

# ANTHRACITE

Didier Mervilde



Cock Anthracite DF



Hen Anthracite DF

The new colour mutation of an anthracite budgerigar was in the flights of Hans-Jürgen H Lenk (+) near Düsseldorf/Germany, a very good friend of Mr. Gerd Bleicher, in the year 1998. At his regular visits to him he got all information about the development.

In year 2003 he bought 3 of Hans-Jürgens Anthracite cocks and since then he tried to find out their inheritance. We now know that it is Dominant.

The Anthracite budgerigar is an own variety and factor. The colour description of a Normal Anthracite is :

**General body colour:** rump, breast, flanks and under parts dark anthracite of an even depth of colour

**Mask:** White, ornamented by six evenly spaced large round jet-black throat spots, the outer two being partially covered by the base of the cheek patches. The white of the mask extending over the frontal and crown, to merge with the black undulations at the back of the head.

**Markings:** on cheeks, back of head, neck and wings, jet-black with a well-defined white edge, all markings free from any intrusion of body colour.

**Cere:** blue in cocks, brown in hens.

**Eyes:** black with white iris.

**Cheek patches:** dark anthracite.

**Primary wing flights:** jet-black with a mini mum white edge.

**Primary tail feathers:** jet-black.

**Feet and legs:** blue/grey



From his experimental pairings he came to the following conclusions:

- 1<sup>st</sup> The anthracite factor is a factor in its own
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The single factor anthracite is like a dark factor and changes a sky blue to a visible cobalt. The cheek patches of single factor anthracites have got a light anthracite sheen and can definitely be recognised as anthracite factor birds
- 3<sup>rd</sup> The double factor anthracite is the visible anthracite budgerigar with very dark near to black body colour
- 4<sup>th</sup> The double factor (visible) anthracite is dominant to grey, so if carrying the grey factor and paired to sky blue grey offspring can be bred. The grey body colour of a single factor anthracite grey budgerigar shows a deep colour with a blueish sheen and definitely cheek patches of a colouration between grey and anthracite
- 5<sup>th</sup> The anthracite factor is separate from the grey factor, i.e. he bred visible anthracites from a pair of genetically sky blue 1-factor-anthracites
- 6<sup>th</sup> The anthracite colour can be bred in all varieties, i.e. in opalines, spangles, cinnamons, clearwings, greywings, all types of pids etc.
- 7<sup>th</sup> The anthracite factor can be brought into the green series body colours and changes the green colour accordingly



Anthracite SF  
Grey



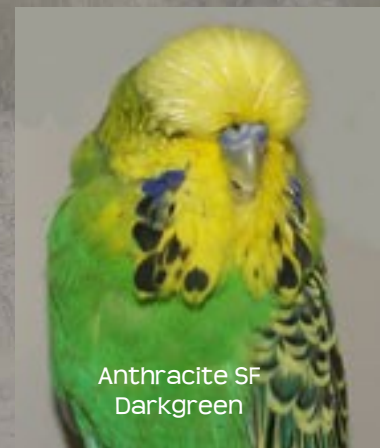
Anthracite SF  
Cobalt



Anthracite SF Violet



Anthracite SF Grey-  
green



Anthracite SF  
Darkgreen

Gregor Mendel  
1822–1884



## INHERITANCE



DF Anthracite x DF Anthracite	=	100% Anthracite
DF Anthracite x EF Anthracite	=	50% EF Anthracite 50% DF Anthracite
DF Anthracite x Normal	=	100% EF Anthracite
EF Anthracite x EF Anthracite	=	25% Normal 50% EF Anthracite 25% DF Anthracite
Ef Anthracite x Normal	=	50% Normal 50% EF Anthracite

As far as I know the mutation Anthracite can be find in following countries :



Germany  
Hans-Jürgen H. Lenk †



Belgium



Switzerland



Norway



England



Sweden



U.S.A.



Pakistan



Canada



Netherlands

Expectations :

The Anthracite mutation can be bred in the blue and green serie. It is also possible to do combinations with other mutations. Today there are reports of combinations with darkfactor birds, Opaline, Yellowface, spangle, Pied, Whitewing , Violet and what to expect from the combination Anthracite x Slate. AS you can notice Anthracite is a mutation who can bring us a lot of new colours.

The mutation Anthracite is also accepted by W.B.O.

