

# JAZZY

# TOLLBUNTE

*Are you kidding?*

*as if there are not enough colours!*

# WYANDOTTE!?



**Jazzy** or the German name for it **Tollbunt** is a cheerful colour variety. Although everybody saw it immediately (they said afterwards), I had tollbunte Polands in my pen for a year before I understood they were gold laced mottleds!

Apparently I'm next to deaf also blind!?

Even the Germans, who made this colour variety, never mentioned it that way. Tollbunt is a weird colour on the Polands, the combined pattern is hardly to distinguish. The lacing is far from perfect and mottled pretty hysterical. Individual differences are normal, ones with pretty proportional colour distribution of the red, black and white, but lots show a lot of white in the crest, on the flights and main tail. Not an easy colour variety when it comes to a balanced colour distribution.

The difference between tollbunt and mille fleur is they are two different combined feather patterns. Mille fleur, the civilized form as on booted bantams (Sablepoot), is gold spangled mottled. Tollbunt is gold laced mottled. The mille fleur as on Sussex, Wyandotte but also Pekin bantams is a mix of the action of mottled and not the pure breeding presence of the spangling genes (Pg, Db, MI). Mahogany in the ground colour of gold coloured birds has also a columbian like action. Mahogany pushes away the black but this is a minor action and depending on the amount of black present.

The difference between laced and spangled is the columbian action of Co and Db. We know Db also from pencilled (Hamburg). In pencilling (Hamburg) MI is missing, a black enhancer.

The colour variety on the Polands isn't ment to give this specific tollbunte colour pattern, not in origin. Goal was to make a mille fleur and this is what it became...

The colour is coming as it comes. Only the colour image seen through the eyelashes, should be balanced in distribution and

the habits of the used genes should be tolerated. If not, the answer is selection.

Mottled can cause the chickens to become white all over after some years because the non coloured parts of the feather tips become larger each moult. Then you've



\*) There is one exception concerning the patterned tails in roosters and that's the buff laced Orpington. This chicken isn't birchen (ER) or Asiatic partridge (eb) based but wheaten (eWh). Wheaten allows the most red extension of all basic e-alleles. There is only a little bit of black in a wheaten based chicken in origin, compared to the other bases: extended black (E), birchen (ER), duckwing (e+), Asiatic partridge (eb). Therefore the buff laced Orps don't need Db as extra columbian acting gene and the roosters still have a patterned tail. But wheaten (colour) cocks do have a lot of black?! They are similar wildtype black as the duckwing and partridge roosters. Correct, wheaten has no additional genes like Db, a wheaten is only gold or silver. When you put in a standard wheaten chicken Db you'll get a black tailed buff (gold) or white (silver) bird.

a white chicken which shows some colour when moving around showing some of the coloured parts under the tips of the contour feathers. The gene for mottling (mo) needs every moult more time to switch itself off, this continues the total life span of the chicken. Mottled is a colour-stop. It's switched 'on' when the feather starts to grow and switches off after a few days or weeks. When mottled is switched off, the black pigment starts up first. Black pigment enters the ceratine of the feather more easy than red. That's how the black band develops (if there is enough black in the chicken) above the white pearl. This colour band is dull black because other genes, also those which e.g. enhance the black, are not yet in function. After a week or so the black enhancers start up and the dull black gets a shine. After black, the ground colour starts, which can be black, white/silver or gold/red.

### Tollbunt is not a kind of mille fleur

In Tollbunt there's something else happening. You won't see a black band after the white tip on every feather. This is not a rule, there isn't selected for the expression of a black band after the white tip, but a lot of feathers on a tollbunt chicken are missing this dull black band. Why? Tollbunt is as told before gold laced mottled. Gold laced is formed by columbian (Co) among other things. Columbian pushes the black away to the feather edge. The black in the feather is from Pg (pattern gene which makes the black pigment form clutches, without Pg the black is seen als peppering), MI (melanotic, a black enhancer) this all from the present black from the basis of the chicken. The basis (broth on which the colour soup is cooked) can be birchen (ER) or Asiatic partridge (eb), anyway in this kind of feather patterns. A birchen chicken has got a lot of black from the chicken colour factory. Therefore a birchen based chicken need an extra columbian acting gene to form a pattern of black pigment; Db, also called dark brown columbian. Db is the abbreviation of dark brown, test birds carrying this gene had brown chick down. Db causes also the black tailed birds. Its more effective in pushing the black away from the chicken than the well known columbian (Co), which leaves some black behind in hackle and saddle next to black on the outer ends as wings and tail. In single laced chickens based on birchen (ER), the roosters have mostly also patterned tails instead of black tails as in the laced roosters on an Asiatic partridge (eb) basis.\*

Back to tollbunt, because the black is 'adjusted' on forming a single lace, after the colour stop of mottling, the black will be directed to the edges of the feather, or at least almost immediately. The black which enters the feather after mottling is switched to 'off', is pushed to the edges of the feathers by columbian (Co).

When you take a very close look, you'll see that the first part of the single lace after the mottle is dull black. Sometimes the lace is a bit aqueous because Pg, MI and Co don't hit the feather on the same time. And that's something you can select for.

The difference between cuckoo and barred is pure a matter of time because it's one and the same gene responsible for two different standard variety colour patterns. That's why 'time' which is feather growth, is playing a role in a pattern, next to the chemical processes of proteins (where the gene is coded for). Suppose you're going to breed this tollbunte colour for 30 years with severe selection into almost perfection, you will get a regular pattern on the chicken as on these tollbunte Wyandottes. No, its not a new colour variety, is painted

on a photo in photoshop, I like to play around with ideas. The computer saves a lot of time. In two hours making a 'photo' of something that takes at least three decades of breeding.

On the computer its possible to paint feather patterns into perfection. That's how you can give existing chickens a digital make-over, so they become excellent birds in every part. Never believe what you see on a photo. But tollbunt is an attractive colour on the Wyandotte and not even complicated to make, all ingredients are there in this breed, so no problems with type.

