



30. Blue Bar Badge



31. Blue Bar Badge



32. Blue T-Check Badge (Homozygous)



33. Blue Indigo Badge (Homozygous)

Piebald – (I use the name Badge for this mutation) because I have dealt mostly with flying Tippler breeders, the name Badge is very common for the birds with white flights and sometimes white tail or/and partly or full white head. There is not much written or discussed about this mutant gene (at least I haven't read much about it), I will try to explain what I have learnt about it with my own experience. This is a co-dominant gene. As heterozygous it usually eliminates color from primary flying feathers and sometimes around the head and under belly around the legs as well. When I say eliminates the color that means white feathers, or you can say white means no color. As I have discussed grizzle before which also eliminates the color from the feathers, but the Badge gene also eliminate the color from beak, nails and eyes if it has the effect in those areas. They also have lighter color skin then the normal-colored birds. I have noticed that there is another color modifying gene called Dirty would reduce the effect of this gene, the Dirty Badges usually have lesser white flight feathers.

The bull (black) eye birds are also having the association with this gene. Once Darren Kelly from UK had asked me this Question which I think I should add to this subject, his question was:

Hi Sikander...I hear you are the man to ask about genetics and colours mate..if i want to keep a dark eye in a bird...is it possible.

Hi Darren,

If the bird has dark eyes or some people call it bull eyes it means there is no color in the eye, just like white feathers means there is no color. There are two genes (That I know of) that make the eyes dark (black) one is recessive white and the second is Badge (some people call it Pied). The badge gene has some variation in its effect, it makes the flight feathers, tale and head white, because it has it's effect on and around the head to make it white (no color) so it also effects the eyes or sometimes only one eye and the actual color of the eye won't show and it would look black. Genetically there are only two colors for the eyes yellow and pearl. As long as have the badge gene in your birds you have the chances to get dark eye birds.

I hope it helps you to understand. Thanks

As homozygous Badge the birds will have more effected area with white, see Pic. 32 and 33. The white tail seems to be a separate gene which may be associated with the Badge gene.

I had a Black Badge with white tail cock bird (19-1964) which I mated to an Indigo T-Check badge hen (14-1455) without white tail, they produced me self black (20-2097) cock, self Andalusian hen, Indigo white flighted hen and a black cock with white flights and white tail. The mother of 1455 hen had the white tail, now I wanted to see if she is carrying the gene for white tail (because I was convinced that the gene for the white tail is a separate gene from the white flighted gene and it is a recessive gene, not a dominant). So, I paired her with her own self black son (no white tail and no white flights) (2097), they produced me three youngsters, 1st self indigo bar, 2nd Indigo bar white flighted and 3rd one a black white flighted with white tail. Before this experiment I had two things to clarify for white tail, 1 what if it is the same gene that produces the white flights and as homozygous it produces white tail also, 2 if it is a separate gene, is it dominant or recessive?

So, the results from pairing 1997 cock bird which is a self black but he is carrying the white tail gene to 1455 hen with white flights only, but carrying white tail gene (from her mother who had a white tail) proved that the white tail gene is a recessive gene because they produced a youngster with white tail, while neither of them had white tail, and the cock bird didn't have the white flights gene in order for the youngster to be homozygous for white flights.

One thing still remains to determine that whether there is an association between both the genes or not, because it is very rare to see a colored bird with only white tail and no white flights. There are chances that the white tail only appears with the combination of white flights. In other words, a bird with white flights and white tail = homozygous white tail plus at least heterozygous Badge.

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