

SPECIALTY CLUB REPORTS

National Federation of Flemish Giant Rabbit Breeders, Inc.

By Roger E. Dent, Secretary-Treasurer

Our 1985 election has been completed. John Trone, Election Chairman, reports Harold May was elected President and Keith Forbush, Kurt Witt, and Jim AhYou were elected directors. Congratulations to those elected. Thanks to all that participated.

A couple All-Flemish shows were scheduled to end the summer competition. The F.G.R.C. of California held a show in Ventura, CA in mid-August and Eastern States FGRBA held their second annual fall show in Cortland, N.Y. on September 8. Michigan FGRBA will host their fall show on October 6 in Saline, MI. A small gathering of Giants will take place in Houston, TX at the ARBA convention. Y'all come!!!

The Northwest FGRB will hold their show in Vancouver, WA on November 24 and the Texas club will complete the year on December 14 in Copperas Cove, TX. If possible, try to attend one of these All-Flemish shows and meet some GIANT breeders.

The ARBA convention will be here and

gone. Once again the Federation will offer an outstanding list of Giant specials. Judge Carr will be caressing the critters. Bring your best — and complain with the rest!! Our Awards Banquet is scheduled for Wednesday evening, October 30, at the Kitchen Restaurant, which is adjacent to the Red Carpet Inn-Astrodome. Plan on bringing or sending something for the raffle.

I've received a request from a group of breeders in Louisiana to form a Flemish Giant specialty club. The paperwork is being processed and hopefully will be completed by convention. We welcome this newly organized group to the Giant hutch.

The 1985 Sweepstakes Series is completed. Here are the official results: #1 Harold May, N.Y. - 10,128; #2 Gene Gilmore, TX - 7707½; #3 Robert and Kathy Bomia, MI - 4784½; #4 Bob and Audrey Thomas, PA - 4545½; #5 Bob and Dorothy Dunham, WA - 4092½; #6 Jack and Hazel Langley, TX - 4042½; #7 Tony and Kathy Bell, TX - 4028; #8 Sir Carl Palumbo, OH - 3485; #9 Jan Van Etten, NY - 2987; and Bob and Lynn Bolyard, MI - 2910. Congratulations to all exhibitors, and especially to those listed above. A complete listing of anyone that earned points will be printed in the next newsletter.

Promote your Flemish! Breed some good

ones. Sell some good ones!!

Promote your Federation — get a new member for our club. Dan Brink, and Alvin and Verly Guilbeaux have been doing a nice job of increasing our membership — four each. How about one each from the rest of you Giants.

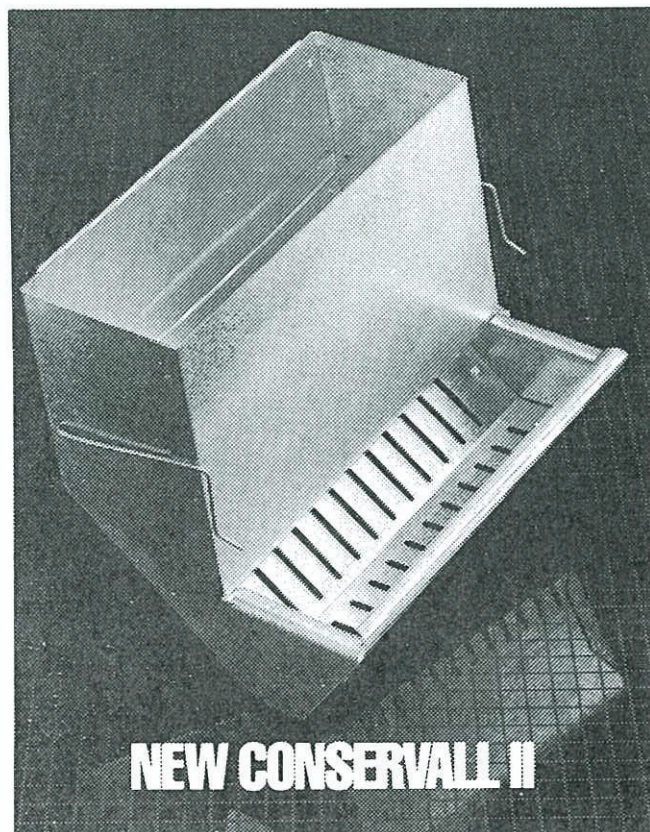
Good luck to all at the fall shows. Enjoy those gentle Giants.

Hotot Rabbit Breeders International

By C. Murphy Street, Secretary-Treasurer

Hotot International News, published in recent times on an irregular basis, has gone to an every-other-month schedule in an effort to arouse more interest. Plans call for the issue to be forthcoming whether there is a lot of news, or just a little. Club members are encouraged to drop a note or letter to your club secretary to update everyone on what's happening (or not happening) with your rabbits. We welcome ideas and suggestions, and even complaints and constructive criticism.

