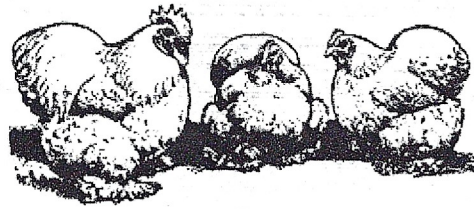


# Cochins International

November 2007 Newsletter



## International District Report

*From John Burgess*

First off, in unfortunate news, there has recently been reported an outbreak of Avian Influenza (H5N1) in Suffolk, UK. All shows, sales, etc., have been cancelled until further notice. Latest is that four (4) additional farms have had contact with the original one with the outbreak bringing the total to five (5). Apparently, the outbreak occurred when domestic birds mixed with wild ducks on a wetland site.

In other District news, the Dutch Club held a business meeting on 20-21 Oct which was followed by a brief session on regulation of the club where changes and related issues were addressed. The Dutch Club Show is scheduled for 7-9 Dec in Enschede, Holland.

A European show was scheduled for cochins and brahmas (large fowl and bantams) in Affligem, Belgium on 23-25 Nov.

I'm happy to report that since the last newsletter, contact was made with "Bobo" Athes, a CI member, who resides in Romania and raises large fowl cochins in black, white and buff at present. He noted that the number of show quality birds in Romania is limited, and these were quite expensive, i.e., \$400(USD) equivalent. Bobo started from "scratch" with large fowl (cochins) four years ago which barely resembled cochins and raises large numbers of chicks each year in hopes of getting just a few decent ones.

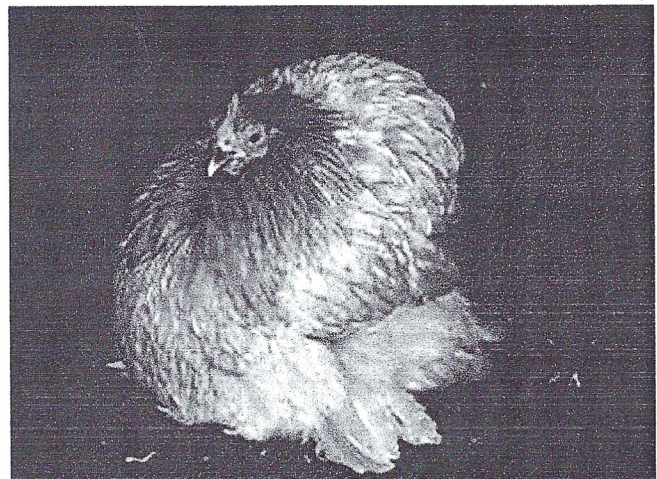
In his first couple of years he lost several hundred cochins and brahmas due to mismanagement which led to mites, respiratory diseases and other problems. To further compound his problems, a dog killed all of his cochin chicks this year setting back his program yet again.

Bobo sent pictures of his birds to show what he had to start with and what he has now (*shown on pages 3 and 4*). Bobo is apparently a very resilient breeder with a tenacious desire to succeed

against all odds. He gives credit to Arjan Warshuis, Tom Roebuck and Beth and Jerry Smith for helping him. He notes that judging in his area leaves a few things to be desired with considerable improvement needed in their cochin qualifications and objectivity.

There were conflicting reports about avian influenza there last year. Some reports denied its existence but at the same time hundreds of thousands of birds were destroyed and breeders received little or no compensation. He genuinely enjoys his birds and would be most happy to exchange e-mail correspondence with US and other foreign breeders - [atheseu@gmail.com](mailto:atheseu@gmail.com)

In Australia, David Plant reports on the Australian National Pekin Bantam Club, Inc., show results. The style and format of their shows are somewhat different from the American Bantam Assoc. (ABA) format. A summary of the winners: *Best in Show*, a Black Hen by Phil Pickles  
*Reserve in Show*, a Black Pullet by Allan Featherstone  
*Best Coloured Overall*, a Blue Hen by A. Mills  
(*pictured below*)



(report continued on page 3)



