

Native Poultry Breeds at Risk



Old English Pheasant Fowl



Pied / Cröllwitzer



Silver Appleyard



West of England

Chicken breeds

Ancona
Andalusian
Australorp
British Araucana
British Faverolles
Brussbar
Buff Orpington
Burmese
Campine
Cochin
Cream Legbar
Croad Langshan
Derbyshire Redcap
Dorking
Hamburgh
Indian Game
Ixworth
Legbar
Leghorn
Malay
Marsh Daisy
Minorca
Modern Game
Modern Langshan
Nankin
Norfolk Grey
North Holland Blue
Old English Game
Old English Pheasant Fowl
Orpington (non Buff)
Rhodebar
Rosecomb
Rumpless Game
Scots Dumpy
Scots Grey
Sebright
Sicilian Buttercup
Spanish
Sultan
Sussex
Welbar

Turkey breeds

Blue
Bourbon Red
British White
Bronze
Buff
Narragansett
Nebraskan
Norfolk Black
Pied / Cröllwitzer
Slate

Duck breeds

Abacot Ranger
Aylesbury
Black East Indian
Campbell
Cayuga
Crested
Magpie
Orpington
Rouen (Exhibition)
Shetland
Silver Appleyard
Silver Bantam Duck
Stanbridge White
Welsh Harlequin

Goose breeds

Brecon Buff
Buff Back
Embden
(as standardised in the UK)
Grey Back
Pilgrim
Sebastopol
Shetland
Toulouse (Exhibition)
West of England

Between 1900 and 1973, the United Kingdom lost 26 native breeds of livestock as well as many varieties of poultry. Rare Breeds Survival Trust (RBST) was founded in 1973 to save the UK's native breeds and since then no breed has become extinct.

RBST plans and run various conservation projects to ensure that the UK's breeds of livestock and poultry are given the chance to survive.

The RBST Poultry Working Group consists of representatives of the Poultry Club of Great Britain, The Rare Poultry Society, the Turkey Club, the Goose Club, the Domestic Waterfowl Club and British Waterfowl Association, as well as individual poultry specialists.



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GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTANCE OF BREEDS ON TO THE RBST LIST OF UK POULTRY BREEDS AT RISK

RBST recognise large fowl and true bantams (although it is noted that some miniature versions of large fowl listed are also rare). Not all of the poultry breeds listed by the RBST are numerically rare, but all have been assessed as fulfilling the below criteria, and may face other threats to their populations within the UK.

1. A breed is defined as:

A group of animals that has been selected by humans to possess a set of inherited characteristics that distinguishes it from other animals within the same species. In the case of poultry, breeds must be recognised by a governing body and accepted as a standardised breed according to British Standards. Colour variants will normally be considered as part of the same interbreeding population unless there is evidence of genetically distinct origins and these variants are not interbred.

2. For recognition by the RBST a breed must be an original breed, or a native breed of which at least one parent breed is believed to be extinct. A native breed is defined as:

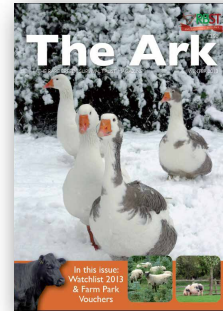
- breed history documents the breed origin within the UK (including from amalgamation of native breeds), and the UK has formed the primary environment for the development of the breed or the breed of origin in its current adapted form; and
- breed history documents its presence in the UK for 40 years plus 6 generations (where a generation is 2 years for poultry breeds); and
- not more than 20% of the genetic contributions come from birds hatched outside the UK (other than those imported for an approved conservation project) in any generation for the last 40 years plus 6 generations.

3. Evidence of the breed's existence will take the form of written material e.g. newspapers of the time, or historical writings. This evidence should be archived by the Trust.

4. Breed Societies and Clubs will be regarded as the official source of breed information.

5. An imported breed may qualify for inclusion on the Watchlist on the grounds that the UK has become the main breeding centre for a breed that is seriously endangered or extinct within its own country of origin, or has undergone significant and documented breed development with the UK to distinguish it from the breed in its country of origin.

6. If insufficient information exists to fulfil all current guidelines, RBST may occasionally recognise breeds it considers to be of sufficient genetic conservation importance.



As a member of RBST you will receive 'The Ark', our membership magazine, four times a year and be able to advertise your native breed livestock on our website. Visit our website www.rbst.org.uk for more details on joining RBST.

WHAT RBST DOES FOR THE UK'S POULTRY BREEDS:

- Promotes knowledge and the keeping of UK native and rare breed livestock.
- Identifies and monitors the populations of native breeds most at risk and takes action where necessary.
- Provides conservation grants to breed societies and organisations to help them support rare and native breeds.
- Collaborates with research institutes and universities on studies into rare and native breeds such as the recently published poultry DNA diversity study with the Roslin Institute.
- Hosts the RBST Poultry Working Group which includes representatives of the major poultry organisations to advise on poultry issues.

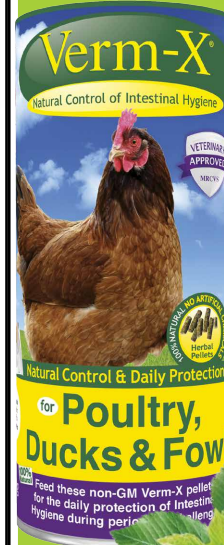
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Modern Langshan chicken:
One of the rarest breeds on the
RBST Poultry Breeds at Risk List.

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