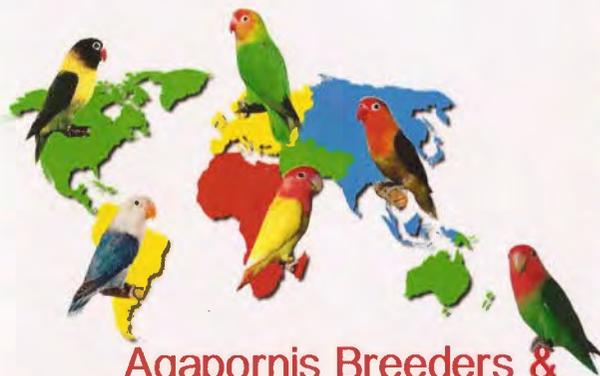


"Blue" Roseicollis

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All about "blue" Roseicollis by Rudi Bleyen and Didier Mervilde

As we know there is no blue pigment in Roseicollis and to understand how birds can, despite this, show blue colors we have to explain the different "blues" in Roseicollis.

The same gene that, when fully inactive creates the real Blue mutation, can be partially activated to create intermediate color mutations known as Parblue in other words we create bird colors between green and blue. The correct terminology for this genetic interaction is that Blue and Parblue mutations are multiple alleles for the same locus.

Knowing that we can explain everything with complicated words and diagrams, we thought to keep it simple...

In Roseicollis we have to deal with 2 different forms and 1 combination of the previous 2.

1. *Aqua, Pastel blue, Seablue* all names for the same mutation. This mutation occurred in 1963 in the Netherlands. This is a color mutation which the red and yellow color (psittacine) is lost for about 50%. The bird has a greenblue color and a pink-ivory mask. The beak and the eyes are the same as for the Normal birds (wildtype bird). In the course of the years there have been various intermediate colors created, whether or not in combination with the dark factors.
This mutation inherited recessive



2. *Turquoise, White face, Bleach mask, Whiteface blue* again all names for the same mutation. This mutation occurred in Belgium in 1975. The reduction of psittacine on the wings is about 60% and on the body approximately about 80 till 90%. This makes that the body is nearly blue. The face is nearly snow white with a small dash of pink. It has only a little salmon pink on the forehead. They have a completely horn colored beak.

It is also a recessive mutation.



3. *AquaTurquoise, Apple green* two names for the same mutation combination (see 1 + 2)

This means that it is NOT a separate mutation. It is genetically an intermediate form between Aqua and Turquoise. It has a salmon pink forehead. The body has an "apple green" body. In Europe not every club accepted this color combination on the show bench.



The Practice

Before we give some more information about the "blue" Roseicollis we need to introduce the Violet mutation.

The violet mutation occurred in the 1982 in the Netherlands and in Denmark. Consequently, there were a lot of discussions of who came the first, but that is not important.

The violet is a structural color affecting mutations. Its name came from its action in Budgerigars where it alters the Cobalt combinations into a beautiful violet color.

Many people consider that Violet is a dominant mutation. In reality it behaves in a co-dominant manner with one shade in Single Factor (SF) and another deeper shade in Double Factor (DF). The SF Violet creates a "cobalt" color, not to be confused with the true Cobalt, DF Violet creates the violet appearance. Split birds do NOT exist in Violet.

Now that we know the different colors we can tell something more about the breeding of the "blue" Roseicollis.

Rudi's Story

I started some 10 years ago with a few pairs of white face blue Roseicollis. I have them in 3 shades : white face, white face SF Violet and white face DF Violet. It were already nice colored birds but with a short format. During the breeding I noticed that the youngsters show less green on the wings. Through the years and after selection I noticed that the white face birds became bigger with no green shade on the wings.

Since a few years I introduce also opaline birds to the white faces I bred. I noticed that the offspring of the opalines are bigger birds than from the (normal) white faces and the wings are paler with lesser green.

In my opinion and proved by test breeding, the so called "blue" Roseicollis is an ordinary white face who obtained by a high degree of selection "blue" wings. The same effect you have with the so called "albino".

This is a white face crème-ino who is obtained by using a white face / ino bird without the green shade on the wings. It is noteworthy that the young "albino's" are pure white and when they became older they show more and more yellow.

To have a better color in my "blue" Roseicollis I use the violet factor in SF and DF.

I never use green birds to make the "blues" taller because the effect on the color is too great.

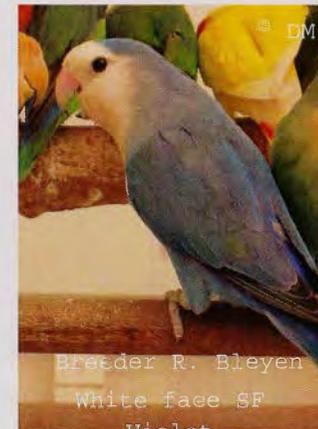
Summary

Real blue Roseicollis *doesn't exist* (for the moment)

- What we see as "blue" Roseicollis are genetical Parblue birds
- The visual blue one can obtain is by using *White face SF or DF Violet* and a lot of *selection* on the color and format.



White face DF
Violet



Breeder R. Bleyen
White face SF
Violet



Breeder R. Bleyen

Left to right: White face SF Violet, Opaline White face SF Violet, Opaline White face DF Violet



Breeder R. Bleyen

Left to right: White face SF Violet, White face DF Violet, Opaline White face SF viol



"Albino" Roseicollis
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Explanations of terms

Multiple alleles : alternative genes for a single position on a chromosome.

Psittacin : the name given to the carotenoid type pigments found in parrot feathers. They produce yellow, red, orange and pink colors.

Recessive gene : a gene that is only allowed to express itself when two copies are present in the genetic make-up. A single copy is suppressed by the opposing wildtype gene. **Dominant gene** : a gene that overpowers the wildtype gene to which it is paired, producing the same appearance whether one or two genes are present.

Double factor/single factor : refer to the number of genes present for a particular trait. Only normally used for dominant and co-dominant mutations.