

# German Crested Canary

Didier Mervilde



Figure 324 von Marcus zum Lamm

The German crest is one of the oldest crest canaries. Probably the first pictorial representation of a crest canary came from thesaurus Marcus Picturarum zum Lamm. This was a prelate on the court of the Elector Palatine in Heidelberg (Germany) from 1544 to 1606. He developed a 33-volume encyclopedia of which three volumes devoted to the bird world. In this volume we found a first image of a bird who looks like a canary with a crested head, he called it "figure 324".

The year 1677 is also often related to the first crested canary but we have no real evidence. In the same context they speaks of a list of canary varieties produced by Hervieux in 1709, about a book with a crested image in 1722, and in 1734 a transport of crested canaries from Germany to Holland. However, it is assumed that these birds are the ancestors of all crested breeds from the middle of the 18th century. It was after the World War II that breeders concentrated on the crest birds in combination with the color canary. In 1956 the two greatest German clubs (DKB and DFKB) coalesce and Mr. Jules Henniger make the first crest guidelines. It was in 1962, Klaus Speicher and Gustav Müll (Judge) who produce the first standard for German crest canary. This standard was officially accepted in 1963 by DKB. The first standard drawing was signed by Mr. Karl Neunzig. After four years of testing the standard was accepted by COM. Meanwhile the standard has been changed at least 4 times.





The German crest distinguishes itself from other posture canary breeds because they are the only ones who have the qualities of the color canary combining with the racial characteristics of the crest.

Very special is that the crested form are exhibited with the posture canary and the partner without a crest with the color canary.

The crest is oval and wide. The crest starts from the middle of the head and runs the entire head. Starting at the beak root she runs with a straight lateral boundary line above the eyes slightly curled up into the neck. The crestfeathers overlap the beak partially. The eyes are free.

The crest goes smoothly into the neck. The color quality and type of the bird must meet the standard of the color canary.

The German crest is between 13,5 cm and 14,5 cm tall. The attitude of the bird amounts 45° to the perch. The color of the crests head at lipochrome birds is dark, mottled or clear. Pied birds are not allowed.



1. Ideal German crest
2. No center but a peak
3. Crest too round
4. Crest with many errors and too short
5. The midpoint too far forward







© DM

© DM

© DM

© DM