



Dubbo Poultry Club

Newsletter

August 2009



2009 has been a bumper of a show season for both Dubbo Poultry Club and it's members.

Dubbo Ag Show

Despite clashes with several other shows on the same weekend (including the All Game Club show at Orange) the Ag show still attracted a respectable 290 entries.

As usual, a small presence was maintained on the Sunday with the public able to see a range of breeds, albeit far fewer than the previous day. Club members took the time to engage people, explaining the origins and utility purposes of various breeds and to allow children to pat and feed the birds. Many people came back through the pavilion later in the day at the insistence of the children who regarded it as their highlight of the show.

Rhode Island Success

Only a matter of two weeks after the Ag Show Dubbo PC hosted the much anticipated 50th Anniversary Show of the Rhode Island Club of Australia. This was a huge success for both the Rhode Island Club and Dubbo Poultry Club. Over 550 entries were received, including 46 pairs. This was by far the largest exhibition of this breed ever in Australia with people, and fowls, attending the show from South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, NSW and Queensland.

All that came were impressed with the facilities offered by Dubbo and agreed that the venue was ideal for staging of these breed shows. Dubbo itself supported the show with Dubbo City Council donating funds for a Grand Champion Bird of Show trophy (presented on the day by Deputy Mayor Rod Towney) and the Fountain View Motel donating accommodation for the judges.

Having the Rhode Island Club run all aspects of the show itself as ideal as it ensured that members of the Poultry Club could concentrate on ensuring that the pavilion was in a fit condition for such a show and organizing the catering.

The catering "experiment" of providing a range of pre-cooked hot meals was a huge success with positive feedback from exhibitors as well as being

significantly easier for those manning the canteen. The Stewart family were again the mainstay of the canteen and their efforts are greatly appreciated. The canteen, and raffle run on the day, returned a significant profit to the club.

Annual General Meeting

It's that time of year again when club members get to exercise their democratic right to elect the office bearers that will take the club into the future. Yes, it's AGM time again. The 2009 Dubbo Poultry Club AGM will be held on Monday 7 September at the Mission Australia office on the corner of Brisbane Street and Hollis Avenue (immediately opposite the RSL club) at the usual starting time of 7:00PM.

Just as important as the inevitable election, however, this is one of the sociable highlights on the clubs calendar so please bring along a plate and a few drinks.

Remember, that to vote at the AGM you must be a current financial member of the club. Subscriptions are now due.

Yard Visit

With the approaching warmer weather it has been decided to resurrect the sociable visits to members yards. While largely an excuse for an informal get-together and BBQ it also offers an opportunity to do some sticky-beaking and see how others do things. With this in mind, keep Sunday 13 September free for a visit to Kaye Primmer's place, "Innaminna", 54R Rosedale Road (first turn left after the airport) kicking off at 11.00AM. Please bring all your BBQ goodies. All enquiries to Kaye on 6887 2154.

An Easier Way?

With more things happening (working bees, yard visits etc) it has been suggested that it may be easier to keep club members informed by e-mail. This is also a much more efficient, and cheaper, way of distributing the newsletter to members.

If you would like to receive this newsletter, as well as the occasional update of what's happening, simply send the club secretary an e-mail at dubbopoultry@hotmail.com.

2009 Club Show

2009 saw yet another extremely successful annual show for the Dubbo Poultry Club. The judges, Ted Brown (Horsham, Vic), Peter Hicks (Nhill, Vic), Len Wills (Echuca, Vic) and Rod Laverty (Deniliquin, NSW), were presented with a capacity showing of 814 birds. All judges were glowing in their praise of the winners in their respective sections and made particular comment on the overall depth of quality of the birds in the shed.

Dubbo exhibitors did well taking out the top awards in Softfeather Standard (Malcolm Fowler, Australorp), Softfeather Bantam (Sandra Ferguson, Black Pekin), OEG Bantam (Dan McDonough, Brown Red) and Hardfeather other than OEG (Ryan Harris, Duckwing Modern Game). Dan and Ryan scooped the pool also taking out the Reserve Champion awards in the same sections.

Major Awards

Champion SF Standard: M. Fowler's Australorp pullet
Res Champion SF Standard: M. Christian's White Leghorn pullet
Champion HF Standard other than OEG: AR Lane & Sons Australian Game Black Red cock
Res Champion HF Standard other than OEG: R. Fahey's Indian Game Jubilee pullet
Champion OEG Standard: M. O'Connell's Black Red D/Leg cock
Res Champion OEG Standard: M. O'Connell's Pile pullet
Champion SF Bantam: S. Ferguson's Black Pekin cockerel
Res Champion SF Bantam: Wendy Morton's Belgian d'Anvers Black cockerel
Champion HF Bantam other than OEG: R. Harris' Modern Game Duckwing cockerel
Res Champion HF Bantam other than OEG: R. Harris' Modern Game Duckwing cockerel
Champion OEG Bantam: D. McDonough's Brown Red Hen
Res Champion OEG Bantam: D. McDonough's Ginger Hen
Champion Waterfowl: J. Scott's White Muscovy Duck
Res Champion Waterfowl: S. Ferguson's Bronze & White Muscovy Drake
Champion Junior: P. Hockley's Apricot Call Drake
Res Champion Junior: J. Fraser's Australian Game Bantam Black Red Hen
Champion Rare Breed: B&H Jackson's Silver Sebright pullet