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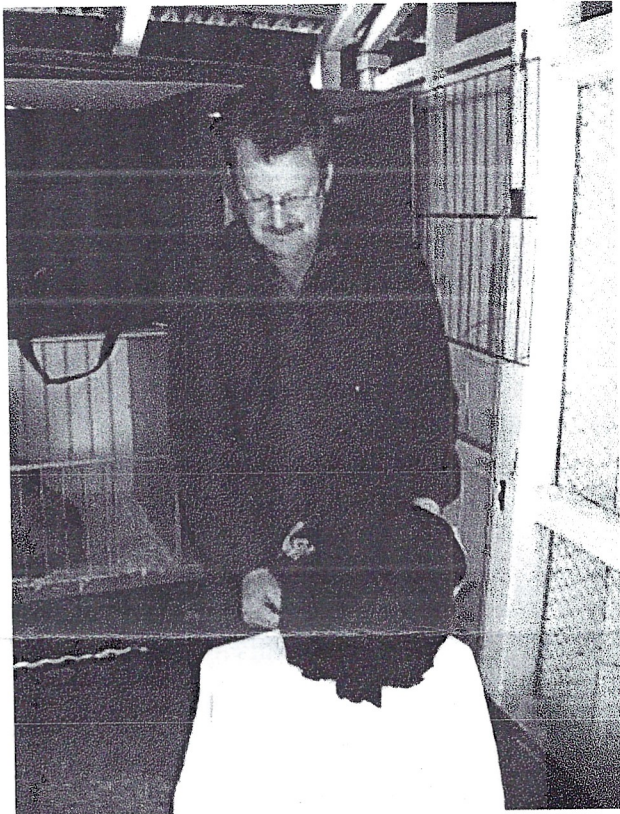


(continued from front page)

*Best Coloured in Section 2*, a Lavender Cuckoo by S. Cox

*Best Cock in Show*, a Black by David Plant

*Best Cockerel in Show*, a Black by Allan Featherstone.



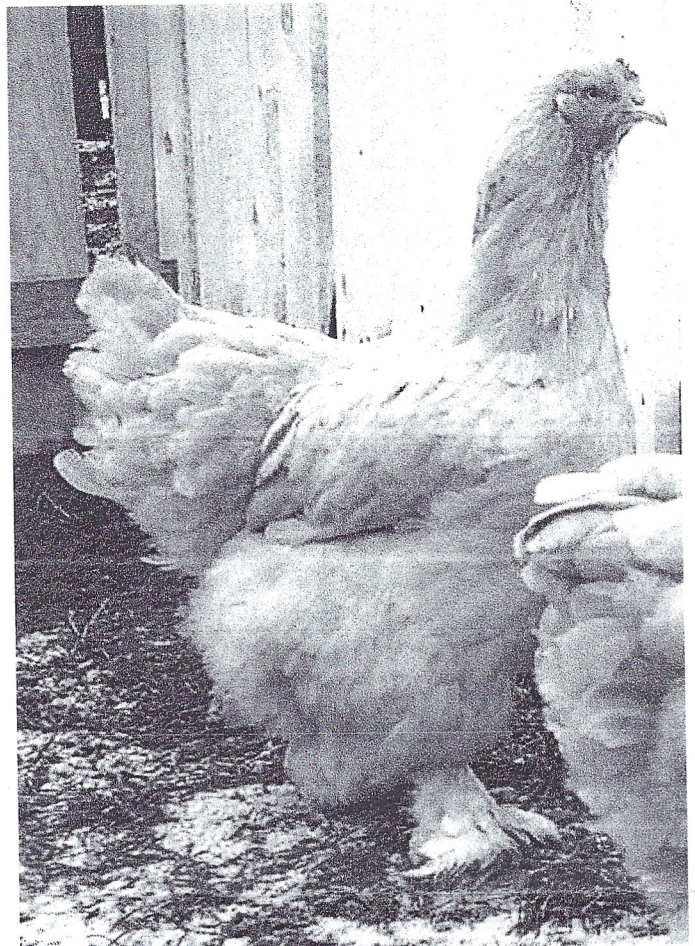
*Best in Show, a black hen by Phil Pickles*

It was interesting to note that their Show Auction consisted of 72 lots, grossed \$5,400(AD) with a profit to the club of \$1,300(AD). The quality of the birds in the auction was superb as evidenced by the amount grossed which was a record for the club.

