



Budgie Bulletin



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2022-2023

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NORTH EAST B.S. NEWSLETTER

Issued quarterly for the members.

The opinions and ideas expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the North East Budgerigar Society of South Australia Inc.

CLUB OBJECTIVES

TO PROMOTE FEELINGS OF GOOD FELLOWSHIP AND SPORTSMANSHIP AMONG ITS OWN MEMBERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE BUDGERIGAR.

TO PROMOTE THE IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING VARIETIES AND THE PRODUCTION OF NEW ONES.

TO ENDEAVOUR TO PROMOTE, ENCOURAGE AND STIMULATE THE BREEDING OF BUDGERIGARS.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

All subscriptions become due January 1st, 2023.

(Also applies to new members who join after October 1st, 2022, who will be financial for 2023)

SINGLE \$20.00, DOUBLE \$30 (Single fee plus 50%)

FAMILY Single fee (\$20.00) plus 50% single fee for each person over 18 years of age
Under 18 years – no charge in family situation

JUNIOR \$13 (65% normal fee)

PENSIONER Single \$16, Double \$24 (Both 80% of normal fee)

PARTNERSHIP \$15 per person (75% of normal single fee)

**For electronic transfer of membership fees use your name as the reference, and Bank SA BSB
105-146, Account number 547328040.**

BCSA Membership fee: \$15 per person

Members must be financial with North East Budgerigar Society and BCSA to purchase 2023 rings.

**Club meets at Kilburn Hall at 49 Le Hunte St, Kilburn, at 7.30pm on the second
Wednesday of every month except December.**

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Editorial

What was that? It just flew past! I think it was the year 2022. Didn't we just have Christmas? Yes folks its that time again.

It was in Victor Harbor this year, we saw the return to S.A. of our national show. It was held largely through the efforts of a group of dedicated members and we thank them for a job well done.

Not so fortunate this year for N.E.B.S. were the Logan shield and Unbroken cap interclub challenge shows. Congratulations to the B.S.S.A. I think the term "thorough trouncing" sums up the results fairly well. (See you next time).

Thankyou to the people who are the reason for our clubs very existence. Those of you, especially the committee, whose continued support enables our club to continue being the enjoyable hobby that it is.

I hope everyone has achieved " something" in their bird rooms this year. Christmas break is a fantastic time for catching up with family and friends and to sneak off to the aviary and hopefully admire the results of the season.

Wishing you all the best for a merry Christmas and an inspiring New Year.

See you all in 2023
Graeme Alchin
President.



*******NOTICE TO MEMBERS*******

**As of the April 2018 Meeting
The start time for the meeting will be 7.30pm.
The day will still be the second Wednesday of the month.**

DID YOU KNOW?

**YOU CAN SELL BIRDS AT ANY CLUB MEETING
PUT A PRICE ON THE CAGE WITH RUNG NUMBER, YEAR AND SEX
IF THE BIRD SELLS, THEN DONATE \$2 TO THE CLUB**

2023 RINGS

2023 Ring Issue

Rings (Blue) for 2023 have been received and will be available from me as from 15 December 2023. The cost of the rings is 50 cents each in multiples of ten.

For those members who have already paid for their 2023 rings and requested delivery by post, their rings will be posted on 15 December 2023.

Dennis Lomman
Ring Officer



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UBSSA SUPPORTERS SCHEME

NEBS is affiliated with The United Bird Societies of South Australia Inc but are you aware that you as individual members can be UBSSA Supporters? For an annual subscription fee of \$15 from July 1 you can contribute to the operating costs of the UBSSA and give it strength through numbers. The UBSSA has an impact on government on matters related to bird keeping that affects all of us. The UBSSA motto is "Strength through Unity". Contact details are on their website www.unitedbirds.asn.au.



A further question and answer from the proceedings of the International Forum as part of the 2007 ANBC Show hosted in Adelaide by the BCSA with comment at the end on the context of the answer fast forwarded to 2022.



INTERNATIONAL FORUM

On the Tuesday evening (29th May) of the 2007 ANBC Nationals held in Adelaide South Australia, a very interesting forum was attended by about sixty fanciers.

The forum panel were Marcel Buhler from Switzerland: Ricky Watts from The United Kingdom: Warren Wilson from New South Wales: Alan Gamble from New Zealand: Ron Pearce from The United Kingdom.

Question: *Vicky from South Australia: It appears to me that features of the head are more important than a properly marked Recessive Pied. The same with Clearwings - It doesn't matter if it has muddy wings as long as it has a big buffy head it is right.*

Warren Wilson: That is not necessarily right, if all the other birds in the class have got equal big heads, it is only what is best on the day.

Marcel Buhler: I think we spoke about it earlier on. It is always a compromise. We try to get the best bird with the best colour and the best markings and again as in the Opalines and Cinnamons with the flecking it is up to the breeders to clean them up. It is good fun for the judges to judge good quality Clearwings with clear wings and if you come over to Europe we have to put signs on our Clearwings to tell you what they are as they are really badly marked especially in Switzerland, Germany and England. We target it that way to have really good Clearwings (larger birds) with marked wings and you work it the other way in an aim to have really clear wings.

Ron Pearce: I think again you cannot lose track of the sight of the variety of the birds you want to breed and it goes back to one of my original statements. You either want to breed exhibition budgerigars or you want to be a colour breeder. There is a hell of a difference. You have to be a very good breeder to be a colour breeder and an exhibition breeder because if you are going to concentrate on breeding colour you are not always going to impart the exhibition features.

