

# IDENTIFYING DILUTES

The following is a brief description on the dilutes (Greywing, Clearwing and Suffuses) and how to identify and also judging them.

Start by deciding if the bird has 50% or 90% body colour.

**Clearwings** (Also referred to as yellow wings or white wings) have 90% of the normal body colour. See picture of Clearwing.

Clearwings also have bright cheekpatches. Tail colour blue greyish or grey depending on the colour of the bird. Clearwings tails are lighter than Greywings but darker than suffuse tails. See difference as illustrated by the 3 pictures of the tails.

If the bird has 90% body colour it is a clearwing, unless the spots and markings are also very dark grey as in greywings then it will be a full bodied greywings (FBG). FBG's also have close to 90% body colour and violet or grey cheekpatches.

Take note that the ideal Clearwing have no markings and no spots as per World Budgerigar Organization (WBO) standards.

If the bird doesn't have a 90% body colour it will either be a suffused or a greywing, as these both have 50% body colour.

**Greywings** have 50% body colour of a normal bird. See the pictures of the greywing. Greywings have much darker grey markings and spots than suffuses. Greywings have dark greyish tails, some with a slight blue grey colour depending on colour of bird. Note that greywings can come with lighter markings, but will still be darker than a suffuse.

**Suffuses** have 50% body colour of a normal bird. They have much lighter grey markings and spots than greywings.

Suffuses have pale suffused coloured cheekpatches.

Note that some suffuses have darker spots than usual, almost like greywings but they don't have the other greywing features, especially they won't have the dark wingtips and dark grey tail of a greywing.

Suffuse tails are light grey, bluish white suffused or yellow or white suffused in colour depending on the body colour of the bird, while greywings have a much darker grey tail.

Any bird deviating from a good example of the specific variety can be penalized according to the deviation, not disqualified. Wrong classed birds will be disqualified.

If we can grade the markings and spots the Greywing would be dark, the clearwing medium and the suffuse be light.

All 3 these varieties can be combined with other varieties or colours including cinnamon and or opaline, which also have its own effect on the bird.

## **Summary :**

**Step 1**, determine if the body colour is 50% or 90%, and if the bird have bright cheekpatches or not. **Step 2** If 90% body colour decide if it is a Clearwing or FBG by comparing marking and spot intensity. **Step 3** compare the intensity of the markings and spots to decide if it is a suffuse or a greywing.

Please also see the BSSA and WBO standards for full descriptions of the above birds.

**CLEARWING**



**GREYWING**



**SUFFUSED**



**CLEARWING VERSUS FULL BODIED GREYWING**



Clearwing left has lighter markings and lighter spots than the FBG's markings and spots. A FBG has the markings and spots of a greywing, but also the 90% body colour of a clearwing and also a brighter cheek patch than a greywing. A full bodied greywing is the combination of 1 greywing gene and 1 clearwing gene, both showing visually at the same time on the same bird.

Note that some suffuses do have darker markings and spots than usual, but if tail colour and wingtips are not dark it will indicate it is still a suffuse. Any such deviation should be penalized.