

The Show Budgie

For Show Budgie Breeders and Exhibitors

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Molkentin Stud
Best Bird on Show

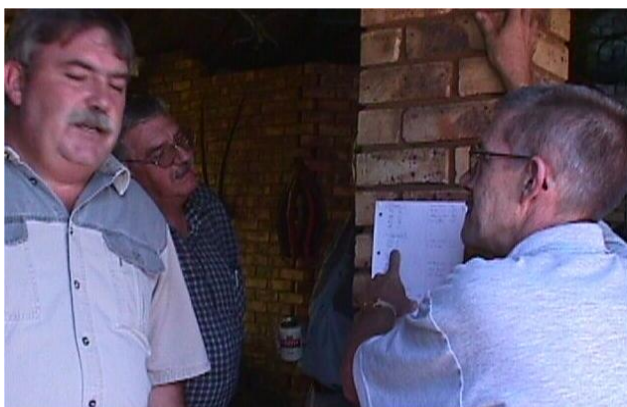
JSBS Championship Heats Up

By John Nel

After just two mini shows the race to be club champion is on. Heading the points standing is Pieter van der Linde on 48 points followed by Gert Pieters, last years club champion on 37. The gauntlet has been thrown down by Pieter and it looks like Gert is one of the exhibitors ready to accept the challenge. The top five JSBS exhibitors are:

- Pieter van der Linde 48
- Gert Pieters 37
- Deon Davie 25
- Corrie van Staden 23
- Neville Greyling 21

The next mini show will be held on 17 May. ♦



From Left to Right: Gert Pieters, Bill Sykes, and Pieter van der Linde discuss the point standings.

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Next Month

Report on KwaZulu Natal Championship Show.

JSBS Mini Show Report

By John Nel

The Jacaranda Show Budgie Society had a very successful second mini show held on 12 April at the Molkentin Stud. Members had a braai after the show, which was enjoyed by all. A total of 81 birds were entered. These were made up of 42 Champion, 14 Intermediate, 0 Novice, and 25 Beginner birds. The judge on the day was George Sutton.

Mini Show Results

- Best Bird – Molkentin Stud
- Best Opposite Sex – Deon Davie

- Best Champion – Molkentin Stud
- Best Champion Opposite Sex – Deon Davie
- Best Intermediate – Pieter van der Linde
- Best Inter. Opposite Sex – Corrie van Staden
- Best Beginner – Gert Pieters
- Best Beginner Opposite Sex – Gert Pieters

Mini Show Points

Champions

- Molkentin Stud – 19
- Deon Davie – 14
- Sam Rosslee – 5
- Nel Brothers Stud – 4

Intermediates

- Pieter van der Linde – 24
- Corrie van Staden – 10

Beginners

- Gert Pieters – 23
- Kobus Hechter – 7
- Neville Greyling - 5

The next mini show is on 17 May. See you there. ♦

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JSBS Mini Show Picture Report



Top: Best Bird on Show – Molckentin Stud



Top: Best Opposite Sex on Show – Deon Davie



Top Left to Right: Sam Rosslee and Holger Molckentin look on as George Sutton (center) points out one of the birds

Line Breeding

By John Machado

I have some free time to make another post that I hope will be of some help! Today I would like to talk about line breeding as opposed to out crossing in improving your stock! Many new comers to our hobby think of inbreeding and line breeding as no-no's because they think of it on human terms, aka we don't marry our close relatives and so on! The fact of the matter is that the only way to get stock better than their parents is to wisely use close relatives like cousins if you will but always pair birds up that don't have the same faults or this will never get you anywhere, best bird to best bird won't help if they both have the same fault or even worse faults! While this may rub against the grain in some of you, you can be sure that the top breeders and show winners at the very least line breed with relatives and many are not afraid to inbreed even closer than that!

Now about out crossing! Out crossing can be used when the out cross as a needed strong point like a deeper bib or better throat spots or many other such needed improvements to your flock! Outcrossing as many benefits to our lines both seen and unseen, like added fertility etc. But as you will find out if you constantly use this practice above all others it as a great down side as well! The best way to state this is to give you an example of the results of long term out crossing on a line of budgies, if you can even call out crosses a line of birds at all! The first thing you will notice after a few years of doing this if not right away is how in every nest of young they all look like they came from every nest instead of being siblings in looks and quality they will range from almost good enough to show to almost pet type, and if you persist in just out crossing so as not to have any related breeding it will only get worse as the years go by, so rethink your breeding practices and use them wisely without preconceived notions of putting human morals on your budgies! Try to breed best to best - watch out for show faults in your lines, keep from to close an inbreeding unless you see a great need to on occasion [some times it works out great], bring in an out cross when you see a need for improvement, or when fertility is dropping, the out cross bird should be the best bird you can buy with the qualities your stock needs for improvement!