Editorial comment in the context of 2022:

The question above was posed back in 2007 but in 2022 the ANBC has made some progress to addressing the question posed. Since 2007 there have been properly marked Recessive Pies and Clearwings with clear wings combined with outstanding Type and excellent head qualities that have won at the national show. Birds of that calibre are rare in these and some other recessive varieties but when breeders rise to the challenge and succeed through hard work and some luck these birds are unforgettable. The degree of difficulty is extremely high but not impossible.

What follows is an extract from the latest Standard. It relates to some of the steps taken to change thinking from the bird first and variety second to a more equitable consideration of varietal features.

ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE POINTS FOR COLOUR AND MARKINGS TO BE DETERMINED BY THREE VARIETY GROUPINGS AS LISTED BELOW:

1. Colour and absence of body Colour Suffusion are of paramount importance	2. Emphasis on Markings and/or Varietal Features (Refer Note 2 Below)	3. Equal weight given to Colour & Markings or absence of markings
Black Eyed Self Red Eyed Self Spangle Double Factor Dark Eyed Clear	Opaline Greywing Cinnamonwing Clearbody Lacewing Fallow Spangle Recessive Pied Saddleback Australian White Cap Crested	Normal Green Series Normal Blue Series Normal Yellow Faced Blue Series Clearwing Dominant Pied Group Darkwing Dilute

NOTE 1: Combination varieties - allowance should be made accordingly.

NOTE 2: Given the Crested is the only Budgerigar with a distinct varietal feature affecting the outline the points for Type, Colour and Markings are to be allocated as follows

- 30 Points – Prominence, neatness and central positioning of the Crest
- 50 Points – Type
- 20 Points - Colour and Markings

Refer to the written Standard for further expansion on the varieties of the Crest along with Penalty Clauses

Some years ago, the ratio of Colour : Markings was 25% : 15% of the 40% for Colour and Markings, across the board. Now, in Group 1 above, Colour is 40%, in Group 2 Varietal features dominate when assigning the 40% and in Group 3 its 20% for Colour and 20% for Markings. Note that Crested is a special case where the above distribution of points was introduced to counteract the undesirable trend toward large birds with tiny crests. Black Eyed Selves were moved to Group 1 to restore buttercup yellow body colour and to apply pressure to eliminate pale green suffusion that now permeates this class. It is not clear to me why Clearwing would not be better located in Group 2 to apply greater pressure for wing clarity but there must be a reason for their placement in Group 3. Flecking is another feature where there has been some action, though nowhere near enough. The flecking threshold at present is very liberal by comparison with the rest of the world.

John Mulley



NEBS TRADING TABLE

The Trading Table has a range of products which are available for purchase at the NEBS Monthly Meetings or from Vicki Sanford on **0481480940** or at vickisanford@bigpond.com

Nutritional supplements which are popular with members include;

Passwell Liquid Gold	Vetafarm Multivet/Moulting Aid
Passwell Budgie Starter	Vetafarm Soluvite D
Murphy's Minerals	Vetafarm Breeding Aid
Calcium & Iodine Bells	Vetafarm Spark
Mineral Blocks	Elliott's Sulpha D

Other popular products include Vetafarm Triple C* **antibiotic**, Vetafarm **Probiotic*** and Passwell Multi-Cleans **disinfectant** as well as various **Wormers** and **Scaly Face** treatments.

A range of **accessories** are also available including; Mason Jars and Bases, Drinkers, Wire Fronts for Show Cages, Finger Drawers, Show Cage Carriers, Ring Cutters**and more!**

*Also **New and Quality Used Show Cages.***

All these products are available at better than the normal retail price.

Some items, e.g. those above with an "*", may not always be immediately available due to their shorter use by dates however they can be readily reordered.

Other items can also be ordered on request.



BUDGIES DIET NOW AND IN THE PAST.

Did you know that Australia's wild budgies never ate the fruit and veg that we know and love before 1788? That's when settlers first introduced the fruit and veg that we now use daily and give to our birds regularly. Back then wild birds survived on seeds, grains and nuts from native herbs, shrubs and grasses. The closest things to fruit back then was probably quandongs, Davidson plums etc. They supplemented their diet by eating leaves, bark and flowers from eucalyptus, banksia, bottlebrush, saltbush and grevilleas.

A mere 230 odd years ago, there were no fruits and veg in Australia that we now eat today. Everything we eat originally came from other continents. But Australian birds had been eating eucalyptus for several million years before man came to Australia and they still do. The trees are still here and the birds are too.

But that doesn't mean our birds won't eat fruits and veg. They do and some birds love them. In fact some birds are recognised as pests in Australia because they raid vegetable gardens, orchards, grain crops and even commercial eucalyptus plantations. This is because they need the goodness that's contained within those eucalyptus trees. It's natural to them because they evolved alongside these trees and their digestive systems are designed to cope with its leaves, barks and saps.

If you give your budgies a eucalyptus leaf or branch to chew on, that's all the green stuff it needs to get all the trace elements, minerals and amino acids it requires. Eucalyptus leaves are also the original budgie medicinal tonic. They act as mite and lice deterrents, so perhaps we should put some crushed gum leaves in our nesting material. They are bactericidal too and act against internal gut parasites so they stay healthy. However we can't always get hold of gum leaves, so we supplement our birds with our everyday vegetables and fruits like carrot, corn, spinach/silverbeet, beetroot, apple, banana, fennel, citrus fruits etc. Plus of course vitamin and mineral powders, liquid supplements etc.

Budgies in the wild eat both ripe and unripe seeds. Unripe seeds carry more assimilable lysine. You can duplicate this at home by giving the grass seeds from your gardens. Wild budgies feed on grass seeds which they supplement with eucalyptus. They also feed on other plants depending on where they are. Wild budgies are nomadic and don't always come across the same vegetation every day. The budgie has had to adapt and this is part of what has made it such a popular pet. Anywhere in the world it's possible to find a diet budgies can exist on.

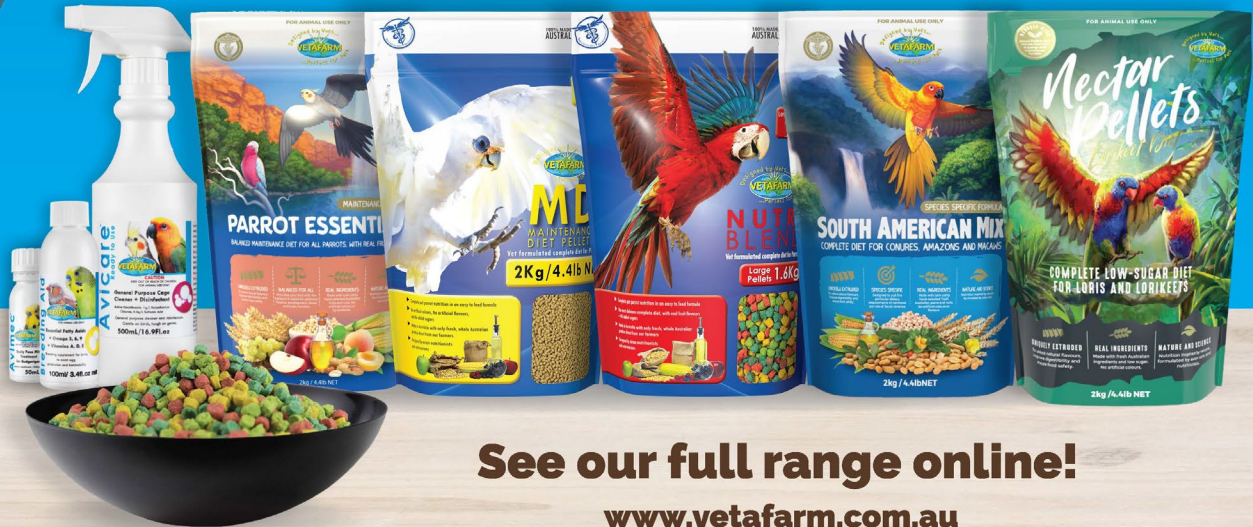
Of course here in Australia we are lucky, curtesy of our early settlers, to now have a wide array of seeds and grains, like canary, millets, oats, sunflower, wheat, panicum etc, plants, fruit, vegetables and supplements etc. to keep our birds happy and healthy.





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Normal Green and Normal Blue Series

John Mulley, December 2022

Introduction

Normal is the **Variety** and Green and Blue are the **Colours**. Hence, the *MuPKS* gene responsible for determining green or blue feathers in budgerigars is the Colour gene. Its DNA sequence codes for the enzyme polyketide synthase. The wild type amino acid sequence of this enzyme works in the Green Series to synthesise the yellow pigment psittacofulvin. A loss of function mutation within *MuPKS* codes for an amino acid substitution in polyketide synthase that disables its active site, thereby blocking the synthesis of the yellow pigment, giving us a blue budgerigar.

Melanin is a second pigment required for our perception of colour in budgerigar feathers. White light incident upon the feather microstructure containing melanin reflects light from the blue end of the colour spectrum. Hence, the *MuPKS* loss of function mutation enables perception of blue feathers. The presence of yellow pigment from wild type *MuPKS* is required for green feathers. As blue light passes through the layer of yellow pigment within the feather microstructure the light that we see is green.

Budgerigars are part of the parrot family. Parrots are the only birds that display yellow, orange, and red psittacofulvin pigments in the feather. The polyketide synthase that makes these pigments is active throughout the animal kingdom, including all other non-parrot birds, but only makes these pigments in parrots. So, it is interesting to speculate when parrots highjacked the function of the *MuPKS* gene to be able to manufacture the unique psittacofulvin pigments that have played such a key role in their successful speciation. Bush budgies and green exhibition budgies make the yellow form of psittacofulvin.

In the beginning

Bird fossils are hard to find due to the fragility of their lightly constructed skeleton. However, a fossil with form equivalent to the modern bush budgie has been dated to 4 million years ago. The wild native budgerigar has remained relatively unchanged for a very long time.

It is well established that birds evolved from dinosaurs. Effects of an asteroid six miles across wiped out most of the dinosaurs around 65 million years ago, but some survivors were still around 40 million years ago. These were raptors – small hyperactive warm-blooded dinosaurs insulated with feathers that had evolved from scales. They were the ancestors of birds.

