

BARRED COCHINS LARGE FOWL

By Linda Tobia, October, 2013

I saw the Barreds at a show about five years ago. Roland Doerr had them at the show I attended and I fell in love with them. I said to myself I have to have a pair of those. So I purchased a pair from Roland. I start the following year and hatched about 10, out of that hatching I had two good pullets and used them for breeders the following year. The next year I hatched about 15 and got a good pullet out of that hatch and I showed her. I got Res. Champ Asiatic at the first show I took her to and then another show she got Champ Asiatic. She is the mother to the one I hatched out this early spring and at this point she has four Champ Asiatic and one Res Champ Asiatic wins. This spring I hatch out 25 babies. I hope the two breeders I sold some of them too; have just as good luck as I have been having.

I look for the white strip across the wings when they are about three to six months and if they are too dark and not a good pattern of white and black on their body, then the culling starts. I have found by the age of six months to eight months you can find a good pattern and body type for a Barred. Special things: just keep an eye on them, I haven't found as they mature their pattern does not change. Watch them change into a beautiful body type with a good cushion of big beautiful tear drop feathers.

My Barreds are good size. My males are very large and little lighter than the females. I find that all of my Barreds are a little laid back as well. As the pullets gets older their pattern on the wings comes out and some are darker than others. I do keep the dark ones if the wing pattern isn't too bad and use them for breeding with the lighter male. You do need to have patience raising the Barreds, it takes several years to get what you want for a bird and I have started to get what I think is a good Barred Cochin with my flock. So each generation the pattern and coloring is improving.

Don't forget the Asiatic head on your Large Fowl . . . a mature head will be almost two inches in width, with baggie and squinty eyes.

There are not too many breeders that I know that raise the Barreds. I would like to thank Roland Doerr and Deb Carlson for getting me started with them. The Barreds are truly a beautiful variety and I wish I could see a few more Barreds out there with mine. Below is a picture of my winning Barred.