CI is in the process of obtaining a limited number of the Australian CDs dedicated to the Pekin (Cochin) Bantam which was highlighted in this column in our previous newsletter. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, let Jamie Matts know at - [mattsjt@aol.com](mailto:mattsjt@aol.com). Hope everyone has a great fall and a Happy Holiday Season!!

Regards, John Burgess

*(More photos from Australia on page 7)*



*Bobo Athes' hen from first year of breeding*

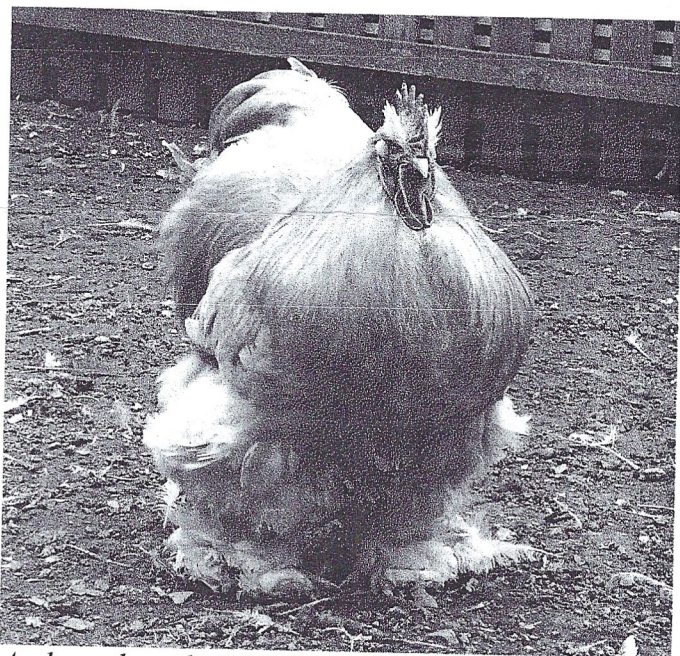


*And Bobo's current buff cock!*





*Bobo's second year cock*



*And another photo of his current buff stock!*

**Next issue coming out  
the end of January**

**Delmarva  
Stockton**

**Anything you folks send  
me!**

## Canada District Report

Fall has come and gone. Temperature stayed in the upper 20s C for awhile, sunshine was up 39%, more sunshine than normal. Precipitation is 45% less than normal. The trees and shrubbery around our new home required constant watering to stay alive. Let's hope the cooler weather will help our Cochins finish out the feathering to qualify for Champion Row.

In Ontario the agricultural fairs and exhibits are in full swing and scheduled to go on until the end of October. Hopefully some of you showed at some of them. On May 26, the Georgian Bay Classic Spring Show was held at the Meaford Ontario Fair Ground. It was the 125 Anniversary Show and Cochins International held a Regional Special Meet. Total number of Cochins exhibited was 31 – 26 bantams and 5 large birds. Overall Champion Cochin was a black hen exhibited by Hans Maas. Best of Breed large Cochin and best Asiatic was a Black cock exhibited by Paul and Jean Homer. The Georgian Bay Association displayed a very impressive array of awards and some cash awards for birds at the Champion Row. Many thanks go to Al Pilon and his association for the donations and support.

The Prince Edward Island Spring show took place in Charlotte Town P.E.I. on May 19. A total of 18 Cochins were exhibited. Alan Hamilton's black bantam hen placed Overall Champion Cochin. Alan also claimed the best Cochin bantam and best of breed large Cochin. Congratulation, Alan. My thanks go to Trevor MacDonald for all the time and effort to organize the show in P.E.I. and submit the show reports.

Colwyn Championship Show Case is scheduled for Sep 29. This show is getting better each year thanks to Paul Homer, Liz Redshaw and the members of the show committee.

Shannon Doane of Elmsdale, Nova Scotia would like to hold a Cochin Special Meet on Oct 20-21. Shannon's club is the Nova Scotia Purebred Poultry Association. Shannon, all the best, I'm sure the show went well. Regards to all.