During the adaptive radiation of birds, the parrots alone acquired the ability to make psittacofulvin as their feather pigment. Australia was part of Gondwanaland 30 million years ago when South America split from the eastern part of Gondwanaland from the shoreline of what is now Antarctica. It is well established that parrots originated from Gondwanaland. Given that parrots carry psittacofulvin pigments in both Australia and South America this evolutionary step of making psittacofulvin pigments likely occurred before about 30 million years ago, before Australia separated from South America, thereby isolating the two parrot populations. I was unable to locate anything on-line from a parrot palaeontologist, if there is one, to verify this speculation. So be aware that this is just speculation.

Modern history of the Normal Light Green Budgerigar

This began with colonisation of the Sydney region from 1788. Budgerigars were collected by the early settlers and specimens were sent to Sir Joseph Banks in England (the botanist who had earlier accompanied James Cook in 1770). These green bush budgies were subsequently described as a new species in the UK in 1805 by George Shaw. John Gould introduced the first living pair to England in 1840 and gave them the scientific name *Melopsittacus undulatus*. The genus name *Melopsittacus* is Greek for melodious parrot and the species name *undulatus* is Latin for undulated, referring to their scalloped wing pattern.

As an aside, note that the first postage stamp, the penny black, was issued in England that

same year, in 1840. Fast forward to 2022 and Australia Post issued three stamps featuring the Normal Light Green, a pair of Normal Sky Blues and a trio of what appear to be Normal Golden Faced Cobalts. Note that the World Budgerigar Organisation confers the prestigious Gould Award, named after John Gould, which was won by an Australian, Warren Wilson, in 2013, for Meritorious Services to the World of Budgerigars through his work with BRASEA, the Budgerigar Society of New South Wales and the Australian National Budgerigar Council.

The first Normal Light Green bush budgies were bred in captivity in 1855 by Countess Von Schwerin in Berlin. After that, large numbers were bred throughout Europe as a prelude to the budgerigar being recognised today as the third most popular pet after dogs and cats. Many bush budgies were trapped in Australia and shipped all over the world until that was halted due to animal welfare considerations, given their high mortality rate during sea transport.

Colour Mutations of the gene *MuPKS*

The Normal Sky Blue first appeared in Belgium in 1878 but wasn't established. This timeline preceded the rediscovery of Mendel's laws of inheritance so genetic knowledge was rudimentary at best. Normal Sky Blues subsequently reappeared in France and were first exhibited in London in 1910. They initially arrived in Australia in 1918 without being established but further importations in 1920 and 1923 were successful. It is interesting that all blue budgerigars are descended from only the one single ancestral mutation, a fact that came to light from the sequence homology closely linked and on either side of the blue mutation in the *MuPKS* gene.

Further colour variations arising from *MuPKS* mutations appeared in England from 1936 onwards (Yellow Faced Blue and Golden Faced Blue) and Australia from 2003 (White Cap). The *MuPKS* mutations responsible for these variations segregate in accord with Mendel's first law of inheritance with some interesting dominance relationships between them.

Colour Modifier Mutations

These are mutations in additional genes that affect the primary colours of Green, Blue, Golden Faced Blue, Yellow Faced Blue and White Cap. The colour modifier genes are Dark Factor (1915), Grey Factor (1935), and Violet Factor (1930's). The old-fashioned term "Factor" remains with us today, but modern genetic terminology "allele" would be preferable, referring to alternative forms of a gene. Mendel's work published in 1865 remained dormant in an Austrian monastery until rediscovered in 1900 so budgerigar breeders may not have had much exposure to the laws of inheritance when the first mutations appeared. One or more combinations of Dark, Grey and Violet created range of variations within the Green and Blue Series through modification of the Normal Light Green and Normal Sky Blue. Dark Factor and Grey Factor are dominant because the Single Factor and Double Factor expressions are the same whereas Violet Factor is partially dominant because the Single Factor is different to the Double Factor when expressed in the absence of Dark Factor and Grey Factor.

Dark Factor Modifier in the Green Series

Dark Factor expressed in Green was recognised as a colour intensifier in France in 1915 and these Dark Greens were referred to as "Laurels". But according to British importers the Dark Factor was present in shipments from Australia at the rate of one in 10,000-20,000 wild green birds, so it has always been present.

The gene which when mutated to Dark Factor acts in its Single Factor form to intensify the colour. This gene is located on Chromosome 1 close enough to the *MuPKS* colour gene to disrupt independent inheritance of genetic variation at the Dark Factor and Colour genes. Linkage between two genes in proximity on the same chromosome disrupts the independent assortment stated in Mendel's second law of inheritance.

Olive green appeared in France in 1916, after two Dark Greens were mated together to get a Double Factor Dark Factor. Subsequently, Olives were imported into Australia from England, in 1918. Remarkably this Dark Factor activity took place in Europe during the upheaval of World

War I.

Dark Factor Modifier in the Blue Series

Cobalts arose in 1923 as Single Factor Dark Factor expressed in the Blue Series around the time that the Sky Blue mutation was being established in Australia. Dark Factor needed to be transferred from the Green Series by mating Dark Greens to Sky Blues. Mauves appeared a year after the Cobalts by mating two Cobalts together to produce Double Factor Dark Factor in the Blue Series. The corresponding Double Factor Dark Factor in the Green Series appeared as Olives eight years earlier.

