



# Entente Européenne d'Aviculture et de Cuniculture Europäischer Verband für Geflügel-, Tauben-, Vogel-, Kaninchen- und Caviarzucht

Branch Poultry

## Report of the standard committee on the new breeds in Nitra 2025

### Lithuanian goose, white



The standard calls for a slightly upright, medium-sized, moderately broad goose with a double dewlap. The neck should be of medium length, fairly slender and slightly arched at the nape. The head should be domed, but without a throat dewlap. The beak is required to be orange-red in colour and the legs should also be orange-red. In other words, similar in type and size to the German laying goose, but with a longer and thinner neck. It should be noted at the outset that the collection on display was in a rather poor condition for showing. One bird was moulting so heavily that it had to be excluded. The others all displayed poor wing structure, crossed excessively and were, in some cases, rather narrow in body. Furthermore, the required belly wattle was only rudimentary in half of the birds. In terms of posture and

head shape, most were acceptable. In some birds, the throat could be even drier. Only one bird could be classified as 'very good', and all the others were below.

#### **Decision ESC-P:**

Given that the entire collection was presented with such poor plumage and wing structure, and in some cases with a nearly absent wattle, the verdict is quite clear: failed! This breed must be presented again at the next European show.



## Romanian autosexable goose

The next breed is a medium-sized, stocky goose from Romania, whose distinctive feature is its colouring. The body is carried almost horizontally and the belly is without a wattle, although



a small, straight belly wattle is permitted in adult birds. The wing tips cross slightly over the rump and lie close to the body. Furthermore, the neck should be strong and slightly curved. The top of the head is slightly rounded and a small forehead is desirable. They are also permitted with or without a crest. The gander is always white, although a slight grey tinge on the thighs is tolerated in young ganders. The female, on the other hand, is piebald, with the piebald pattern limited to a heart-shaped mark that should not extend too widely onto the wing; the thigh feathers and tail are predominantly grey. Interestingly, however, the head is white. The birds on display were relatively uniform in type. There is still room for improvement in terms of colour. In two geese, the wing feathers should have been purer in colour; they displayed a few feathers with a hint of beige. Furthermore, in

one young goose, the heart mark was not entirely regular. One gander displayed a double dewlap, meaning he had to be downgraded to a B, and one young goose unfortunately displayed a one-sided dewlap. The remaining six birds were relatively well-balanced and were all in the 'very good' category.

### Decision ESC-P

Overall, it was a very balanced collection that formed a cohesive whole in terms of form. Naturally. Work needs to be done on the markings, particularly on achieving a more uniform heart marking and a purer colour in the hand and arm feathers. As it was clearly evident that this is a distinct breed and the characteristics are well-established, it was decided to include this breed in the list of recognised breeds and colour varieties.



## Old Polish rural duck, wild-coloured

This breed of duck from Poland was first presented and is said to have existed in Poland for over a hundred years. The breed standard describes a medium-sized land duck, similar to a wild mallard. It should have a rectangular shape and the body should be only very slightly raised. The belly should be full and the wings should lie close to the body without crossing. The head should have a slightly arched forehead and a slight beak pressure. A breed characteristic is the fine plumage on the outside of the legs, which displays a sort of stripe. Quite a few birds had not yet fully moulted and still had a number of old feathers, particularly on the flanks and back. In terms of colour,



the majority could be classified as wild-coloured, with the wild colouration being more or less pronounced. The beak colour posed problems in the drakes, which should be more olive-green. The biggest problem, however, was the type, which ranged from a relatively short body to a long, stretched one, or even a deep laying belly – displaying everything typically found in medium-sized ducks. Scores ranged from 90 to 92, with only one bird achieving 93 points. The



low scores were due to differences in type, colour and markings, as well as a very immature plumage.

#### Decision ESC-P:

Due to the variety of types and colour faults, the breed fell far short of the standard requirements. It lacks sufficiently distinctive differences from existing breeds. As the morphological differences within the collection presented were greater than the differences from existing breeds, the ESC-P has decided not to admit the Old Polish rural duck to the recognition process in future. They can therefore no longer be presented at the next European Show and have no chance of being included in the list of recognised breeds and colour varieties.



#### Struma, buff white spotted

I had actually been looking forward to it. They had already competed in Metz in 2015, but unfortunately had to contend with several disqualifying faults at the time, meaning they had to compete again. But it was a huge disappointment on every level. The Struma are a Bulgarian breed with feathered feet, a beard and a crest. They have a horizontal posture, a deep barrel shape and a tucked-in tail, which should be relatively broad at the base and have medium-length sickles. The standing crest is pushed slightly forwards and the tail feathers are usually curved to the side. The hen has a very small comb, almost entirely obscured by the crest. In terms of form,

they have been better in the past; they mostly lacked the deep barrel shape, were somewhat short and not deep enough in the breast. Colour-wise, it took a great deal of imagination to classify them as the buff-and-white-speckled variety. Almost white body plumage, a lack of speckling and white neck feathers are the first things to catch the eye. But that was not the worst of it. The hens all displayed a large, loose full crest that did not allow any visibility



whatsoever. This is completely at odds with the free sight required for animal welfare and must be vehemently rejected. For this reason, all four hens were excluded from the judging. We are obliged, for the sake of the animal's welfare, to penalise such excesses and consistently exclude them from the judging. Furthermore, some of the cocks had sparse beards and poor wing posture. Among the hens, there were cases of incorrect comb shape and missing toe segments. This was a major blow to the breed's reputation. I don't understand why the birds weren't subjected to a preliminary selection; had they been, this debacle could have been avoided. 1 x 91, 1 x 90 and four disqualifications!

#### **Decision ESC-P:**

They could have saved themselves the whole entry fee! What a waste of effort. Clearly, they missed the mark – and by a mile! The issue of restricted visibility isn't just a problem in German-speaking countries; it applies across the whole of Europe! Until the Struma demonstrate the required visibility and the disqualifying faults are eliminated, they stand no chance of being accepted. The breed must be presented again at the next European show.



## Polish Bantams, gold

They have been undergoing the recognition process since 2012. Initially, they had issues with the colour of their legs and, above all, with numerous M-shaped notches; moreover, each bird differed in terms of conformation. The cocks typically displayed a steep tail carriage with a short back, whilst the hens, by contrast, were long and rather flat in the transition. Today, it is fair to say that they have improved significantly. In terms of form, they have become much more uniform, and the disqualifying faults have also disappeared. The hens now have significantly shorter backs and higher-carried tails, and their feathering pattern has become finer. The deviations from the standard are now within the desired range.



### Decision ESC-P:

The Polish bantams showed no major deviations from the standard description and presented themselves as a well-balanced collection. There are still minor issues regarding the sickle position of the cocks and the pattern of the feathering on the hens, but overall the presentation was very consistent. The ESK-G will add the Polish Bantams to the list of recognised breeds and colour varieties.



**Decided at Pohlheim, 28th march 2026**

**ESC-P**

**President:**

Urs Lochmann