*Hans Maas, Canada Director*



## Southeast District Report

Greetings from the Southeast. Finally, cooler weather has arrived. The temperatures have eased but the south is extremely dry. Seems like the entire US is having abnormal weather. Birds aren't finishing correctly and people have been dipping them on a regular basis. Some of my feathers look like they have been burnt.

The APA national at Lucasville is history now. As always, they put on a First Class Show. Even though I didn't come out on top, my birds looked great. Everything was under one roof this year and made it easier to see all the different birds. The white pullet class was exceptional and any of the girls could have won on a given day. It was nice to compete with Matt in the mottle class and to see entries of barred and partridge. Let's get those lesser known varieties out there. Bill Ziehm had BB with a nice black cockerel and champion FL with Pat having RB with an equally nice white pullet. It was great talking with fellow cochin enthusiasts we haven't seen in a while.

I did well selling birds. It helped pay for my trip. They went as far west as Oregon, as far South as LA, and as far north as Maine. Best wishes and Thanks to all that purchased birds.

I met John Soper from the UK. He helped develop the lavender and shared with me a picture of a lavender female winning BB. She was exceptional. Hopefully, we can develop new varieties in the USA.

I attended the Alabama Bantam Club's show held in Clanton, Alabama the weekend of Oct. 19-20. Clanton is between Birmingham and Montgomery. I rarely attend shows that far South but I had a good reason to go – my brother, after living in NC for 70+ years, moved to a small town near Montgomery in August. I spent the weekend with his family and showed chickens on Saturday. It was a triple point show – birds that were there Friday evening were judged and then double judged on Saturday. Things went very smooth.

On the way down, I stopped and visited with Marty Mcquire and talked cochins with him. Besides the main colors, Marty is working with brown reds, silver blue, and lemon blue. It was nice to see him.

I'm looking forward to the rest of the show season. I don't know if I'll travel long distances as in the past due to some health issues. Shows in the Carolina's will be in full swing in Nov. I do plan on attending the Delmarva show for the Eastern Cochin National.

Have a successful and fun filled show season. If you have any concerns, please contact me.

*Judy Gantt*

[jgantt@earthlink.net](mailto:jgantt@earthlink.net)

## North Central District Report

Best wishes to a great show season!

We attended our first Fall show on Sep 8 at The Saulk Trail Poultry Show in Hillsdale Michigan. We only have 2 shows in Michigan, and this being the first Fall show, it always brings that anticipation of how your young birds will do. The cochin numbers were down, and considering the time of year, just coming out of a hot summer, the birds present were in good condition.

It was a hot dry summer in our area, with fans blowing day and night for the past few months. Most of my birds are in a moult or just starting to moult. Sometimes it seems that cochins are in a continuous moult, especially wing feathers. It has cooled down the last week or so, now we are experiencing warm weather for the next several days. I am sure as soon as the weather stays cool the birds' feather condition should improve.

I would like to list the following meets I have placed in your District, and if you happen to be attending a show, and it doesn't appear on the list, please contact me, or the area show and request a meet be placed. I would just love to send meet papers out right away.

**Spring District Meet**, South Ohio Poultry Assoc. – May 26 & 27

**Fall District Meet**, West Central Wisconsin – Oct 6

*Special Meets in 2007*

Mid Ohio – Feb 4 & 5

South Ohio Poultry – Mar 31

Red Hill Bantam – May 5 & 6

Buckeye Fancy – Jun 9



Green River Poultry – Apr 21  
 Kentuckian Poultry Club – May 19  
 Dayton Fancy Feather – Apr 28 & 29  
 Badger Poultry Club – Jun 2  
 Wisconsin Int. Poultry Club – Sep 29  
 Central Indiana Poultry – Oct 20  
 South Ohio Poultry Assoc. – Oct 6 & 7  
 Michigan Poultry Fanciers – Oct 13 & 14  
 Saulk Trail – Sep 8  
 Illini Poultry – Sep 15 & 16  
 Indiana Poultry Breeders – Dec 1  
 Hoosier Poultry Breeders – Oct 20 & 21  
 Ohio Nationals – Nov 10 & 11

Attend as many Poultry Shows in your area as you possibly can. The shows need your support to continue. Anyone who has helped with their local show knows the hard work and dedication our fellow fanciers put into a show. Let them know you appreciate their effort, and bring your birds out and just have fun. That's what it's all about. Enjoy yourself.