Grey Factor Colour Modifier in Blue Series and Green Series

The first Grey in the Blue Series was recognised in Australia in 1935. Crossing into the Green Series produced Grey Greens. Greys and Grey Greens carry more melanin within the feather microstructure which provides bulk to the feathers. That possibly explains why they dominated the Green and Blue Series classes before Greys and Grey Greens were separated into their own classes. Grey Greens and Greys of superior Type may improve Greens and Blues but be aware that when Grey Factor is not passed on the Greens and Blues without Grey Factor do not benefit from the extra melanin in the feathers of their ancestors. The gene that confers grey is located extremely close on the same chromosome to the gene which when mutated codes for German Fallow. There has not been a crossover, at least in Australia, to produce a grey German Fallow. The chromosome assignment is not known for the gene which when mutated confers grey.

Violet Factor Colour Modifier in Blue Series and Green Series

The Violets appeared in the Blue Series around the same time in several places during the 1930's. The precise time the first violet was recognised is not recorded. Like the Dark Factor the Violet Factor is a colour intensifier. When expressed in Green Series it confers a sheen to the feathers and when Violet Greens were bred in Australia during the 1930's they were referred to as "Satin-Greens". Additivity between Dark Factor and Violet Factor means that Violet Light Greens tend toward Dark Green, Violet Dark Greens tend toward Olive and Violet Olives tend toward richer Olive. Double Factor Violet in combination with Single and Double Dark Factor would confer additional colour continuity.

Distinction between Violet Sky Blues and Cobalts

One way of distinguishing between these two similarly coloured Blue Series budgerigars is to examine their tails. The tail of the Normal Cobalt (Single Factor Dark Factor) is dark blue. The tail of the Normal Single Factor Violet Sky Blue is turquoise near the quill end and darkening toward the tip. This distinction can be made in the show cage when the birds are steady, but easier when handling the birds. A class described in the show schedule as "Normal Sky Violet, Cobalt or Mauve" eliminates the need for the judge or the exhibitor to make the distinction between Violet Sky Blue and Cobalt. Otherwise, it is easy to confuse Violet Sky Blues with Cobalts. Show schedules listing "Dark or Olive Green" avoids the need for the judge or exhibitor to distinguish between Dark Factor and Violet Factor in the Green Series.

Distinction between True Violets and Double Factor Violet Sky Blues

One way of distinguishing between these two similarly coloured Blue Series budgerigars is to examine their tails. The tail of the true Normal Violet (combination of Dark Factor with Violet Factor) is deep royal blue. The tail of the Double Factor Violet Sky Blues that mimic the true Violet is dark blue with residual pale blue or turquoise at the quill end. Distinction cannot be made in the show cage because the residual pale blue or turquoise does not come down the feather far enough to see, without handling the bird. Show schedules asking for Normal Visual Violet recognise this, without requiring assumptions to be made about the underlying genotype. Perhaps the Double Factor Violet Sky Blues contribute to some of the subtle colour variation within groups of visual violets that some eyes are able to detect.

Feather Development in Normals and other Varieties

The 1950's saw considerable feather development in the United Kingdom led by the

prominent breeder Ken Farmer. This began with long flighted birds subsequently selected for increased head feather and neater flights. The extra feather became much sought after by Australian breeders and the first imports into Australia of this style of budgerigar arrived in 1990.

The Australian Standard

The Normal Light Green form of the budgerigar as seen on the front of The Standard has led to all other Colours and Varieties through mutation and selection. The first Australian Standard is dated 1935 so there must have been budgerigar shows back then. The current pictorial in The Standard is dated 1990, but the best birds in Australia today have surpassed that. This begs the question from some of why we judge “beyond the Standard” rather than judging “to The Standard”. The answer is that the current pictorial needs updating without destroying the beauty of the bird by going too far at the top end. The current Standard is electronic enabling the text to be regularly updated whenever the ANBC Colour and Standards Committee makes an improvement. Inclusion of the White Cap has been the latest major addition to The Standard.

Shared Features across the Green and Blue Series

- Eye black with a white iris ring
- Feet and legs bluish/grey
- Cheek patch violet except grey in Greys and Grey Greens
- Tail quill black
- Colour of the tail feather
 - Mid-blue with Turquoise suffusion in both Light Greens and Sky Blues
 - Dark Blue in both Dark Greens and Cobalts
 - Black in both Grey Greens and Greys

Normal Green and Normal Blue Variety Grouping for assigning points for Colour and Markings

Excepting Cresteds, 40% of the marks awarded are for Colour and Markings. Originally The Standard prescribed 25% for Colour and 15% for Markings, across the board. Now there are three Variety specific Groupings. Normal Green Series and Normal Blue Series belong to Group 3 where equal weight is given to Colour and Markings or absence of Markings. The 40 points is divided into 20 for Colour and 20 for Markings.

Breeding Strategies for Normal Greens and Normal Blues

Normal crossed to Normal is preferable for establishing and maintaining a pure stud of Normals. Popular belief is that crossing to Opalines puts spots onto Normals and crossing to Cinnamonwings confers softer feather in Normals. That has led to many Normal cocks available for purchase being split Opaline, Split Cinnamonwing or split for both Opaline and Cinnamonwing. Although Normal is dominant to both Opaline and Cinnamonwing it is conceivable that Opaline and Cinnamonwing features could be slightly penetrant in cocks split for these sex-linked recessive mutations. However, it is nonsense to think that by breeding **through** Opaline or Cinnamonwing that Normal hens (that cannot be split for sex-linked mutations) and that any cocks that are not split for these sex-linked mutations could express any features conferred by Opaline or Cinnamonwing by virtue of having these mutations in their recent ancestry.

