

SUSSEX CLUB OF AUSTRALIA



**AUSTRALIAN POULTRY
STANDARDS APS2**

SUSSEX SECTION



The Sussex

This is a very old breed, which originated in the country of Sussex, England. Sussex fowls were exhibited at the first poultry show in Britain in 1845. Primarily bred for market purposes, the Sussex was famed as a producer of table fowls. The oldest variety is the speckled but it is the Light Sussex which remains by far the most popular variety of the breed. Other colours are very rare in Australia.

ORIGIN:	Britain
CLASSIFICATION:	Heavy Breed Softfeather
EGG COLOUR:	Tinted

MALE CHARACTERISTICS

Carriage	Graceful, showing length of back, vigorous and well balanced.
Type	Back: broad and flat. Breast: broad and square, carried well forward, with long, straight and deep breastbone. Shoulders wide. Wings: carried close to the body. Skin: clear and of fine texture. Tail: moderate size, carried at an angle of 45 degrees.
Head	Head: medium size and fine quality. Comb: single, medium size, evenly serrated and erect, and fitting close to the head. Eyes: prominent, full and bright. Beak: short and curved. Face: smooth and of good texture. Earlobes and wattles: of medium size and fine texture.
Neck	Gracefully curved with fairly full hackle.
Legs and feet	Thighs: short and stout. Shanks: short and strong, and rather wide apart, free from feathers, with close-fitting scales. Toes: four, straight and well spread.
Plumage	Close and free from any unnecessary fluff.

FEMALE CHARACTERISTICS

The general characteristics are similar to those of the male, allowing for the usual sexual differences.

COLOURS

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- Brown** Male: Plumage: head rich dark mahogany. Neck hackles: rich dark mahogany striped with black. Saddle hackle: same as neck hackle. Back and wing bow: rich dark mahogany. Wing coverts: forming a blue-black wing bar. Secondaries and flights: black edged with brown. Breast, tail and thighs: black.
- Female: Plumage: head brown. Hackle: brown striped with black. Back and wings: dark brown, finely peppered with black. Breast and underparts: clear pale wheaten brown. Flights: black edged with brown. Tail: black.
- Buff** Male and Female: Plumage: body a rich even golden buff. Head: buff. Neck hackles: buff, sharply striped with green-black. Wings: buff, with black in the flights. Tail and coverts: green-black. Dark in undercolour not penalized, but buff is preferable.
- Coronation** Male and Female: Plumage: identical to the light Sussex except tht the markings in hackle, wings and tail are a clear lavender blue throughout.
- Light** Male and Female: Plumage: head white. Hackles: white, striped with black, the centre of each feather to be entirely surrounded by a white margin. Wings: white with black in flights. Tail and coverts: black. Remainder: pure white throughout.
- Red** Male and Female: Plumage: head rich dark red. Neck hackles: rich dark red, striped with black. Body and wing bow: rich dark red, one uniform shade throughout and free from peppering. Wings: rich dark red with black in the flights. Tail: black, coverts rich dark red. Undercolour: slate.
- Silver** Male: Plumage: head white. Neck and saddle hackles: white striped with black. The black centre of each feather to be entirely surrounded by a white margin. Wings bow and back: silvery white; coverts to form a black wing bar; flights and secondaries black tinged with grey. Breast: black with white shafts and silver lacing around feathers. Thighs: dark grey showing faint lacing Tail: black. Undercolour: grey-black, shading to white at skin.
- Female: Plumage: head and neck hackles as for the male. Back and wing bows: greyish-black, each feather showing a white shaft with fine silver lacing. Remainder: as for the male.
- Speckled:** Male: Plumage: head and neck hackles rich dark mahogany, striped with black and tipped with white. Wing bow: speckled. Primaries: white, brown and black. Saddle hackle: similar to neck hackle. Tail: main feathers black and white, sickles black with white tips. Remainder: rich dark mahogany, each feather tipped with a small white spot, a narrow glossy black bar dividing the white tip from the remainder of the feather. Undercolour: slate and red with a minimum of white.
- Female: Plumage: head, neck and body ground colour rich dark mahogany, each feather tipped with a small white spot, a narrow glossy black bar dividing the white from the remainder of the feathers. The mahogany ground colour to be free from peppering. The three colours of the feather to show distinctly and not to run into each other.

White Male and Female: Plumage: white throughout all sections.

All varieties In both sexes: Beak: white or horn, darker on the darker coloured varieties. Eyes: brown variety, brown or red; buff, red and speckled varieties, red; light, silver, coronation and white varieties, orange. Face, comb earlobes and wattles: red. Shanks, feet, toes and Skin: white.

Weights

Fowls	Male	4.10 kg minimum, no maximum
	Female	3.20 kg minimum, no maximum
Bantams	Male	1.14 kg minimum, – 1.36 kg maximum
	Female	910 g minimum, – 1.14 kg maximum

Scale of Points

Type and Flatness of Back	25 Points
Size	20 Points
Colour	20 Points
Head and Comb	10 Points
Feet and Legs	15 Points
Condition	10 Points

Total 100 Points

Disqualifications and Serious Defects

General Disqualifications, read page 11 (of APS2)

Serious Defects read page 13 (of APS2)



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