Kendra Aldrich

[kima53@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kima53@sbcglobal.net)

## Membership Director Report

Hello everyone. It is hard to imagine that winter is here. We had one of the hottest and driest summers I can ever remember here in southern Indiana and the rest of the southeast. The birds were stressed a bunch as they coped with the triple digit heat and dry conditions. Feeding and watering took much longer in weather like that. I would empty the waterers at least twice a day and pour the lukewarm contents into a bucket. This I used to water my plants and flowers that were hanging on by a thread. I can't let myself toss this water in the rocks. With ponds and streams bone dry, I wanted to be a wise user of this valuable resource!

Speaking of valuable resources, several members were deleted from the database as of Sep 22. These people had not paid for 07. The last newsletter was highlighted with your dues renewal date. Unfortunately, 54 members chose not to renew with us for '07 or beyond. We have 185 members as of this writing. We had well over 200. I like to see the number stay in the 200+ range, so

please help the club reach this mark by encouraging others to join or rejoin.

We want to welcome the following new members. Some of them joined before the last newsletter was mailed, but I didn't get a summary in that newsletter. Thanks for joining us in promoting the best breed around. Enjoy your developing youngsters and finishing birds. Be patient with them. It takes them a while to get everything in place, but when they do it is worth the wait! Enjoy! ~~Matt

### *NE1 District:*

Theodore Howes, Chatham NY  
 Christopher Armstrong, Schenectady NY

### *NE2 District:*

Michael Miller, Hackettstown NJ  
 Jennifer Warwick, Toms River NJ

### *North Central District:*

Trey Baer, Middletown IN  
 Brian Schall, Peninsula OH  
 Cody Cameron, Chesterfield IL  
 Jeff & Michelle Schmalfeldt, Burlington WI

### *Southeast District:*

Matthew Arnett, Morgantown NC  
 Stephen Covolo, Ft. White FL  
 Mona Morgan, Spindale NC

### *Southwest District:*

Gavin Livingston, Lone Jack MO  
 Gregory Family, Blanchard OK

### *Pacific District:*

Caitlyn Hartzell, Oakdale CA  
 Debbie Ebbinghausen, Bothell WA  
 Nancy Crocker, Olivenhain CA  
 Johnson Family Cochins, Denair CA  
 Lynne Van Dyke, Warner Springs CA

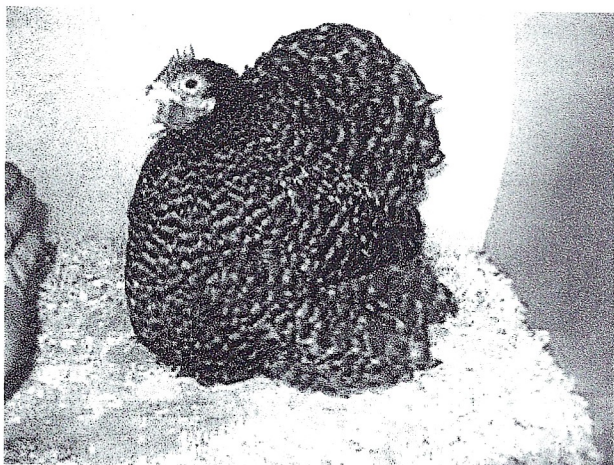
### *International District:*

David Pilant, New South Wales Australia

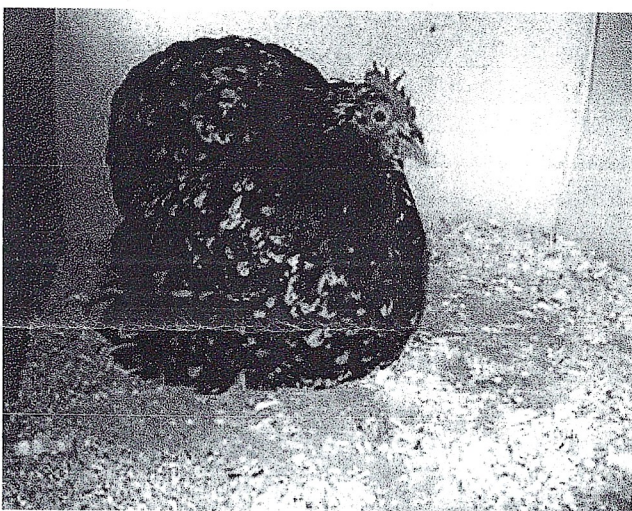
Have you paid your dues?  
 Pay in advance so you won't  
 have to remind yourself  
 later!