“Dipping into the Greens” to improve Blues

This is a myth regurgitated from early writings when it had some validity. When blues originally appeared it's true that greens were needed to improve them because there were many more greens available to choose from so that the chances of finding an outcross of superior type was far greater by looking among greens. Today, a superior blue as an outcross to improve other blues would be just as effective as a superior green of equivalent quality. However, a top-quality green as an outcross might be far easier to obtain and far less costly than a blue of equivalent quality. So, the choice of an outcross comes down to economics rather than


colour. Using super Greens rather than super Blues as outcrosses to improve Blues just requires an additional generation.

Faults in Normal Greens and Normal Blues

1. Intrusion of body colour or “bloom” on the cheeks, back of head, neck, and wings. Bloom is green in the Green Series and blue in the Blue Series.
2. Flecking. Regarded as very serious when seen in Normals. Not to be regarded as OK if just below the threshold for disqualification. Still to be heavily penalised. The heavier the flecking the heavier the penalty.
3. Ground colour spot on the back of the head is a fault that is penalised. It can indicate the bird is split recessive pied.

Concluding Comment

Much of the above discussion is specific to Normal Greens and Normal Blues but some of it applies to other varieties as well. Opalines and Cinnamonwings tend to dominate budgerigar auctions, but it is the Normal Greens and Normal Blues that are the foundation of successful studs. They provide the outcrosses for Yellow Faced Blue, Golden Faced Blue, Dilute, Clearwing, Greywing, Spangle, Dominant Pied, Recessive Pied and White Cap, all of which are arguably more attractive on the Normal background.

 <h1 style="text-align: center; color: green;">MONTHLY EVENTS For 2023</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">North East Budgerigar Society of South Australia Inc.</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Details Listed Are Subject To Change</p>			
* * * * *	JANUARY	* * * * *	FEBRUARY
Y	Wed 11 th Club Meeting	Y	Wed 8 th Club Meeting
Y	Entertainment	Y	Entertainment
Y	Golden Faced Blue and Derivatives	Y	Rosella Breeding Program
Y	Bird of Month	Y	Please Note : Next month will be the last Magazine for un-financial members
Y	Young Normal Golden Faced Blue	Y	Bird of Month
Y	* * * * *	Y	Young Normal Yellow Faced Blue
Y	APRIL	Y	MAY
Y	Wed 12 th Club Meeting	Y	Wed 10 th Club Meeting
Y	Entertainment	Y	Entertainment
Y	Pairs Night	Y	Mini Show - Dominant Varieties
Y	NEBS 49 th Anniversary	Y	No Bird Of Month
Y	Bird of Month	Y	Sunday May 7th BSSA Stan Watson Breeder Show
Y	Young Black Eyed Self	Y	Sunday May 7th Port Pirie Young Stock Show
Y	Sunday April 2nd BSSA Ron Norman Annual Show	Y	Sat May 13th NEBS Lloyd Edwards Breeder Show
Y	* * * * *	Y	Sunday May 28th BCSA Logan Shield State Show
Y	JUNE	Y	SALE OF BIRDS BY TENDER
Y	Wed 7 th Club Meeting	Y	No Bird Of Month
Y	Entertainment	Y	Sat-Sun 3-4th ANBC National Show Ballarat
Y	* * * * *	Y	Saturday June 17th NEBS Fisher Annual Show
Y	* * * * *	Y	Sunday June 25th Port Pirie Annual Show
Y	* * * * *	Y	* * * * *

Nest Feather Show Interclub Challenge

Best UBC In Show	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Spangle AOSV / ASC	BSSA
Best Open UBC	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Spangle AOSV / ASC	BSSA
Reserve Open UBC	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Dominant Pied ASV / ASC	BSSA
Best Intermediate UBC	Paul Soul	Opaline ASC	BSSA
Reserve Intermediate UBC	Paul Soul	Normal Green	BSSA
Best Novice UBC	Jane Kelb	Cinnamonwing ASC	BSSA
Reserve Novice UBC	Alyce & Antony Sutton	Dominant Pied ASV / ASC	BSSA
Best Open Young Bird	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Green Series ASV - ASC Hen	BSSA
Best Open Opp Sex Y Bird	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Blue Series ASV - ASC Cock	BSSA
Best Novice Young Bird	Jane Kelb	Green Series ASV - ASC Cock	BSSA
Best Novice Opp Sex Y Bird	Jane Kelb	Blue Series ASV - ASC Cock	BSSA
Best Junior Bird	Darcie Osobase Kelb		BSSA

Unbroken Caps

Best of Variety Award	J&W Weidenhofer	Normal Green	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	G. England & Sons	Normal Grey Green	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Dennis Lomman	Normal Blue	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Dennis Lomman	Normal Visual Violet	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Graeme Alchin	Normal Grey	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Graeme Alchin	Normal YF Blue ASC	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Vicki Sanford	Normal GF Blue ASC	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Jane Kelb	Black Eyed Self	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	J&W Weidenhofer	Dilute ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Lutino	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Albino	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Vicki Sanford	Clearwing ASC	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Greywing ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Cinnamonwing ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	J&W Weidenhofer	Spangle Double Factor	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Graeme Alchin	Opaline ASC	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Opaline AOSV / ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Dennis Lomman	Clearbody ASV / ASC	NEBS
Best of Variety Award	Chris Murphy	Lacewing ASV / ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Fallow ASV / ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Spangle(Normal Wing) ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Spangle AOSV / ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Dominant Pied ASV / ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Recessive Pied ASV / ASC	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	J&W Weidenhofer	Australian White Cap	BSSA
Best of Variety Award	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Crested ASV / ASC	BSSA

