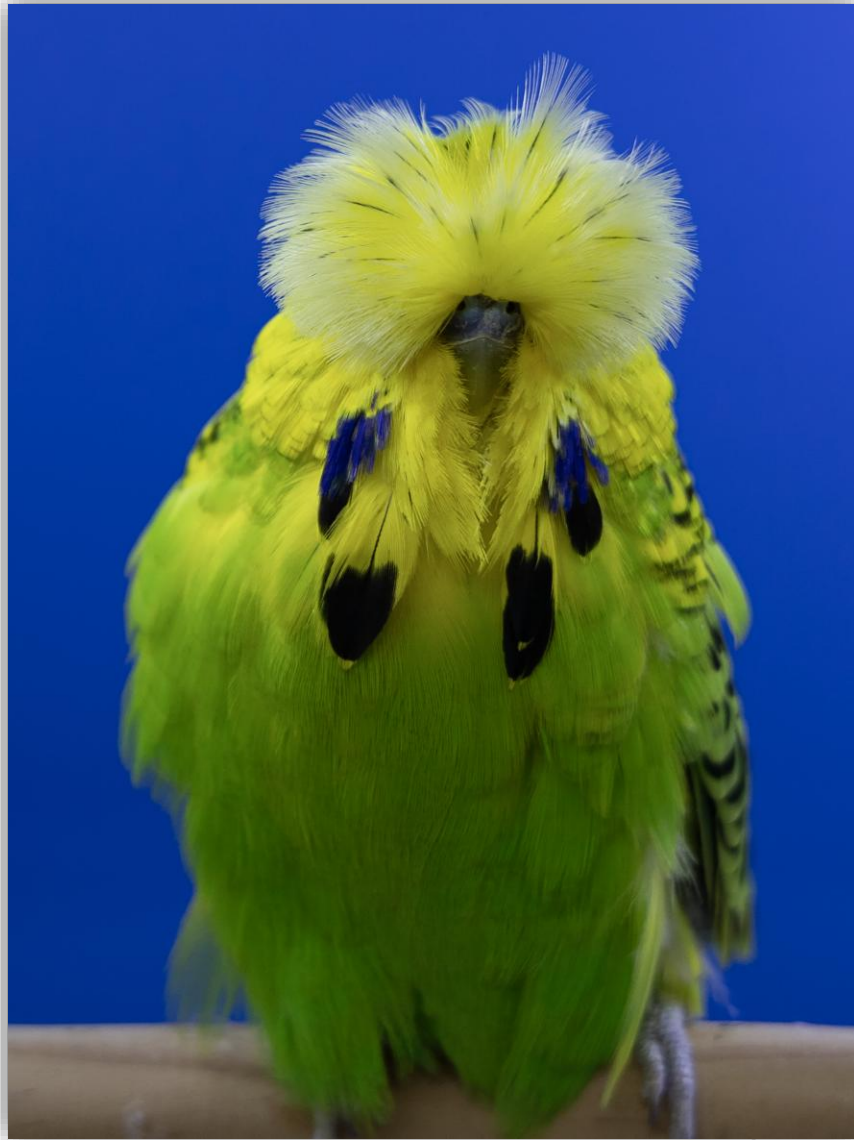


CREATING AND MAINTAINING A WINNING STUD

Pierre Swart (P888)



The Principal

- ▶ First of all - how do you tell somebody in just a few short sentences how to do it, because anybody can do it, if they put their mind to it.
- ▶ It is actually a very simple principle, but that is the only easy part, the principal, the rest is not so easy and takes commitment to the challenge.



Keep the Blood Together

- ▶ After a while I began noticing that his chicks with the Opaline Light Green hen, in the original pairing, began to look better and better every day.
- ▶ Unfortunately, I had already got rid of two of the weaker ones - both hens.
- ▶ That was a big mistake!
- ▶ One of the chicks, an Opaline Sky-Blue cock, won my first Major award - Best Beginner on Show at the 1996 Eastern Cape Area Show.
- ▶ I started to use the three remaining cocks - some of which can still be traced back in my birds' pedigrees today.
- ▶ This was the first hard lesson I learned - keep the blood together and don't be too hasty evaluating youngsters from good blood lines.
- ▶ I made a promise to myself, to be very cautious of this in the future.