More Photos from Australia



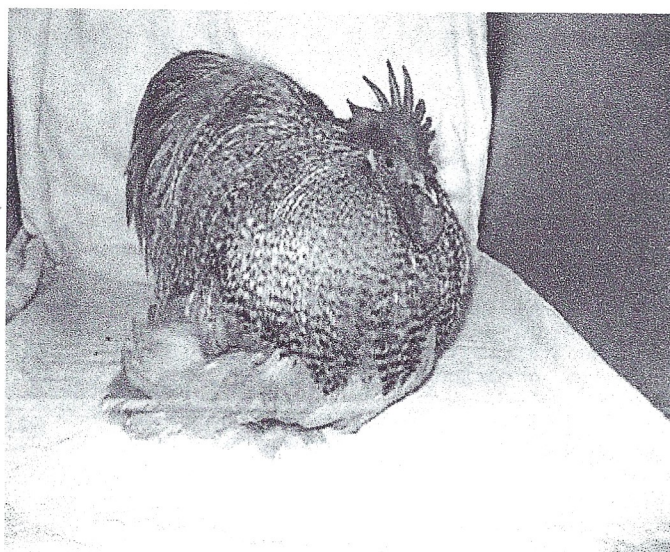
*Best Cuckoo in Show*



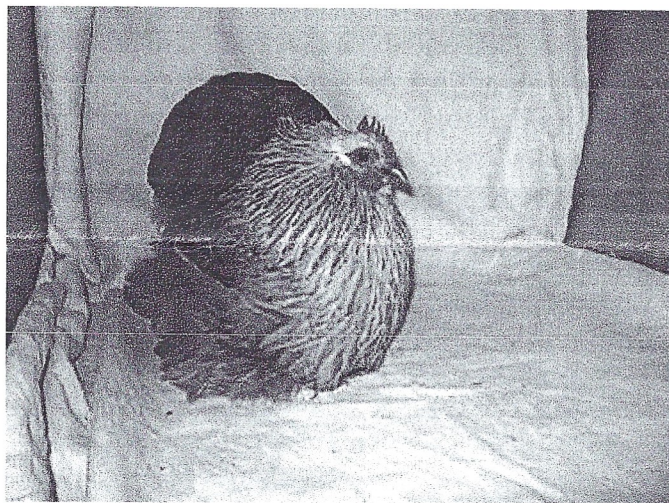
*Best Mottled in Show*



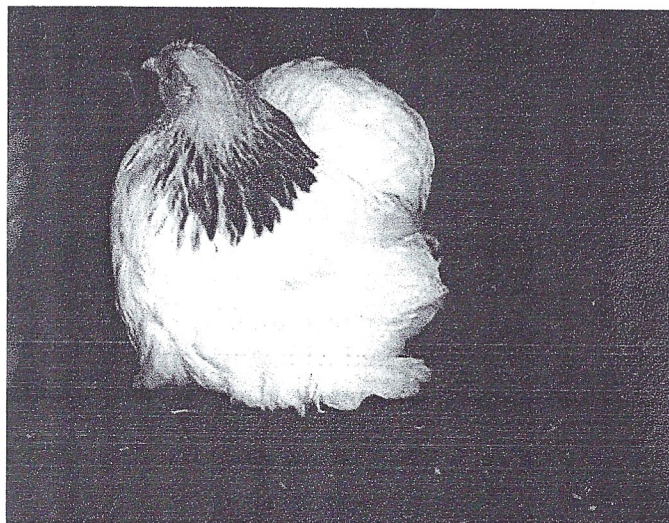
*Best Buff in Show*



*Lavender Cuckoo*



*Mealy Grey*



*Silver Wheaten*



## President's Scratch

The summer has flown by and the fall show season is in full swing. I will keep this very short, but wanted to wish everyone a successful fall show season and I am hoping that we have a great turn out for our Eastern National which is being held at the Delmarva Poultry Fanciers Show on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. I will have a full update and hopefully some photos in the next newsletter. Also coming in the next newsletter will be photos from Cochinday which was held this past September, in Holland. Ardjan Warnshuis has sent me some really nice photos of the different winners and we will include them next time.

