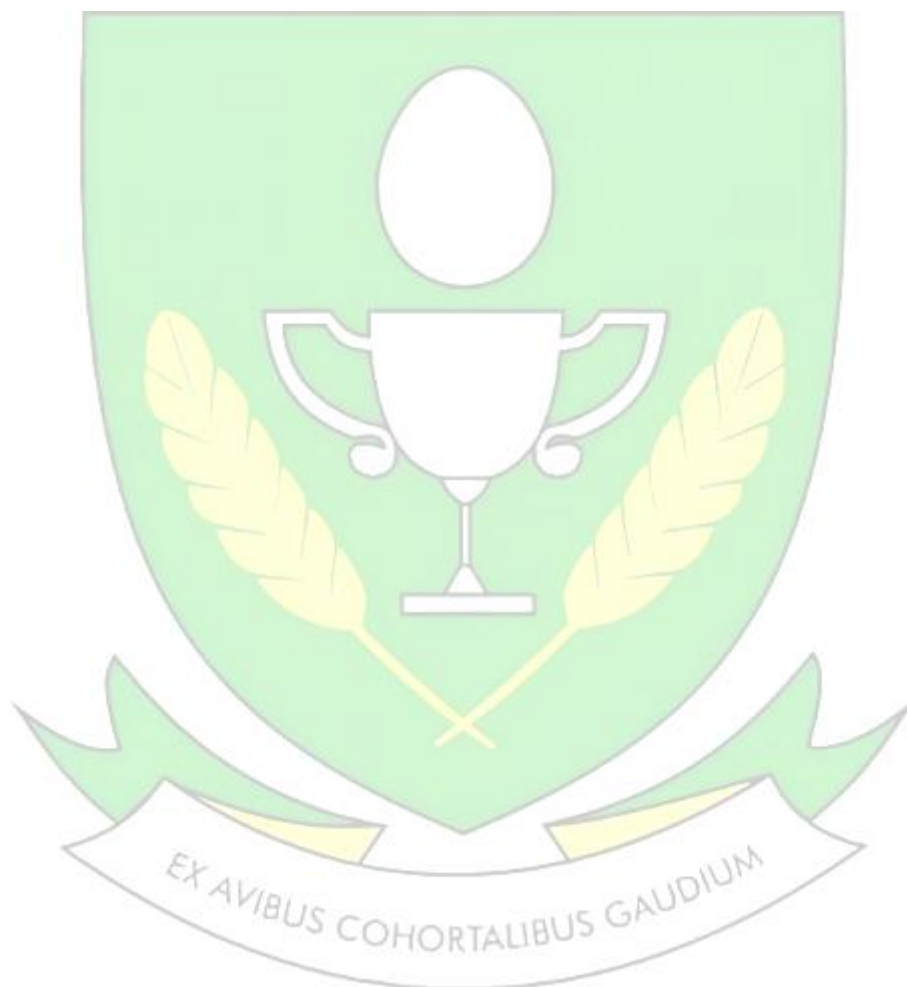

LA FLÈCHE

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ORIGIN:	France
CLASSIFICATION:	Heavy breed: Soft feather
EGG COLOUR:	Tinted
MASSES:	
LARGE FOWL	
Cock:	4.1 kg
Hen:	3.2 kg
BANTAMS	
Cock:	1.7 kg max
Hen:	1.5 kg max

La Flèche Chickens have been bred for many years in the Valley of La Sarthe, where the town of La Flèche is located. The La Flèche ('The Arrow'), a large non-hardy black breed, originated (1650) from crossing of Black Spanish, Crèvecoeur, and DuMan blood lines as evident by its high carriage, activity, large white lobes, a V-shaped comb with two vertical spikes and the trace of a crest on its head, which crops out on specimens of the French breeds. In the middle of the nineteenth century it was used to produce white-skinned spring chickens for the Paris market. This very old French breed has never been widespread in South Africa.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

THE MALE

Carriage:	Bold and upstanding.
Body:	Body: general appearance large, powerful and rather hard. Back: wide and rather long, slanting to the tail. Wings: large and powerful. Breast: full and prominent. Tail: moderate in size.
Head:	General appearance of the head long, slightly coarse and cruel and should be free of a crest. Beak: large and strong with cavernous nostrils. Comb: a double spike standing nearly upright with very small spikes in front. Wattles: long and pendulous; ear-lobes: large.

Neck: Long and very upright, but not backward, with as much hackle as possible.

Legs and Feet: Thighs and shanks long and powerful, the latter being free of feathers; toes large and straight, four on each foot.

THE FEMALE

The general characteristics are similar to those of the male, allowing for the natural sexual differences.

SERIOUS DEFECTS / DISQUALIFICATIONS

Presence of crest. Entirely red ear-lobes. Feathers on legs. Incorrect leg colour. Coloured feathers. Wry tail or any deformity.

COLOURS

BLACK

MALE AND FEMALE

Plumage: Glossy black with bright green reflections.

In both sexes:

Beak: Black or very dark horn.

Comb, wattles and face: Deep red; ear-lobes brilliant white.

Eyes: Bright red or black.

Legs and feet: Very dark slate or leaden black

OTHER COLOURS

White, Cuckoo and Blue Laced

BANTAMS

La Flèche bantams should follow the large fowl standard in every respect.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Type and carriage	25
Head	35
Colour	15
Size	15
Legs and feet	5
Condition	5
TOTAL	100