



SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHOW POULTRY ORGANISATION

BREED STANDARDS

ROUEN



ORIGIN:	France
CLASSIFICATION:	Heavy
MASSES:	
Drake:	5.4kg
Duck:	5.0kg

Among the domestic ducks raised by French farmers several hundred years ago, some ducks resembled large Mallards. Around 1800, these ducks reached England, where they were variously called "Rhône" for an area in southwest France, "Rohan" for a Catholic Cardinal, "Roan" a mixture of colours, and finally "Rouen" for a town in north central France. Once the breed arrived in England, breeders began to redesign the bird through selective breeding. They doubled its size, transformed its sleek body into a thickset boat shape, and improved its colours. The Rouen follows the same colour pattern as the wild Mallard. In France they are called Rouen Foncé (dark) as opposed to Rouen Clair, which are lighter in colour. The drake also moults into duck plumage in the summer like the Mallard.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

DRAKE AND DUCK

Carriage:	Carried horizontal, the keel parallel with the ground and just clear of it.
Type:	Body long, broad, square. Keel: deep, just clear of the ground from stem to stern. Breast: broad and deep. Large wings, well tucked to the sides. Very slightly elevated tail, the drake's having two or three curled feathers in the centre.
Head and neck:	Massive. Bill: long, wide and flat, set in a straight line from the tip of the eye. Eyes: bold. Neck: long, tapering and erect, slightly curved but not arched.
Legs and Feet:	Of medium length. Shanks: stout, well set to balance the body in a straight line. Feet: straight.
Plumage:	Tight and glossy.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Leaden bill. No wing bars. White flights. Stern broken down. Wings down. Drake: black saddle, black bill or minus neck ring. Duck: white, or approaching white, neck ring.

COLOUR

MALLARD

DRAKE

- Bill:** Bright green yellow, with black bean on tip.
- Eyes:** Dark hazel.
- Legs and feet:** Bright brick red.
- Plumage:** Head and neck: rich iridescent green to within about 25 mm of the shoulders where the ring appears. Ring perfectly white and cleanly cut, dividing the neck and breast colours, but not quite encircling the neck, leaving a small space at the back. Breast: rich claret, coming well under, cleanly cut, not running into the body colour, and quite free from white penciling or chain armour. Chain armour or flank penciling rich blue French grey, well penciled across with glossy black perfectly free from white, rust or iron. Stern same as flank, very boldly penciled close up to the vent, finishing in an indistinct curved line, perfectly free from white, followed by rich black feathers up to the tail coverts. Tail coverts: black or slate black with brown tinge, with two or three green black curled feathers in the centre. Back and rump: rich green black from between the shoulders to the rump. Wings large coverts pale clear grey, small coverts, French grey, very finely penciled, pinion coverts dark grey or slate black. Two bars composed of one line of white in the centre of the small coverts, grey tipped with black, also forming a line at the base of the flight coverts, the latter feather slate black on the upper side of the quill and rich iridescent blue on the lower side, each of these feathers tipped with white at the end of the lower side, forming two distinct white bars, the pinion bar being edged with black, with a bold blue ribbon mark between the two, each colour being clear and distinct and making a striking contrast. Flights: slate black with brown tinge, free from white.
- Note:** Markings throughout the whole plumage should be cleanly cut and well defined in every detail, the colours distinct and not shading into each other.

DUCK

- Bill:** Bright orange, with black bean at the tip, and with black saddle extending almost to each side and about two thirds down the tip.
- Eyes:** Dark hazel.
- Legs and feet:** Dull orange brown.

Plumage:

Head: rich golden, almond or chestnut brown, with a wide brown black line from the base of the bill to the neck, and very bold black lines across the head, above and below the eyes, filled in with smaller lines. Neck: same colour as the head, with a wide brown line at the back from the shoulders, shading to black at the head. Wings, bars: two distinct white bars with a bold blue ribbon mark between, as in drake. Flights: slate black with brown tinge, no white. Remainder of plumage rich golden, almond or chestnut brown of level shade, every feather distinctly penciled from the throat and breast to flank and stern, the markings to be rich black or very dark brown, the black penciling on the rump having a green luster.

SCALE OF POINTS	
DRAKE	
Colour (breast 10, bill 5, neck 5, chain armour 10, back and rump 5, wings 5, stern 5, tail 5)	50
Markings	10
Size	10
Type	10
Condition	10
Head	5
Legs and feet	5
TOTAL	100

SCALE OF POINTS	
DUCK	
Colour (ground 15, bill 10, head 5, neck 5, wings 5)	40
Pencilling	20
Size	10
Type	10
Condition	10
Head	5
Legs and feet	5
TOTAL	100