I hope that you all liked the look of the Breeders Directory, which was sent out some time ago now. If you haven't received one please let me know.

I've gone through most of my birds and made my picks of the "keepers." Some of the birds were categorized as "sell," and some didn't make the cut at all. These were culled. I can not stress enough how important it is that we cull the birds that do not possess breed traits that represent a positive gain in a breeding program. If you let those inferior birds remain you are just fooling yourself. Also, if you are selling those birds to others, you aren't helping the overall gene pool much either. Obviously, you want to keep your best birds for yourself, but there is nothing wrong with letting some good quality breeding stock go to help a fellow breeder or someone just getting into Cochins. I have heard that some people don't want to sell their good birds for fear of being beaten by those birds or their offspring in the show hall. I say that if you get beat by birds that were bred from your stock, then that says something about the quality of your line, and that's a good thing. Competition, after all is supposed to be fun, and it's not much fun if the same person wins all the time! I am not the first to say this, but it's good advice. Breed as many birds as you have space for, cull hard, and cull according to breed characteristics.

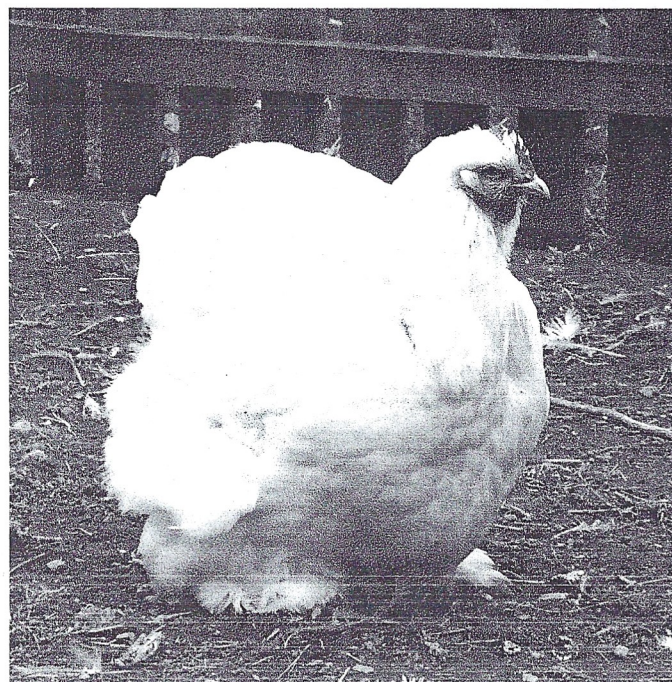
Patterned birds add a whole new dimension to the breeding and culling process, and I find the Cochins with color patterns to be an interesting and rewarding challenge. I have made some nice improvements on my Buff Columbians this year

and hope to have something worthy of the show hall with next year's f4 breeding. The Columbians are coming along, with the wing pattern being the biggest challenge. The Partridge are carrying good type, but again the pattern is a huge challenge; the wings especially. When I get decent markings in the wings, I am seeing red shafting, not only in the wings, but in other parts of the bird too. The Barreds are looking really good. I have some real nice cockerels and pullets and am looking forward to the coming breeding season, because I think that next year's birds will rival the Blacks and Whites. Time will tell. That was just the bantam Cochins I was talking about.

My large Cochins are just as challenging. I made some nice improvements in the Buffs, but the wing structure on my White males is horrible. The Partridge are still on the small side, but they are coming along. I am working on large Barreds, and I bred the Barred male I got from Debi Carlson last fall to two different Black hens. I wound up with just 5 Barreds this year, but with 2 cockerels and 3 pullets I am on my way to some nice Barred Cochins.

Good luck in the show halls! Cochins Rule!

Tom



*Bobo Athes' beautiful white hen*