

# COLOURED NEATLY BETWEEN THE LINES!

Text & photos:  
Sigrid van Dort

**Silver blue-laced, a black border  
between silver and blue**  
[www.chickencolours.com](http://www.chickencolours.com)



**Silver blue-laced, a delicate pattern**  
**German Wyandotte bantam**  
[www.chickencolours.com](http://www.chickencolours.com)



**Silver blue-laced**  
**German Wyandotte bantam**  
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Joking aside, you can see this phenomenon also in blue partridge and silver pencilled multiple laced. It is not only the columbian action causing the thin black (= actually condensed blue) line between lacing and ground colour. The pattern on a chicken feather grows the way an inkjet printer prints on white paper. Genes: colour, pattern, columbians, enhancing, diluting, speed of feather growth, hardness of feathers, structure etc. direct where black and/or red pigment must be put in the keratine. The reason for the thin line? No idea, perhaps starting up black, here blue, enthusiastically then dimming down a bit?