Now, honestly, no one likes to make mistakes; and it's often harder yet to own up



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to them when they are made. But I goofed in improperly filing some things, and if a response to your inquiry or the return of your cashed check has been delayed, I'm the culprit. As one club's show secretary said: "If you'll just go ahead and do your job like you should have, I can get my work caught up." My apologies to all concerned. As I've said before, sometimes I don't do this job worth a hoot!

We're looking for a big turnout of candidates for elections this year. Help make Hotot history by filing for one of the spots on the ballot. With a small club like ours, you can help set the pace for progress. All it takes is a little patience and a lot of perseverance . . . which also describes what it takes to be a breeder of the all-white, standard-size rabbit with the alluring black eye bands — the Hotot.

For show sanctions and information on Hotot rabbits, write C. Murphy Street, 852 Colebrook Rd., Fredericksburg, VA 22405.

Holland Lop RSC

by Publicity Ch. Nan Woost, Ohio

The sun is hot and hazy . . . humidity is about 75 percent and temp. is 82 degrees. A lazy, hazy July day in Ohio. Imagine yourself here, no matter where you live. Give yourself a break from your everyday routine and come daydream with me. We can daydream about the upcoming, biggest, bestest ARBA Annual Convention yet!

Hopefully, those Hollands kindled in January and February have been handled and groomed for the Senior classes. Your May litters will provide you with a better finished Junior Holland, according to some "old timers" I've talked with. Judge Al Roerdanz of Kingsville, OH posed a very interesting question, "Why at so many shows do you not see a scale at the Holland table, and the rabbit that sure looked like it weighed more than 4 pounds on an accurate scale?" I ask this question, "When the HLRSC members request it, why don't judges weigh the senior classes and their BOB and BOS winners?" Curious, especially since our breed has a maximum weight.

There were 26 Holland Lop Grand Champion Certificates issued in the July-August *Domestic Rabbits*. That alone should provide Hollanders with the inspiration to show at the Houston ARBA convention. Texas has always been known for doing things BIG! I'm sure Houston will not let us down. I'm sure the Texans will continue to keep this tradition going. Let's imagine you are showing at Houston Convention.

Just imagine your own Holland Lop, your own plan of breeding, your own feeding program, your very own efforts to produce the type our *Standard* calls for crossing the show table and . . . the judge smiles as he places your animal, your Holland in the holding pen. What are your thoughts?

"Now comes the dry, mouth-full-of-cotton

time! This is an ARBA convention! The HLRSC offers double points for this show! Look over there, is that really that famous Holland Lop breeder I was reading about? Geez! It's warm in here!

Holy Toledo! I'm standing right next to a HLRSC director! Gosh, how nice, how helpful, how just a normal kind of Hollander this director really is. Boy! I'm glad I came to this convention. You get to meet the neatest people!

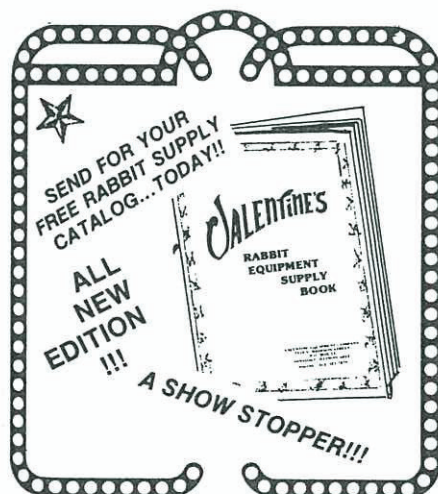
Oh Boy! The judge is picking first place Junior Buck, and . . . I'm afraid to look! My junior buck won?! My very own junior buck! I can't believe it! What? I can't put him away yet? Well, O.K. I need a cigarette, a stick of gum maybe. I won Best Junior?! I can't believe it! I've got to relax somehow.

It's not so bad standing here watching the Senior classes being judged. I finally found out what a snipy muzzle is. I have to admit, convention showing sure is exciting and gets your blood moving around. The judge picked the Senior doe as Best Senior. She sure is nice.

What's going on now? The judge keeps moving my little buck up and down the table; surely we don't stand a chance, do we? Dare I hope? Dear Lord, please keep my knees from knocking . . . and yes, Lord, I want to win! I don't care who knows it! I worked so hard! That little buck is my own breeding. I didn't buy him like some folks I know. Can you hear me, Lord?

I can't look! Geez! The Junior buck won Best

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