

# NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020



## The UK Spanish Chicken Breeders Group Newsletter 6

### Welcome

Firstly I apologise for the delay in the Newsletter, I have been awaiting updated information.

What a strange and worrying start to the year.

As if Covid wasn't enough, we also have the Avian flu lockdown!

December poultry shows were cancelled long ago. There has however been a RPS Virtual Poultry Show on Social Media. Some 4700 entries of which just under 300 were Rare Breed Exhibits.

It was a great success and a mammoth task for the organising committee & judges. Rachel had Best Spanish.

### Registrars ramblings

Our RBST / RPS Zoom meeting in October was a success, attended by some 10 breeders.

We heard that we are moving forward on the 2 main outstanding issues.

The RBST poultry database is being agreed and tested and eventually the question of financing it. Again, we will be actively participating in discussions and following progress closely, we hope to report in the next Newsletter.

### Wing Tags?

Why? In order to mitigate against compulsory cull in case of an epidemic for example Avian Flu. Birds on the FAnGR BAR list (Farm Animal n Genetic Resources Breeds at Risk) will need to be individually identified and signed up to a breeding program.

We would be grateful if you could please e-mail Paul @ [spanishchickens@gmail.com](mailto:spanishchickens@gmail.com) ASAP with your anticipated numbers please



Show winning bird of Chris Hull

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## Practical Poultry Articles

Rare Breed Utilities - Courtesy of Practical Poultry

[https://a9d1f0b9-9cac-4c63-acf7-7afc2cadf389.filesusr.com/ugd/684051\\_733ea5e257084f21801ef0c955feba26.pdf](https://a9d1f0b9-9cac-4c63-acf7-7afc2cadf389.filesusr.com/ugd/684051_733ea5e257084f21801ef0c955feba26.pdf)

Spanish Buying Guide - Courtesy of Practical Poultry Magazine - A really interesting and informative read for the beginner

[https://a9d1f0b9-9cac-4c63-acf7-7afc2cadf389.filesusr.com/ugd/684051\\_f106632509814955a0f364e59a97c1b5.pdf](https://a9d1f0b9-9cac-4c63-acf7-7afc2cadf389.filesusr.com/ugd/684051_f106632509814955a0f364e59a97c1b5.pdf)

## Virtual Poultry Show



As mentioned before, the Virtual Practical Poultry show was held in December 2020. The results of the UK Spanish were :-

Rachel Slade 1<sup>st</sup>

Rachel Slade 2<sup>nd</sup>

Danny Cammerlink 3<sup>rd</sup>

Rachel Slade 4<sup>th</sup>



Rachel's winners were from the Spanish bloodline and will be introduced to some UK bloodline hens to see what the outcome will be. The hens from the same hatch will also be introduced to a UK Cockerel, again to see what the results will give. Rachel will keep us updated with the progress and we await with anticipation!

## Zoom Meeting minutes January 6<sup>th</sup> 2021

Paul Morgan opened the meeting and welcomed all members new and existing. He explained that he was in discussions with RPS and RBST with regard to wing tagging and a definitive way to tag birds from an early age. Danny suggested that Wing Bands are a good option from an early age until either Wing Tags or Leg Rings can be fitted.

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Danny gave his excellent presentation on what to look for when starting with the UK Spanish and important hints and tips. Andy Marshall answered questions and stressed the importance knowing the history of your birds and breeders alike to ensure quality of stock.

## Breeding Programme

Paul would like to remind everyone that as we are 1 of the 7 (Target Breeds) involved in Breeding Programs. This will enable our rare breeds to be registered on the new RBST database (free registration) so that in an event of a local case of Avian Flu, your birds may be spared. Once they are individually identified and once we are accepted onto the Breeds at Risk Register. Paul will keep us updated.

In the meantime Paul is also in discussion with Poultry Club of Great Britain (PCGB) as the organisers of the UK leg ring scheme who will also be in charge of Wing Tag ordering. We do need to know the number of breeders who would use wing tags and the number of tags they might order (rough estimate) for costing purposes from the supplier. So could you please e-mail Paul as soon as possible with your estimated numbers needed as the meeting in mid January will decide if PCGB will adopt wing tags and decisions need to be made now for the 2021 breeding season.

## Census

Those members who have not completed the census form on the UK Spanish website or sent it to Paul, please do so as soon as possible as it is imperative that numbers are registered so that monitoring can be maintained of the UK Spanish breed. This is all done with complete confidentiality.

A Thai breeder has a really good example of a Spanish hen face, what do you think?



The date of the next Zoom meeting will be Thursday evening of the 25th March at 7pm

## Contact details :-

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