

SLIP WING

By Bill Mackowski, September, 2022

Several years ago, I posted about a major problem that showed up in my Mille Fleur line after bringing in a new male to improve fertility and breast chevrons in my females. Turned out he was carrying what I believe were the genetics that produced birds with slip wing. I had a lot of comments asking if I meant split wing.

Split wing is the absence of the axial feather causing a gap in the flow of feathers from the primaries to the secondaries.

Slip wing is when the primaries overlap the secondaries.

I have a Furnace Cockerel from this year's hatch that demonstrates slip wing perfectly. Unfortunately, he is a very nice typed and patterned Furnace project bird.

I don't believe Slip wing is that common.

And honestly, I was not aware of it prior to Bob Hawes pointing it out to me (The value of a knowledgeable and involved mentor.)

I personally believe it is an inheritable genetic trait. Fortunately, we have some members with much more expertise in poultry genetics than I who could shed more light on the trait.

Following are some pics showing slip wing verses split wing and a normal Cochin wing:

