



# The Show Budgie

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The Nel Brother.

For Show Budgie Breeders and Exhibitors

## The all Important Top End by Robert Manvell

In my opinion the most important part of the Budgerigar and the part which attracts immediate attention is it's Top End. Even though we must consider the whole bird, the head and face seem to be so important for that first and lasting impression.

**Mask;** Again it is impossible to have a deep mask without length of feather.

**Spot (size/shape);** To have large well shaped spots you need to have a feather that is proportionally wide and long. I think spots are inherited randomly with regards to shape and size. If your birds are from a family strong in this feature, you are well on the way to having good spot on your babies. The shape and position of the spots should not be neglected either, on at least one side of the pairing you should have round and reasonably well positioned spots. This will help alleviate misshapen spots and split masks in your birds.

**Cap;** The cap on a Budgerigar is the direct result of the length and width of the feathers on the top and over the crown of the head. Feather direction is so important in this area, especially when the bird relaxes, and the top end feathers are 'blown'. If you have the correct feather in this area and the bird has the ability to unleash the cap feathers, transforming its top end to give the frontal, lift and brow we now require. The crowning glory of the Budgerigar!

**Back skull;** A bird has to have a lovely collar of feather which extends up from the shoulder region, filling in the portion of the bird which starts about the crown of the bird and flows over to the back of the bird (nape) in one extended graceful sweep. Back skull is the feature which gives the birds the appearance of having a beautifully rounded head from which ever angle you view the bird. Without this feature in your birds, you will not achieve a good back line.

**Shoulder;** This is a debatable area, I think good shoulder is a combination of the birds skeletal and muscular system combined again with feather. To have great shoulder one would also need this wonderful full collar of feather around the top end of the bird, from the wing butts upwards. If your birds do not have shoulder they will not have width of mask.

Along with the above features the bird must hold each individual feather around the beak or facial area in a different direction, giving the impression of the feathers radiating out from the beak. Thus giving the bird a tucked in beak and head width, the hardest feature to obtain and retain.

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## Inter-Club Highlights

The Inter-Club champions are the JSBS. The show held on 27 May 2000 between the JSBS and the NTBS was a great success. 16 exhibitors exhibited with 133 birds being benched. The final points standings were JSBS 54 and NTBS 32.

The results were as follows:  
Best Bird on Show - Nel Brothers Stud  
Best Opp Sex - Andre Erasmus  
Best Champion - Japie Smit  
Best Intermediate - Corrie van Staden  
Best Novice - Nel Brothers Stud  
Best Beginner - Jacobs and Uys  
Picture report on page 3.

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## Budgerigar Health

~Feather Cysts by Sam  
Vaughn ~

It had not been anticipated that this condition would be such a common cause of feather abnormalities. The other unexpected feature of this condition was that in the vast majority of the cases, the fanciers had not spotted the cyst or cysts. The birds had been sent to me because they had feathers, which would not regrow. Almost all the feather cysts occurred on the outer parts of the wing or the tail, although some were seen on the necks of birds. The cysts were of three types, the first and most common for 70% of the cases, was roughly spherical, up to 1.25cm in diameter. Cysts of this type were either very hard or slightly soft, depending on the thickness of the fibrous capsule. This capsule surrounded a core of yellow cheesy material, and the distorted remains of one or more feathers.

The second type was very similar to the first, but the surrounding skin was inflamed and thickened. As the fanciers had not noticed most of the lesions it was not possible to establish whether the damage to the skin came before or after the development of the cyst.

The third type was only seen on wings and accounted for fewer than 10% of cases seen. These were multiple and long and narrow in shape, lying side by side with one cyst corresponding to the follicle of one primary feather. They contained cheesy material as in the other cysts but in a proportion, a very short malformed feather was protruding from the tip of the cyst. There was a very strong correlation between the first two types of cysts and marked buffness. Birds with this type of inherited plumage have a strong tendency to develop cysts. Unfortunately fancier's records were insufficiently detailed to show if cysts themselves are

## Gauteng Championship Show 2000

Pictures by Ian Nel



Best Bird and Best Champion on Show  
H Artus



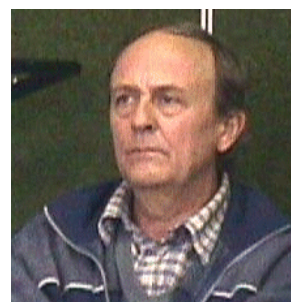
Best Opposite Sex on Show  
F Sherman



Best Intermediate on Show  
CM Kenton



Best Novice on Show  
Aratinga Aviaries



Left:  
Best Beginner on Show  
Jacobs&Uys

# JSBS vs NTBS Inter-Club Show 2000

Pictures by John Nel



Left: Tom Lynch the judge

Right: Tom Lynch judging while Ian Nel looks on.



