Selecting Gloster Pairings – Genetics, Photo & Visual
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In recent years I have been trying to shape my ideas about putting together my breeding couples through a photo overview. Around Christmas I compile most couples based on their descent.

In March most couples will be assembled like this, as it looks on my site https://alssemaglosters.nl/index.php?p=204. The basis for the coupling is always the genetic descent of my birds.

Through years of selection of birds that approach the standard, a very strong core has been created within my Gloster stock. Of course, output always remains the standard of the Gloster. This standard is known to everyone, but we still see many different types of Glosters. My Gloster was and still is a bird with a compact type.

The neck must be short and wide. The head should sit between the broad shoulders and the neck should also be short and full. The breast line is round from head to "butt" and is very important to get the right type. Viewed from above, the bird should be short and must give the back a broad impression. The Gloster should also give this broad impression in the front. The overall picture must be correct, and everything must be in proportion. The bird must be in balance. Everything must fit together in harmony. A very thick head or a very large crest on a small bird is undesirable.

We still see that far too big Glosters win their class or even the entire show. However, if the size of these so-called toppers were reduced to the desired size, there would not be much left of such a winner. The total picture belongs to small to be full and round.

Selection on all components is necessary to grow the ideal Gloster. Look especially for birds with the broad and round type and do not forget that the overall picture is partly determined by short legs, a small beak, a short tail and short wings. To get the finishing touch, feathering should be closed on all sides. We prefer to see as much colour as possible in both cocks and hens. Dependent cover feathers from the back, as well as long flank feathering is a sign that there is a wrong feathering on the bird. With such birds, the feather is too soft and lumps problems will soon arise and the chance of developing a split in the neck feathering is greater.

Taking photos takes a lot of time and some birds simply refuse to be photographed nicely but It has become clear to me that it is precisely by taking photos that you better see the qualities of a bird in that photo afterwards. I get a lot of fun compiling these photos and combinations which are composed on the basis of various qualities. However, in practice not every couple will get along well, there are many reasons why you can take a combination apart again to get the final coupling. I wish everyone a good breeding season 2020 and then a sporting and successful show season.

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