



SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHOW POULTRY ORGANISATION BREED STANDARDS

BELTSVILLE WHITE



ORIGIN:	America
CLASSIFICATION:	Light
MASSES:	
Mature Tom:	7.0 - 10.0kg
Mature Hen:	4.0 - 7.0kg
Young Stag:	5.0 - 8.0kg
Young Hen:	3.0 - 5.0kg

White turkeys were bred in Europe from the early times and the breed has been known also as the White Holland, and even the Austrian. The mutation to the white color (which is actually lack of color) is an ancient one. The Aztecs and others selectively bred white turkeys and they were certainly among the stocks sent to Europe. In Austria (the Austrian) and in Holland, white turkeys were favoured. It retains its name of White Holland in America, being standardized there as such, while there, too, producers have developed the small Beltsville White.

This is a comparative newcomer to turkey breeds, and was developed in America to meet the consumer demand for a smaller type of bird. It rapidly achieved popularity in the States but, although adopted by British breeders, this breed has now given way to the Small White.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

MALE AND FEMALE

Type:	Body: very symmetrical, medium length and broad. Back: broad throughout and flat. Breast: medium length, broad, and slightly curved. Wings: strong and neatly folded. Tail: long and straight, carried in line with the back.
Head:	Small length and breadth and carunculated. Beak: strong, curved and well set. Eyes: prominent, bright and clear. Throat wattle: medium in length and of fine texture, conforming to the size of the bird.

- Neck:** Of medium length in proportion to rest of the body.
- Legs and feet:** Thighs: medium length and strong. Fluff: short and tight. Shanks: fine but strong, flat sided, fairly short. Toes: four, straight and strong.
- Plumage:** Very tightly feathered.

SERIOUS DEFECTS

Wry tail. Feathers other than white. Pronounced debeaking.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Crooked or other deformity of the breast bone. Deep breasts with a pronounced knob on point of breast bone. Any other deformity.

COLOUR

WHITE

- Plumage of both sexes:** Pure white throughout, free from creaminess, off-white or other tinge. Beard: black.
- In both sexes:** Beak: light pinkish horn. Eyes: brown iris, black pupil. Face, wattle, and caruncles: bright rich red, but changeable to blue and white in the male. Shanks and feet: pink and flesh colour. Toes: pale horn.

SCALE OF POINTS	
Condition	10
head, neck and wattle	10
Colour	10
Shape and type	55
Legs and feet	15
TOTAL	100