Top Left: Best Bird - Nel Brothers Stud  
Top Right: Best Opposite Sex - Andre Erasmus



Members awaiting Dr Botha who spoke on sicknesses and supplements for our birds



Top Left: Best Bird on Show - Nel Brothers Stud  
Top Right: Best Opposite Sex - Andre Erasmus



From the left: John Hegers, Smartryk, and Lammie in the foreground

**The Jacaranda Show Budgie Society are the 2000 inter-club champions. The results were JSBS - 54 and NTBS - 32**

# Gauteng Championship Show 2000

Pictures by John & Ian Nel



JSBS members at the show are from left Pieter vd Linde, Ian Nel, John Nel, and Russel Dixon



The van Staden family



Pieter vd Linde (Left) and Corrie van Staden (Right) receive their awards from Pat Norris



Reinhard Molkentin taking photos



Left: Dominant Pied CC - Pieter vd Linde



C Kenton receiving his awards and those of Scott-Scott Aviaries



Ralph Morgan's for sale items



All the Challenge Certificate Winners



The Major awards stand with visitors

## Soiled Eggs

Eggs, which show caked droppings of the birds on the shell, will usually hatch. It is better not to wash them since the shell may break, or the washing may remove a natural coating on the shell, which prevents germs from entering the egg. At times, however, the caked droppings are so thick that the young bird inside cannot break the shell with its egg tooth. When the eggs are so heavily coated with droppings that the pores are sealed and bacteria can enter, the young bird may die long before hatching. Gentle washing in lukewarm water may be tried, but it is better to check on care and feeding of the parents to find the cause for the sticky droppings. Nests should be quite dry. An alert breeder who spots an egg with a live chick inside trying to hatch, may often successfully save the birds life by gently breaking the shell if he senses a problem. Some breeders refuse to help the chicks out assuming there must be something wrong with them. We have helped some out at times and found them to grow into healthy birds. Sometimes pulling a little bit of the shell off with tweezers is all that is required and the bird can do the rest.

## Colour for Beginners by Jim Hutton

It is sometimes difficult for the beginner to identify the various colours and varieties that are in the makeup of our budgerigars. In the coming months we shall concentrate on three points,

1. the basic colours
2. the different varieties
3. sex linkage

### Greys

Greys are like Blues, there are three different colours, light, dark and a much darker grey. It is possible to breed Blues and Greys from a pair of Greys. However they, like the Grey Greens, can also be double factor Greys, but I hope to go into greater detail later.

## Tip of the Month

~Perches by Nel Brothers Stud~

Do you have a problem with disappearing perches? Do they disappear one after the other? Buying dowels to replace chewed up perches is really expensive. This is especially true of flights with hens.

What we have discovered is that a cheap alternative are broom handles. As the perches get chewed up we replace them with broom handles. Broom handles are a harder wood than dowels and do last much longer than dowels.

If you have any tips that you have discovered works well for you please feel free to forward them to the editors, who can be contacted at (012) 542 3533.

Share your experiences  
with us by contributing an  
Article

Feel free to contact the editor.

Articles always  
required.

John or Ian Nel  
(012) 542 3533

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## NEL BROTHERS STUD

**XN2**

EST. 1996

**Most colours bred**

### 1998

Best Beginner - Berario and Area 5  
Best Novice -NTBS Club Show  
Yellow Face CC's x 2  
NTBS Club Champions

### 1999

Best Novice Any Age - Berario  
Yellow Face and Dark & Olive Green CC's  
JSBS Derby and Club Champions  
Yellow Face Grey Champion Bird

### 2000

Best Opp. Sex on Show - JSBS  
Millennium Show  
Best Novice - JSBS Millennium Show  
Best Bird on Show - Inter-Club Show  
Best Novice Any Age on Show - Gauteng  
Violet and Dark & Olive Green CC's

Telephone John or Ian at  
(012) 542 3533

## Scott-Scott Aviaries SSA

~Sylvia & Ken~

1997 Best Beginner on Show Durban  
1998 Best Beginner Young Bird Area 5  
Albino CC  
D.B.C Club Champion  
**B.S.S A Champion Beginner**  
1999 Cinnamon Green CC  
Cobolt CC x 2  
Double Factor Spangle CC  
A.O.C/V CC  
Best Novice Young Bird Area 5

We welcome fellow enthusiasts, to phone, or visit,  
have tea, stay the night, but please come.

**Do give us a call.**  
**(031) 4651004 or 083 358 7125**

## *The Jacaranda Show Budgie Society*

### Annual Subscriptions

#### Membership Fees:

Member - R 120.00  
Spouse - 50% of Member  
Pensioner - 70% of Member  
Juniors - 40% of Member  
New membership Entry : - R 100.00 (Once off)

Visit us on the Internet at  
<http://www.geocities.com/petsburgh/524>

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or

Contact Pieter v/d Linde for more  
information at

Tel : (012) 335 6950

## JSBS members

Jackets - R300

T-Shirts - R 60

Contact Corrie at (012) 803 8621

## July Birthday Wishes

Gerhard Louw on 2 July

Andre Calitz on 7 July

John Nel on 11 July