I hope this helps out, best wishes in your quests for that showstopper!

Making a case for not keeping too many Budgerigars

By George Jenkins

Every serious Budgerigar breeder will tell you it is quality that is important and not quantity, however, ask a breeder how they are doing during the breeding season and they will tell you how many they have bred - and not how good the youngsters might be. Budgerigar fanciers have been indoctrinated that breeding Budgerigars is about breeding numbers of youngsters and not quality of those youngsters. For the keen exhibitor it is far more important to produce 30 quality youngsters than 200 inferior young birds. It is easy to say but it only takes one top quality young bird to take the top award at the show. Quality is the prime factor but breeding numbers of these quality birds indicates the depth of quality in the stud. It takes a lot of time to breed good Budgerigars. If a working fancier has 24 breeding pairs and produces 100 youngsters a year they have plenty of work to undertake to care for those birds properly. If they start to become ambitious and increase the number of breeding cages they either have to find more time to spend with the birds or they begin to do everything less well. The care and attention given to each pair is reduced, and consequently, perform less well themselves.

A keen exhibition breeder needs to be looking for quality all the time. It is not a numbers game. Unless a novice or beginner has an exceptional amount of time they would do well to restrict the number of breeding pairs. Most novices will find it difficult to find more than a limited number of pairs of the required quality to breed youngsters for the show bench. It is difficult for most champions to find more than a dozen top quality pairs. There are always exceptions but most novices have a restricted number of quality birds and in nearly every case it is the better quality birds that produce the best youngsters. Budgerigars should be pleasure and not a full time "hobby" cleaning and working to keep the bird room clean. Time for relaxation and pleasure need to be found, some fanciers will tell you that they are far too busy working with their birds to enjoy them. The conclusion is that they are keeping too many birds for the time they are able to commit to their Budgerigars. It is nice to pair up, have a few spare birds in the flights if something should go wrong, but the flights need to be almost empty to take the breeding season's youngsters. Only breed with quality birds and never pair up birds on the chance they might produce something good. Top breeder's have proven that breeding quality youngsters every year is about breeding with quality-'stock' - and not about the number of pairs.

Practical Experience

By Clive Wakeman

There is absolutely no substitute for practical experience but it does not have to be gained at huge expense. Much has been written and many reasons given as to why so many start and leave the hobby in the space of a few years. High prices of stock and equipment, birds that will not breed, lack of wins at shows, unable to progress quickly enough in their new found hobby are only some of the reasons. While a lot of well meaning advice is given particularly through the excellent medium of Budgerigar World, I believe a lot of what is said is too grand and aimed too high for the raw Beginner. It's all very well to say you can scale down to a size to suit the individual's needs and means, but why should initial advice be given on such a grand scale. Whatever happened to converting the garden shed into a bird room and making half a dozen or so breeding cages? Good sound advice at this stage would be, if funds permit, line the shed, the addition of an outside flight and laying on some electricity. When I started breeding budgerigars, 32 years ago as a schoolboy, I could not afford these luxuries and had to put up with tending the birds needs before I went to school. However, I was successful in breeding Budgerigars. In those early years I gained practical experience in breeding and looking after budgerigars with a minimum outlay, supported only by my paper round and money earned by working on Saturdays and the sale of young Budgerigars. The other important ingredient, apart from undying enthusiasm, was my mentor and friend right up until the time of his death in 1987, Tom North a Champion breeder who lived at my hometown in Essex. In-between leaving school and getting married, my birds had to go, but as soon as the opportunity came four years later I was keen and ready to take up the hobby again and to this day I am still breeding budgerigars, despite three moves, three bird rooms and the contemplation of the fourth on a much grander scale. After getting married I

Show Feathers

Good planning is essential to a successful show season; pick the shows that suit you, and then your team about 12 weeks ahead. If you are going to cut or pull tail feathers, do them one at a time 12 weeks ahead of your first show, spaced so that a new tail feather has appeared before the second one is touched. Spots can be left until 7 weeks prior to the first show, when I remove them all, and let new ones re-grow. Flights should be checked for damage well ahead, and removed if in very poor condition, do this with a very steady pull on the flight, holding the wing firmly, and the offending flight between thumb and forefinger. ♦

