

recommendations and suggestions for discussion at future **WBO** meetings. By 2002 the WBO Colour Standards was completed and ratified by Member Countries together with the **Scale of Points, Standard of Perfection, Main Features of a Budgerigar and Guidelines for Judges and Exhibitors**.

The WBO is considering a 3-dimensional model of the Ideal budgerigar with the concept of photographing the model through 360 degrees then putting the images on a CD-ROM for distribution to member societies. The first version of this process was completed in 2004 but was rejected by member societies. A new proposed WBO Pictorial Ideal is now under study (see front cover).

ROSETTES

WBO promotional patronage is sent to each member society/country. This patronage consists of four five-tier rosettes for national shows; **Best Any Age in Show, Best Any Age Opposite Sex, Best Young Bird in Show and Best Young Bird Opposite Sex**.

The WBO colour rosettes are made up of the five continent's colours as used in the Olympic Flag; **blue, yellow, black, green and red**.

RESEARCH

The WBO encourages member countries to share and exchange Research papers and articles of importance between themselves after obtaining the author's permission. Every year finances are set aside to meet the costs of translations and dissemination of research information to member organisations.

A number of research articles have been obtained from scientists and vets and these have been distributed to member organisations. All the articles can be found on the WBO website.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

At the 2003 meeting, and after much debate, the agreed WBO policy on **AI** is: **The WBO do not recommend the use of AI, as they consider the objectives of the Organisation are best served by natural breeding**.

STANDARDISATION OF COLOURS

After carrying out a field study, during 2003, in seven member countries involving many fanciers, the WBO established their own **Budgerigar Colour Guide** for the basic budgerigar primary colours using the **Pantone Colour Chart**: Light Green (375), Dark Green (369), Olive Green (371), Grey Green (398), Lutino (102), Skyblue (310), Cobalt (2915), Mauve (535), Violet (2727), Grey (428).

OTHER ISSUES

The WBO are involved in formulating policies to counter attack the **Anti Bird Keeping Lobby, Transportation of birds across countries, Watering of birds at shows and Falling Membership**.

The WBO have their own HANDBOOK issued to Member Organisations.

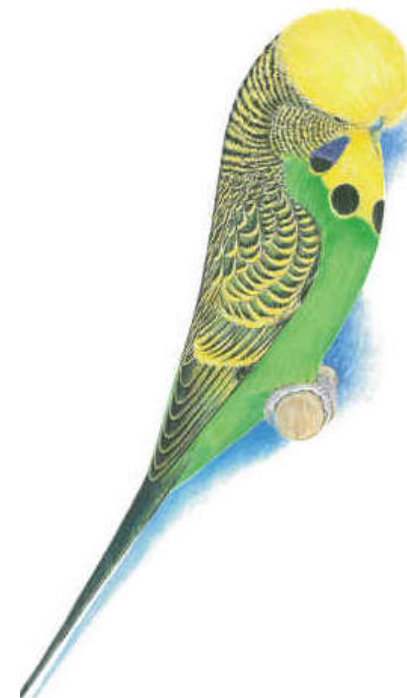


*Best in Show at the 2002 B.S. Club Show
Spangle Grey cock bred by Tom Deacon
(photo by M Freakley)*

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World Budgerigar Organisation



www.world-budgerigar.org

World Budgerigar Organisation

Since the naturalist John Gould brought the first budgerigars from their native habitat Australia to England in 1840 the hobby of keeping, breeding and exhibiting budgerigars has flourished throughout the World.

The very first society to be formed catering exclusively for budgerigars was the Budgerigar Society (B.S.) of the United Kingdom in 1925, so it was not surprising that the B.S. was the instigator in calling two International Meetings in 1992 and 1993 which eventually led to the formation of the **World Budgerigar Organisation (WBO)** in **April 1994**.

From the outset it was agreed, by delegates attending those first two meetings, that the WBO official language would be **English** and that it would function in an **advisory role** so that the integrity and independence of each of the affiliated societies/countries would be retained.

A **Constitution** was adopted at the first meeting and was last revised in August 2007.

Any new country wishing to join the WBO will have to agree to the Constitution prior to joining.

OBJECTIVES

Objectives of the **WBO**, as laid down in the Constitution, are:

- a. To bring together representatives of member countries.
- b. To serve as a unified international advisory organisation in promoting common standards for the budgerigar fancy throughout the World.
- c. To support and encourage the free movement of budgerigar breeders and budgerigars across international borders in order to improve the breeding, exhibiting and judging of budgerigars.
- d. To assist in the protection of the interests of members of the organisation.
- e. To assist in the progress of scientific knowledge by the accumulation of data and literature and the distribution thereof amongst members of the organisation.
- f. To reward any work of outstanding merit with prizes or other marks of recognition.

MEMBERS

The following countries are members of the W.B.O. : Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Republic of Ireland, Holland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Slovensko, United Kingdom and United States of America.

RING COLOUR SEQUENCE & SPECIFICATION

The **WBO** initially adopted a 6-year colour sequence in 1997 but this was reduced to a 5-year cycle commencing in 2004 by dropping the **Silver** colour. It was also agreed to add the **International Pantone Colour Code** to each of the five colours. The following new ring colour sequence and Pantone codes are: **Dark Green (2005, 363U)**, **Red (2006, 1797U)**, **Black (2007, 2U2X)**, **Dark Blue (2008, 301U)** and **Violet (2009, 249U)**. It is recognised that some countries have special problems that may prevent them from total acceptance of the colour sequence.

The **WBO Ring Specification** adopted is:

Minimum internal diameter	4.20 mm
Maximum internal diameter	4.40 mm
Wall thickness	0.60-0.90 mm
Ring height	3.85-4.00 mm



*Best in Show at the 2002 NGC-DBS (Dutch National)
Grey Green cock bred by Backx, Cuyten & Maas*

IDEAL BUDGERIGAR

The **WBO** description of the **Ideal Budgerigar** is *"The length of the Ideal Budgerigar shall be a minimum of 8.5 inches (216 mm) from the crown to the tip of the tail. However, the Budgerigar is essentially a bird of balance and style and this should always be taken into consideration."*

INTERNATIONAL JUDGES PANEL

A **WBO International Judges Panel** was created and to be eligible for inclusion on this Panel (amended 2004) a judge must meet the following criteria:

- a. be a current champion breeder and exhibitor of Budgerigars in their own country. Where a country society has only "one" Status of Exhibitor, a breeder and exhibitor of long standing will be acceptable subject to "b" and "c" below.
- b. be a fully qualified judge for a minimum of 5 years in their own country or in the country/society in which they qualified.
- c. apply in writing to their National Society (or the society in which they qualified) to be placed on the list. The National Society will then be responsible for checking their qualifications and, if eligible, for passing names, addresses and telephone numbers to the **WBO Secretary** for inclusion on the list. A WBO International Judges List is now available from the Secretary and on the WBO website. It was also agreed that member countries should consider inviting judges from overseas who are members of the International Judges Panel, as approved by the WBO, to judge at shows under their jurisdiction.

SHOW CAGE

The **WBO Show Cage** specification, both written and technical drawing, has been agreed and is available from the Secretary and also on the website. It is recognised that for national reasons slight variations may occur with the show cage. There is also a 10-year introductory period, which commenced in 1997.

COLOUR STANDARDS

It was agreed from the start that the B.S. Colour Standards book would be used as the basis of the **WBO Colour Standards**. A **Standards Sub-Committee** was formed to look at the variations of the Colour Standards from member countries prior to putting forward their