

Pied European Greenfinch

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The European Greenfinch, *Carduelis Chloris*, is a bird in the family Fringillidae. The bird is wide spread throughout Europe, North Africa and South West Asia. It is resident, but some northern populations migrate further south. The Greenfinch is also been introduced into Australia and New Zealand. Favoured for breeding are thick vegetation, farmland hedges and gardens. It lays 3-8 eggs. In nature they can form large flocks outside the breeding season. They feed on seeds but they also take berries.

The Greenfinch is 15 cm in length, mainly green, with yellow in wings and tail.

The female is duller and have brown tones on the back.

The nominate and subspecies are :

- **Carduelis chloris* (West-, Central- and East-Europe)
- **Carduelis chloris harissonni* (U.K.)
- **Carduelis chloris muhlei* (Italy)
- **Carduelis chloris aurantiiventris* (South-Europe and Nord-Africa)
- **Carduelis chloris chlorotica* (Syria, Lebanon and Egypt)
- **Carduelis chloris turkestanica* (Caucasus, Iran, Iraq, Aghanistan and Turkestan)



Mutations :

Brown, Agate, Ino (Lutino or Sateen), Pastel, Greywing, Pied, Darkfactor and mutation combinations.



The first Pied Greenfinch I saw was on the "National" U.K. in 1994. Eight years later in 2002 I saw them again on a show in Rosmalen (Netherlands). They were beautiful.

Since 2010 I have my own Pied Greenfinches. To breed the Pied Greenfinch you needed only one pied bird because the inheritance is **DOMINANT**. This means that you have Single factor birds and Double factor birds. The youngsters will be visual pied or normal there is not such a thing as a carrier in Dominant peds.

When you pair one visual pied to a normal, the youngsters will be 50% normals and 50% SF peds. Some SF peds will be similar to normals but will have white toenails or some yellow feathers. The DF peds are for 90% yellow.

Like all Greenfinches you can breed those birds in cages or flights.

If you want to show the birds you will have a problem if you live in Belgium, like I do, because the pied birds will not be accepted.

The same happen on the C.O.M. -shows. This is unacceptable and incomprehensible.

There are so many possible combinations of mutations that we lose in this way. Let us hope that time brings council.

