

Origin of The Hamburg Fowl

By: Lenora Stallsmith



The Hamburg fowl comes in five varieties which are Silver-Penciled, Gold- Penciled, Black, Silver-Spangled and Gold- Spangled. These varieties were bred or created in two different Countries, the Netherlands and Great Britain, therefore we will study them in two different groups.

The first group are the black and spangled varieties from Britain while the second group contains the two penciled varieties that were created in the Netherlands.

In the first group it is unknown what other chicken breeds were crossed to make the Black and Spangled Hamburg's, though many have suspicions. Some think it is a breed called "Turkish" by the Italian Naturalist Aldroandi. This bird is much like Spangled Hamburg in appearance but others think it is related to the Polish Spotted-Breast Game, or the Dutch Everlasting Layer.

The second group has changed greatly since they were introduced. Mr. B.P. Brent and others have made us a good record of the penciled variety, a breed that was imported from Britain under the title Dutch Every-day Layer. The Dutch Every-day Layer was then crossed with the Spanish Fowl. Creating the Penciled Hamburg from the Netherlands.

Resources of Information: *Races of Domestic Poultry, By Edward Brown*