Breed Champions

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| Best Rhode Island: B&H Jackson's Std Red hen | Best Hamburg: R. Stanley's Std Silver Spangled hen |
| Best Orpington: R&A Lavander's Std Black hen | Best Polish: D. O'Malley's Btm White-crested Black pullet |
| Best Australorp: M. Fowler's Std Black pullet | Best Spanish: M. Xuereb's Std Black hen |
| Best Sussex: S&L Henry's Std Light hen | Best White Silkie: E&W Coffee's Std hen |
| Best Barnevelder: D. Geering's Std D/laced cock | Best Silkie o/t White: E&W Coffee's Std Black hen |
| Best Brahma: J. Aggar's Btm Dark hen | Best Sebright: B&H Jackson's Silver pullet |
| Best Croad Langshan: R&A Lavander's Std Black cockerel | Best Belgian: W. Morton's Black d'Anvers cockerel |
| Best Australian Langshan: J. Waite & H. Ferguson's Btm Black pullet | Best Indian Game: R. Fahey's Std Jubilee pullet |
| Best Wyandotte; Hulbert & Weaver's Std Silver Laced cock | Best Australian Game: AR Lane & Sons Std Black Red cock |
| Best Frizzle: K. O'Malley's Btm Black hen | Best Pit Game: AR Lane & Sons Std Plain face cock |
| Best Pekin: S. Ferguson's Black cockerel | Best Modern Game: R. Harris' Btm Duckwing cockerel |
| Best Minorca: R. Stanley's Std Black hen | Best Indian Runner: M. Frith's White duck |
| Best Leghorn: M. Christian's Std White pullet | Best Muscovy: J. Scott's White duck |
| Best Ancona: G. Wright's Btm pullet | |
| Best Andalusian: R. Stanley's Std pullet | |
| Best Campine: J. Aggar's Std Gold hen | |



Sandra Ferguson's Black Pekin cockerel



Dan McDonogh's Brown Red OEG
Bantam hen



David Geering's Rhode Island Red
Bantam cockerel



Malcolm Fowler's Australorp
standard pullet



Ernie & Wendy Coffee's Buff
Orpington Bantam pullet



Ryan Harris' Duckwing
Modern Game Bantam

Incubation Troubleshooter

The incubation process is relatively simple, though it may not seem so at first, once you learn the procedures and techniques involved. A successful hatch depends on many factors. Good-quality, fresh, fertile eggs and vigorous embryos maintained in a nurturing environment are all elements. It can be extremely frustrating when the setting of what appears to be perfectly good eggs does not result in a brooder full of healthy chickens.

Knowing what may cause poor hatches can help remedy the situation. The table below provides basic information on some of the more common problems and how these can be overcome. There are any number of sources of similar, and much more extensive information. Two such sources are the Mississippi State University Poultry website <http://msucares.com/poultry/reproductions/trouble.html> and the Penn State University Poultry Extension website <http://poultryextension.psu.edu/Incubation.html>.

| Symptoms | Probable Cause | Corrective measures |
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| Clear Eggs (no embryonic development) | Males old or undernourished | Replace with younger males, Replace underweight males with rigorous ones. Provide adequate nutrition |
| | Seasonal infertility | Cockerels more resistant to environmental stress |
| | Selective mating by males | Replace males or artificially inseminate infertile hens |
| | Damaged eggs | Collect eggs frequently |
| | Eggs stored too long or incorrectly | Incubate with 7 days of lay. Store at 50-60 degrees |
| Blood rings | Improper storage | |
| | Improper incubation temperature | Check thermometer accuracy and incubator functions |
| | Improper breeder nutrition | Feed with balanced nutrient levels |
| Many dead embryos at early stages | Improper incubation temperature (usually too high) | Follow recommended incubation temperatures |
| | Improper egg turning | Turn at least three times daily |
| | Improper ventilation | Increase ventilation rate in incubator |
| | Improper nutrition of breeders | Provide a well balanced nutritional diet |
| Chicks fully formed but dead without pipping | Low average humidity | Maintain recommended humidity |
| | Improper incubation temperature | Check thermometer accuracy and incubator functions. Follow recommended temperature settings |
| | Improper ventilation | Adjust ventilation to provide optimum moisture loss from egg during incubation |
| | Improper turning of eggs | Turn eggs at least three times a day until 3 days before hatching |
| | Poorly conditioned breeder flock | Use a well balanced nutritional diet. Conduct good disease control program. |
| Pipped eggs, died without hatching | Insufficient moisture | Increase humidity during hatching period |
| | Improper ventilation | Increase ventilation rate in incubator |
| | Improper setting of eggs | Set eggs with small end down. Turn properly but avoid turning within 3 days of hatching |