



## White Tipplers

When I started studying about pigeon colors I started from the base colors and it was pretty easy to understand and then I learnt about Patterns, and some of the color modifying genes such as: Indigo, Almond, Opal, Dilute and Grizzle etc. But some of the pigeons I was seeing in my loft and in other friends lofts they were not falling in any of those color categories. I tried to search on the internet and some pigeon genetic books but there was not much other then the basic stuff which I already knew about. My curiosity was about the almost or full white pigeons that were not the Recessive Whites and wanted to know what makes them white. The only theory you find on the internet or in the books is that if you have an Ash Red with double dose of the Grizzle you can get full white pigeon with pearl eyes. I was keeping the tipplers and I did not have any Ash Red Tipplers. So, I started my own project to combine some color modifying gene with Grizzle to produce almost white tipplers.

1. Combination of Indigo and Opal with Grizzle (one dose of each) on a blue base, this would give an almost white bird with a very little greyish color around the head and neck.
2. Combination of a double dose of indigo and double dose of Grizzle, this would give you a full white bird. Even with one dose of grizzle you would have almost white bird with a few reddish feathers around head and neck area.
3. If you have Tiger Grizzle you could also get full white birds with combination of double dose of indigo, and you need only one dose of Tiger Grizzle. With the double dose of Tiger Grizzle you don't even need indigo at all as the tiger grizzle has double the effect than the normal grizzle. The white hen in the picture bellow has a double dose of indigo, one dose of spread and one dose of Tiger Grizzle on a blue base bird.



Please note that all these whites were produce with Bar pattern, the pattern gene also make a difference in the appearance of the bird. With the Checker or T Check pattern the bird would show more color on the shield area, under body and as well as head and neck area.

One more important thig to remember that white is not a color, white means no color. Same with bull eyes means no color in the eyes. Genetically there are only two colors for the eyes Yellow (Orange) and Pearl.

I also produce some very attractive looking full whites with Bull eyes, I did this experiment back in 2012 and 2013, at that time I already knew that a Print bird is a homozygous grizzle on a Blue base with Bar pattern and Bell Neck (or a saddle back) is a homozygous Badge or some people called it Pied. So I imagined the combination of both Print and a Bell neck, my imagination was that the Bell Neck has a blue patch on its back and if I putt double dose of Grizzle into this it would make that area also white and it would be a all white bird and the badge gene would also turn the eye color black, and I found a hen and a cock bird within my stock. Luckily, I had a cock bird (10-2248) who was a opal Print with white flights (homozygous Grizzle and heterozygous Badge) so I paired him with a Bell Neck hen, then I saved one of their daughter with both grizzle and badge genes (grizzle white flighted) and put her back to the father and they produced me a beautiful pure white hen with bull eyes (combination of homozygous Grizzle and homozygous Badge). It was a very satisfying experiment at the end..... on a separate note, in this process an Opal Grizzle cock bird was produced which I did not need for this experiment and I flew him who happened to be in the North American Record kit (12-2304)