Young Birds

Green Series ASV - ASC Cock	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Open	BSSA
Green Series ASV - ASC Cock	Jane Kelb	Novice	BSSA
Green Series ASV - ASC Hen	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Open	BSSA
Green Series ASV - ASC Hen	Ian & Gina Wise	Novice	BSSA
Blue Series ASV - ASC Cock	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Open	BSSA
Blue Series ASV - ASC Cock	Jane Kelb	Novice	BSSA
Blue Series ASV -ASC Hen	Troy Holmes (Holmes Family)	Open	BSSA
Blue Series ASV -ASC Hen	Ian & Gina Wise	Novice	BSSA
Red Eye Varieties Cock	Chris Murphy	Open	BSSA
Red Eye Varieties Hen	Chris Murphy	Open	BSSA
Junior Darcie Osobase Kelb		Junior	BSSA



Handing Over the Trophy



Winners are Grinners
Best UBC Clearwing
Best UBC Golden Faced Blue



Winner Best UBC in Show



UBC Show 2022 Trophies



Viewing of Winning Birds



Judging in Progress



Judges Briefing

Minutes of the Northeast Budgerigar Society

General Meeting

HELD: Kilburn Hall, 49 Le Hunte St. Kilburn on Wednesday September 14, 2022 at 7.30pm

WELCOME: President Graeme Alchin opened the meeting. Door prize tickets were given to the attendees.

ENTERTAINMENT: John Mulley on the Normal Green Series was the plan. Origin and history, basis for their colour, colour modifiers, descriptions as per the Standard, breeding strategies and breeding myths. Attendees were members of the Committee so the September Committee meeting was held instead.

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS WHILE BIRDS THE BIRDS WERE BEING JUDGED:

Annual \$100 sponsorship for the budgerigar at the Adelaide Zoo is due for renewal. All present were in favour of continuing this support.

RING OFFICER REPORT: 380 2022 rings remain. The hardness of the rings cannot be addressed until the 2024 ring year. Some disappointment was expressed regarding the dark brown colour rather than the orange expected. In fact, the dark WBO colours are disappointing from the perspective of identifying the age of birds flying in the aviary compared with the colour series used by the ANBC prior to adoption of the WBO colours. Rings ordered for 2023: 2,875 plus 1,350 NE coded rings.

TREASURER REPORT: \$19,400.42 funds available.

TRADING TABLE: Present.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM ANYONE: Fertility initially average or above average but dead in shell prevalent in later nests.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS: Graeme Alchin seed, Michael Smithe chocolates.

NIGHT SHOW RESULTS:

Best Young Normal Green: Michael Smith

Best Intermediate UBC: Vicki Sanford

NEXT MEETING: The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday October 12.

Entertainment will be on Avian Gastric Yeast by Dennis Lomman. No bird of the night but the usual night show schedule with Unbroken caps.

REMINDERS: Don't forget to collect the magazines.

MEETING CLOSED: ~9.00pm.

Graeme Alchin, Chairperson

NIGHT SHOW AGGREGATE POINTS ACCUMULATED TO SEPTEMBER 2022

	Points	Shows entered
Open		
Dennis Lomman	6	1
John Farrugia-Gay	12	1
John Mulley	12	1
Intermediate		
Vicki Sanford	15	1
Michael Smith	13	1
Novice		
Krystal Scanlon	10	1

Highest aggregate points in each status each year will win \$30. Eligibility: minimum of three night shows entered.

Minutes of the North East Budgerigar Society General Meeting

HELD: Kilburn Hall, 49 Le Hunte St. Kilburn on Wednesday October 12, 2022 at 7.30pm

WELCOME: President Graeme Alchin opened the meeting. Door prize tickets were given to the attendees.

ENTERTAINMENT: Dennis Lomman on Avian Gastric Yeast (AGY) otherwise known as Megabacteria.

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS WHILE BIRDS BEING JUDGED:

Show schedules for the Nest Feather Show are available on the table. Please show your support for this show by entering your Unbroken Caps or Young birds bred earlier this year. Don't forget to specify that you are showing for NEBS. There isn't a space on the entry form.

The club has a supply of second hand show cages in good condition for \$25. Contact Dennis.

Sadly, Jim Butterworth has passed away and the club sent it's condolences.

Does anyone have a pair of blue budgerigars for sale at a reasonable price?

RING OFFICER REPORT: 130 rings are left.

TREASURER REPORT: \$19,760.29.

TRADING TABLE: Fresh supply of Liquid Gold in stock.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM ANYONE: Sue mentioned that password details for the original Facebook pages for BCSA and NEBS have been received from Ben Hale.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS: Sue Adams, John Mulley.

NIGHT SHOW RESULTS: Best Intermediate: Michael Smith; Best Open: Dennis Lomman.

JUDGES COMMENTS: Thanks to Ian Marshall for judging. The unbroken caps being unfamiliar with the show cages were a challenge as they changed minute by minute.

NEXT MEETING: The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday November 9.

Entertainment will be on Blue Series. Bird of the Night will be Blue Series.

REMINDERS: Don't forget to collect the show schedules with entry form on the back. Deadline for entry is October 20. Don't forget to specify you are showing for NEBS. Entry is by email only and no late entries are possible.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.05pm.

