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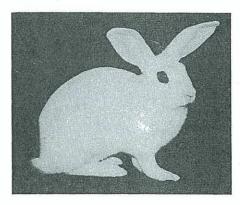
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A Breed From France

Derived from a town geographically nestled in the lush green vally of the Auge region of Normandy, very near the Port of Le Haure in Northern France, an area known for its superior dairy products and apple cider, comes the name and the rabbit - Blanc de Hotot* (White of Hotot).



Madam E. Bernhard - Chateline of Calvadas, Baroness of Hotot - operated a large stud of Geant de Flanders (Flemish Giants) and Geant Papillon Francais (Checkered Giants), with several hundred hutches at the beginning of this century. Bernhard has been given total credit in originating the Hotot. The Hotot's fixed characteristics come to us from 1912.

Bernhard's goal was to produce a large white rabbit of multi-purpose qualities for food, fur and fancy with black eyes. Various crosses were done between the Papillon and other breeds of white rabbits; namely the Flemish Giant, Blanc de Vendee, and Blanc de Vienna. There were no great results received in these matings, with the young being either agouti or spotted.

Upon the advice of Mousier J.J. Lemaire - who had a hand in originating the Grand Russe (large type Himalayan),

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A Breed From France

(Continued from Page 37)

and did not use any other breeds, but with the direct heredity and devotion, bred progeny that he so desired. Bernhard chose the Checkered Giant to work with.

Over the years, Bernhard worked with over 500 crosses until she produced what she wanted, using the theory of process of elimination.

The Hotot was officially accepted by the Commission des Standards de Francis (Committee for Standards of France) on the 13th of October, 1922.

The breed soon spread to Switzerland in 1927 and other European countries were soon to follow suit.

The breed was imported to the U.S. through the efforts of David Ingalls and myself on the 25th of June, 1978. Many people were involved during the 10-month struggle to bring the Hotot to the Americas. Some of the more noted ones are Mrs. R.W. Whitman of Texas and Mrs. M. Henderson of New Mexico.

The breed was first shown in Albequerque, New Mexico, and put before the ARBA during the recent ARBA Convention & Show in Saginaw, Michigan, last October, where the breed appeared warmly received by those who viewed it. Their acceptance comes with the publication of the ARBA Standards — or the Hotot rabbit.

The demand for stock is quite high, but there is a shortage of animals available at the present time. There are several interested individuals ready to organize a

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Birchwood Farm

Gordy & Doris Leibel

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specialty club in their behalf, so please be on the lookout for this formation in the near future.

The Hotot rabbit has spirit, accompanied by stamina. Very eye catching, with their black eyes, lashes and the thin black band that surrounds each eye. Some people have thought the breed to be of Egyptian origin, however the breed is strictly from France. With the comments that have been received as 'Egyptian' we have so dubbed the breed as "Pharaoh of the Rabbit Kingdom."

For more information on the breed, please write: Dean-Leigh Enterprises, P.O. Box 100, Mauriceville, Texas 77626. Phone 713/745-2498. We will do all in our power to answer any and all questions that you might have.

We of Dean-Leigh Enterprises are proud to be a part of this breed's appearance to the list of fine breeds already accepted in our ARBA Book of Standards.

*Hotot — Pronounced O Toe. The first "H" is silent and the last "T" brings out the sound of "E."

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor and Members:

This letter is in response to the article by Terry E. Reed in the January-February, 1979 issue. I fully agree that more research needs to be done in all phases of rabbit production. Part of the difficulty in acquiring funds for this research, especially at the university or state experiment station funded level, is convincing the administrators that the rabbit industry is an agricultural based enterprise and that it is a viable business (not hobby) endeavor both for producer and consumer.

Researchers may apply for funds; however, granting some of these funds is influenced by awareness of need for that particular research. Support from clubs and individual breeders-producers is necessary. This support may be in the form of financial aid, as stated in the article, but most important would be letters requesting and demonstrating research that you feel is needed. These letters may be sent to the Animal Science Department or State Experiment Station at your state university.

Those of you who wish to support rabbit research in the state of Maryland, please write to Dr. Dona Kern, Room 2117, Animal Science Department, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742. Hopefully, a show of support from the ARBA members will help us obtain research funds.

Dona L. Kern Assistant Professor

Membership Contest

	As of February 1, 1979
NATIO 1 2-3	DNAL SPECIALTY CLUBS Am Dutch RC12 Am Fed NZRB5
Sever	Rex RC5 al with two
LOCA	L & SPECIALTY CLUBS
1 2 3-4	South FL RBA, FL 4 Smokey Mtn RBA, TN 3 Capital City RC, KS 2
	MI St. Cavy Fanciers, MI2
Sever	al with one
ADUL	
1	Bob Bennett, CT8
2-3	Joseph Laura, Jr, MA5 Howard Mays, MS5
4	Mary Lou Miller, FL 4
5-6	Bruce & Sharon Brown,
	CA3 Tom McDaniel, MI3
Sever	al with two
YOUT	TH
1	Kim Westrick, WI5
2	Acton-Box 4 Leg 4-H R&CC, MA 4
3-4	Vickie Hermann, OH3 Heidi Winchell, CA3
Seve	ral with two

Dear Oren:

I was gone over the weekend and came back to find that someone had visited my rabbitry and took 22 American Blue does — 19 had litters from 3 weeks to 5 weeks old; three American Blue bucks were also missing; three American White does and two White bucks; and one Chocolate Dutch doe.

This had to be someone who knew rabbits, because they did not just go down one row and take them as they came to them. They knew the good ones from the others.

I am now the owners of 20 rabbits. They left 2 American Blue does, 4 American Blue bucks, 4 White American does, 3 White American bucks, 3 Blue Dutch, 2 Black Dutch, and 2 Chocolate Dutch.

They broke out a rear window in the rabbit house to get in. This happened on Saturday night. They were gone Sunday morning when the fellow came over to take care of them.

I may be lucky enough to run across some of the rabbits at some of the shows. Two of the does and litters were sold. I was just waiting for the weather to warm up so I could ship them.

I hate to call him as he was waiting to hear from me. He has had them paid for before the does were bred.

Yours very truly, Claude H. Bennett