went back to Tom North and founded my stud on his birds and when he died in 1987 I bought the remainder of the stud and the line is still breeding well today. The point is that many breeders may have a break in their hobby, for various reasons, marriage, children, house move, or may be the novelty just wore off. But the bug can bite again as we well know. If this rekindled interest holds bad memories of large amounts of money wasted it probably will not be attempted again. However, if after a modest outlay a deep rooted interest in keeping, breeding and exhibiting birds was found to be the case, in a stable situation a come back to the hobby may be made, with thoughts and designs to take it much further this time. I know I did in 1971. Before I moved to Somerset in 1985 I went to Ernie Sigston for some new blood to inject some size into my birds. In fact I have been back to Ernie for outcrosses five times in the past 11 years. In this period I read everything I could about Jo Mannes and his mutation feather that he has bred on his birds. I saw this as the feather to put on the bird of the future. By coincidence so did Ernie Sigston, who bought birds from Jo and I in turn bought birds from Ernie with Mannes blood and feather. Having never been a man of means I have always worked on the principal of selling perhaps 10 of my birds to raise the money for an outcross. When it comes to the purchase of an outcross you must have a clear picture of what you want. I wanted Mannes blood, feather and size, but not necessarily on the same bird. I purchased two light green cocks, one that was 75% Mannes blood and the other a huge bird that was a real handful and measured 10 inches, a third Light Green cock he gave me. Naturally, they were not perfect, no bird is, but I had achieved what I had set out to do and the birds I came away with terrific value for money! Yes all three bred but there was a setback. The Mannes blood cock produced 13 youngsters from four different hens. Great. The problem was they were all cocks. I rang Ernie to ask if he could let me have two or three hens of the appropriate bloodline. Well not only did he do that he also gave me another two hens to help out. Fertility has been exceptional, producing both cocks and hens, opening up the way for continued progress. Now going back to the original point, if I had started with birds of this quality in the beginning, no matter how successful or otherwise the breeding was, they would have had to be paid for directly from my pocket and not from the sale of birds. I would not have been able to use them to the extent that I have now and get the best out of them. The bird room and the equipment I have now may be a far cry from the converted shed and half a dozen cages I started with, but it has all come with time and experience. I did not try to run before I would walk or before I was certain that the hobby would be a life long pursuit. There is absolutely no substitute for practical experience but it does not have to be gained at a huge expense, which a lot of articles directed at Beginners seems to indicate these days. ♦

JSBS Mini Show Points

Champion

Deon Davie – 25

Nel Brothers Stud – 21

Sam Rosslee – 21

Intermediate

Corrie van Staden - 23

Pieter van der Linde– 48

Beginner

Charl Muller - 4

Kobus Hechter - 10

Neville Greyling – 22

Gert Pieters – 37

Wim Vrey – 0

Birthday Wishes

Deon Davie – 28 June



Left: Best Intermediate on Show, Pieter van der Linde.

Breeders Directory

The last page of the Show Budgie will be dedicated to subscribers adverts. Currently these are basic adds but these can be enhanced by emailing me detail you would like to include. This means that this will be your area to advertise anything you would like. To do this just contact me and I will update your information. Any additional adverts will be charged as follows:

- ✚ A4 (full page) – R200 for 12 issues
- ✚ A5 (half page) – R150 for 12 issues
- ✚ Additional area – R100 for 12 issues

Contact John Nel at (012) 542 3533 or 082 789 9861 or email me at NelJA@TelkomSA.net. ♦

The Jacaranda Show Budgie Society

Annual Subscription

Membership Fees:

Member – R150.00

Spouse – Free

Pensioner – 70% of Member

Junior – 40% of Member

New membership Entry Fee (Once off)

Adult – R100.00

Junior – R50.00

Visit us on the Internet at

<http://www.geocities.com/petsburgh/5240>

Contact Pieter van der Linde for more information at Tel: (012) 335 6950

Breeders Directory

Subscribers are requested to contact John Nel when they have birds or equipment for sale. This will be added below.

Pretoria Noord

Nel Brothers Stud Est. 1996
Ian – 082 371 3961
John – 082 789 9861
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Johwer Stud
Boordfontein
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082 5850794

Silverton

Corrie van Staden
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082 3742623
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Wonderboom

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082 6259781
gece@mweb.co.za

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Wonderboom
(012) 567 4670

Areas outside Pretoria

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(011) 763 3465
082 3777686
geminidavie@mweb.co.za

Wemarc
Roodepoort
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Centurion

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Eldoraigne
(012) 660 0965

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ronaz@absamail.co.za

Bill Sykes
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(012) 379 6962

Brooklyn

Scotty Blom
Brooklyn
(012) 460 4534

Moregloed

Mike Davies
Moregloed
(012) 333 2667
083 4558051

Roseville

Pieter van der Linde
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083 5645521
pieterv14@absa.co.za

Garsfontein

Sam Rosslee
Garsfontein x8
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083 6017889

Tierpoort

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Tierpoort
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Please check and ensure your details are correct at all times.

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