Graeme Alchin, Chairperson

NIGHT SHOW AGGREGATE POINTS ACCUMULATED TO OCTOBER 2022

	Points	Shows entered
Open		
Dennis Lomman	15	2
John Farrugia-Gay	12	1
John Mulley	18	2
Intermediate		
Vicki Sanford	30	2
Michael Smith	24	2
Novice		
Krystal Scanlon	10	1

Highest aggregate points in each status each year will win \$30. Eligibility: minimum of three night shows entered.

Minutes of the North East Budgerigar Society General Meeting

HELD: Kilburn Hall, 49 Le Hunte St. Kilburn on Wednesday November 9, 2022 at 7.30pm

WELCOME: Vice President Dennis Lomman opened the meeting. Door prize tickets were given to the attendees.

ENTERTAINMENT: John Mulley on Normal Greens and Blues – their evolution, recent history, colour variations, features as described in the Standard and breeding strategies.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Congratulations to the BSSA, winners of the interclub Unbroken Cap Show. NEBS only had

three exhibitors this year, all from the Committee, which was most disappointing. The best NEBS bird was benched by Graeme Alchin.

Windsor Hotel has been booked for the Christmas dinner from 7.00pm on December 14. Contact John or Vicki, prior to one week before, when the venue requires final numbers.

BCSA will be looking for expressions of interest for Bird Carer at Ballarat in 2023. Michael Smith expressed interest.

RING OFFICER REPORT: The rings for 2023 arrived in early November and will be available for distribution from December 15.

TREASURER REPORT: Funds in bank \$19,449.49.

TRADING TABLE: On site as always. The club has a supply of second hand show cages in good condition for \$25. Contact Dennis.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM ANYONE: Michael Smith communicated some suggestions from Port Pirie Club about joint meetings. To be referred on to the Committee.

DOOR PRIZE WINNER: Vicky Sanford

NIGHT SHOW RESULTS: Best Open: Dennis Lomman; Bird of the night: Normal Blue benched by Denis Lomman.

JUDGES COMMENTS: John judged the birds. The first three places increased in size toward the winner, all with smooth backlines. The winner stood out in both size, balance and head qualities with nice width of feather across the cere.

NEXT MEETING: The next General Meeting will be held on January 11, 2023. Entertainment will be provided by Vicki Sanford on Golden Faced Blue and derivatives. Bird of the Night will be Normal Golden Faced Blue.

REMINDERS: Nil.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.00pm.

Dennis Lomman, Chairperson

NIGHT SHOW AGGREGATE POINTS ACCUMULATED TO DECEMBER 2022

	Points	Shows entered
Open		
Dennis Lomman	27	3
John Farrugia-Gay	12	1
John Mulley	18	2
Intermediate		
Vicki Sanford	30	2
Michael Smith	24	2
Novice		
Krystal Scanlon	10	1

Highest aggregate points in each status each year will win \$30. Eligibility: minimum of three night shows entered. This years winner was Dennis Lomman.

THE NORTH EAST BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY HONOURS AND AWARDSIN THE BC SA ERA

NATIONAL CLASS WINNERS WHO REPRESENTED NEBS IN THE LOGAN SHIELD

1996	Helen Brooks	Fallow	Cairns
1997	Rob McKie	Opaline	Melbourne
2000	John Mulley	Opaline AOSV	Adelaide
2001	M & R Rafferty	Opaline AOSV	Freemantle
2002	S & C Norris	Dominant Pied	Hobart
2003	John Mulley	Blackeyed Self	Cairns
2007	Marshall Family	Albino	Adelaide
2009	Peter Glassenbury	Blackeyed Self	Burnie
2014	Dennis Lomman	Normal Violet	Adelaide
2014	Marshall Family	Recessive Pied	Adelaide
2014	D & R Lange	Crested	Adelaide
2018	Troy Holmes	Normal Grey Green	Penrith

NATIONAL JUDGING APPOINTMENTS WHILE A NEBS MEMBER

1994, Malcolm Loveridge, Perth.

1999, Shiralee Reardon, Gold Coast; 2000, Peter Glassenbury and Nigel Tonkin,

Adelaide; 2002, Malcolm Loveridge, Hobart, 2003, Peter Glassenbury, Cairns.

2007, Nigel Tonkin and Peter Glassenbury, Adelaide; 2008, Peter Glassenbury,

Busselton; 2010, Malcolm Loveridge, Rockhampton, 2012, Peter Glassenbury, Geelong.

2014, Nigel Tonkin, Adelaide, 2019, Peter Glassenbury, Brisbane, 2022 John Mulley, Victor Harbour

NATIONAL SHOW MANAGER WHILE A NEBS MEMBER

2000 & 2007, Bruce Stafford, Adelaide; 2010, Nigel Tonkin,

Rockhampton; 2014, Doug Lange, Adelaide

NEBS LIFE MEMBERS

Gordon Lowe (dec); Bob Hancock (dec); Betty Fisher (dec); John Fisher (dec); Arthur Harvey (dec); Coral Harvey(dec); Julie Kakoschke; Kelwyn Kakoschke; Brian Marshall; Bette Marshall; Bruce Stafford; MarionStafford; Lloyd Edwards; John Mulley; Graham Bell; Helen Edwards; Lea Todd; Dennis Lomman

Please notify the Club Secretary if you know of any errors or omissions in the above