eyes:	Reddish bay.
Legs:	Shanks and toes: yellow. Lower thighs: web, as well as shank and toe feathers, rich golden bay, with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black, conforming to shape of feather.

THE MALE

Plumage:	The head is rich golden bay, each feather having a black stripe tapering to a fine point near its extremity. Neck hackle: lustrous greenish black with a narrow lacing of rich golden bay, uniform in width, extending around point of feather; shaft, golden bay. The front of neck, breast, and body-fluff: rich golden bay web of each feather, with a narrow sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black. Under-colour of all sections: slate, shading to red at base. Back: rich golden bay on surface, a black stripe through each feather in saddle, laced with rich golden bay, conforming to shape of centre, the black stripe having a long, diamondshaped centre of rich golden bay. Main tail: black, with sickles and coverts, lustrous, greenish black. Smaller coverts: black, with diamondshaped centers of rich golden bay and laced with rich golden bay. Wing-fronts: black with golden bay centers. Bows: rich golden bay. Coverts: web of each feather, rich golden bay, with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black, forming a double bar of laced feathers across wings. Primaries: black, lower edges rich golden bay. Secondaries: black, lower half of lower webs, rich golden bay, with narrow black edgings wider at the tips, upper webs, edged with rich golden bay.
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THE FEMALE

Plumage:	Head plumage, rich golden bay, with neck rich golden bay in appearance, each feather black with narrow lacing of rich golden bay, shaft; rich golden bay. Front of Neck, Breast, and Body-fluff: web of each feather, rich golden bay with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black. Back: web of each feather rich golden bay, with a narrow, sharply defined lacing of lustrous greenish black. Main tail: black. Coverts and lesser coverts: rich golden bay, laced with black. Wing fronts, bows and coverts: web of each feather, rich golden bay, with a narrow sharply defined lacing of lustrous, greenish black. Primaries: black, lower edges rich golden bay. Secondaries: black, lower half of lower webs, rich golden bay with narrow black edging wider at tips; upper webs edged with rich golden bay. Under-colour of all sections: slate.
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THE BROWN

MALE AND FEMALE

Beak:	Dark horn.
Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes:	Bright red.
Eyes:	Reddish bay.
Head plumage:	Orange red.

THE MALE

Plumage: Neck hackle is reddish orange with lustrous, greenish black stripe of medium width in the middle of each feather, tapering regularly and consistently to a point near lower extremity. Front of neck: greenish black. Back: bright red, with black cape, orange red saddle, with medium narrow greenish black stripe, tapering regularly and consistently into a point near lower extremity. Main tail: black with main and lesser sickles: lustrous greenish black. Coverts: lustrous greenish black, laced with orange red. Wing fronts: black. Bows: bright red. Coverts: lustrous greenish black. Primaries: black with lower edge of reddish bay. Secondaries: upper web black; lower web black with lower part reddish bay, wide enough to form reddish-bay wing-bay. Breast: greenish black with rest of body-fluff, black. Lower thighs: black; shank and toe-feathers: black or black slightly marked with golden bay. Shanks and toes: yellow or dusky yellow. Under-colour of all sections: dull black or slate.

THE FEMALE

Plumage: Neck hackle is golden orange with lustrous black stripe, free from shafting, in middle of each feather, conforming to shape of feather, oval at end. Front of neck and breast: light brown, lightly stippled with black. Back: dark brown, densely stippled with black of sufficient lustre to present an overall effect soft and vivid; yet free from dullness on the one hand, and not having enough sheen or lustre to transcend the general tone of rich dark brown; free from shafting. Main tail is black. Coverts, wing-bows, fronts and coverts are all the same colour as Back. Primaries: dull black, outer edges slightly edged with brown. Secondaries: dark brown stippled with black, same as back, the stippling merging with dull black at upper part of upper web. Body: dark brown, stippled with black, free from shafting, with dull black, tinged with brown fluff. Lower thighs: dark brown stippled with black. Shank and toe feathers: dark brown, stippled with black. Yellow or dusky yellow shanks and toes. Under-colour of all sections: dull black or slate.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

More than one appearance of one-half inch of positive white in any section of the plumage.

THE BARRED

MALE AND FEMALE

Plumage: Each feather throughout its length crossed with sharply defined, regular, parallel bars of alternate light (short of positive black) colour, and ending in a narrow dark tip. The light and dark bars in each section of the male shall be approximately equal in width and moderately narrow except in the flight and main tail feathers, which carry slightly wider bars due to those feathers being wider. The light bars of the female should be slightly narrower than the dark ones. A 60% black, 40% white ratio would be about right. The overall impression of the females colour should be crisp and bright, not smokey or dull. All dark bars on a given feather should be approximately the same width. The same is true of the light bars. In general, the width of barring will vary with the size of feathers in the various areas of the body, the wider bars being found on the larger feathers. Much importance is attached to the straightness of the barring as it crosses each feather. There should be no dark overflow into the light bar and no tendency for shafting or brownish tinge to the dark bar. The light bars on any feather should be of equal width. The same is true for the dark bars on any given feather.

In both sexes:

Comb, face, wattles and ear-lobes: Bright red.

Beak: Yellow.

Eyes: Reddish bay.

Shanks and Toes: Yellow.

Under-colour: In all sections, same as web but not as distinct due to looseness of barbs.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Red or yellow in any part of plumage; two or more solid black primaries, or secondaries, or main tail feathers; shanks other than yellow or dusky yellow.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Feathering (cushion 8, fluff 7, tail 5, hackle 5, legs 10)	20
Colour (or markings in cuckoo or partridge)	15
Size	20
Head (ear-lobes 5)	15
Type	15
Condition	10
	5
TOTAL	100