

YOU BE THE JUDGE



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

LEGHORN POULTRY IN DEPTH JUDGING CRITERIA

The Leghorn breed originated in Italy, named after the port in which the first birds were shipped to America in the mid 1800s. In the early 1870s, white and brown coloured leghorns arrived in England; however, it wasn't until the beginning of the 20th Century that they began to increase in popularity in Australia. At this time they become one of the most popular breeds in Australia and having great success in egg laying competitions. The Leghorn is still a popular breed, coming in 14 colour varieties in both large and bantam.

CHICKENS	PLACINGS
CHICKEN 1	2
CHICKEN 2	1
CHICKEN 3	4
CHICKEN 4	3

SCALES OF POINTS:

The scale of points is a breakdown of how Leghorns are judged. The higher the number of maximum points allocated to a characteristic, the more highly it is regarded when considering the quality and true-ness to type of the breed.

CHARACTERISTIC	MAX POINTS
TYPE	30
COMB	10
LOBES	10
EYES	8
LEGS	7
CONDITION	10
SIZE	5
COLOUR AND MARKINGS OF PLUMAGE	20
TOTAL	100

TYPE

Body: Wide at the shoulders and narrowing slightly to root of tail.

Back: Long and flat, sloping slightly to the tail

Breast: Round, full and prominent, carried well forward; breastbone long and straight.

Wings: Large tightly carried and well tucked up.

Tail: Moderately full and carried at an angle of approximately 45 degrees from the line of the back; full sweeping sickles.

COMB

Single: Fine texture, straight, moderately large but not overgrown, coarse or beefy, deeply and evenly separated open brackets the spikes broad at the base], extending well beyond the back of the head and following, without touching, the line of the head, free from 'thumb marks' side spriggs or twist at the back. In the male the comb is to be erect. In the female is to fall gracefully to one side; however, not to obstruct the vision of the bird.

Rose: Moderately large, firm open brackets not overgrown so as to obstruct the sight], the leader extending straight up behind and not following the line of the head, the top covered with small coral light points of even height and free from hollows.

LOBES

Almond- shaped, well developed and pendant, equally matched in size and shape, smooth, open and free from folds and distinct from the face.

EYES

Prominent

LEGS

Legs: moderately long.

Shanks: free of feathers, fine and round. Flat shins objectionable. Ample width between legs.

Toes: 4, long, straight and well spread, the back to straight out at rear. Scales small and close fitting.

CONDITION

Good plumage condition means that the bird is not moulting, there are no missing feathers, the feathers are not dull but bright and shiny were appropriate.

FOWLS		BANTAMS	
MALE	3.4kg	MALE	910-1075g
FEMALE	2.5kg	FEMALE	790 - 910g
YOUNG MALE	2.70 - 2.95kg		
YOUNG FEMALE	2.00 - 2.25kg		

COLOUR AND MARKINGS OF PLUMAGE

There are over 14 different colours of leghorn. Plumage standards will vary between each colour. In all varieties.

Beak: Yellow

Eyes: Red

Comb, Face and Wattles: Bright red

Earlobes: Opaque white or cream

Shanks and Feet: Yellow or Orange

DISQUALIFICATION

- Red on earlobes.
- Any white on face.
- Single combed birds: females comb erect or double-folded

