

# CARNEAU-CLUB Français

By: Aviculture-Europe



*Left: This is the cover of a wonderful book by the French Specialty Club about the history of the Carneau and his little brother, the Huppé-Picard.*

The book has 146 pages and describes the origin of the Carneau, which originated around 1885 in the north of France and the neighbouring region of Belgium.

Strangely, the breed's name has undergone quite a few changes in early time. The breed was named among others 'Carmiaux' and in December 1895 the then Belgian Pigeons

Association has drafted the Standard for the breed, described with that name. In 1903, the first French Pigeon Association was founded under the name 'Pigeon Club Français', and in the same year also the 'Carneau Club du Nord' was founded. In 1933, the 'Carneau Club Français' was founded, by Robert Fontaine. From everything there is written in this book about the history of the club and the Carneau itself, the name of Thierry Castille is worth to be mentioned, for all his extensive historical research.

In his foreword to this book, the president René Villain writes to be proud that 243 Carneau had been entered by breeders from three different European countries during the European Show of Metz in 2015, thus we ended up just behind the Cauchois, that achieved 286 entries on their show in Woincourt this year. We have shown that our breed is flourishing. The Carneau is part of the French heritage and over the years we managed to keep the body type almost constant at a weight between 600 and 675 grams, and at the same time we have been able to maintain a beautiful colour in this utility pigeon, although the marking of rosettes and white lower back remains a challenge.

*The Mondain (pictured below, left) and the Rock dove (below, right) are mentioned as the possible ancestors of the Carneau.*



*Left: A yellow Mondain, entered by Alain Barreau at the Show in Limoges, October 2014. Photo: Patrick Gonzales (F).*

*Below: A Rock dove, photographed in the wild. Photo: Archives Aviculture-Europe.*





*Left: This yellow Carneau cock was entered by Mr. Alain Bordenave and awarded with 97 points. Photo: Archive Carneau Club France.*

About the origin of the Carneau, Thierry Castille writes that we should go back to 1882 to the Fontaine family who lived in northern France and was known as a large family that would have meant a lot to the Carneau breeding. They described, inter alia, that the Carneau mainly occurred in red with wing rosettes (in French: epaulettes) and a white rump. But also that they were difficult to breed, and probably were created from a Mondain and Rock Dove crossing.

*Right: A red Carneau cock, with white rump and wing rosettes. Awarded with 97 points. Entered by Mr. David Watteau. Photo: Archive Carneau Club France.*



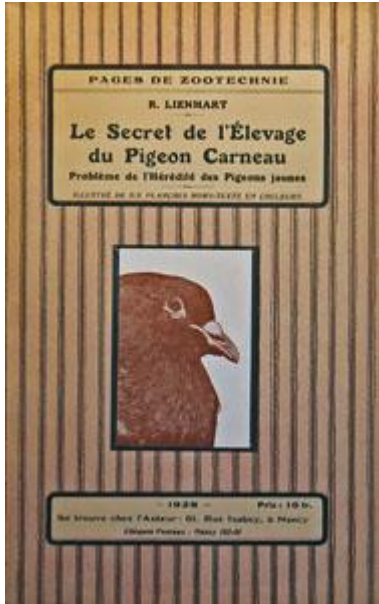
*Left: This white Carneau was entered by Mr. René Villain and awarded with 97 points during the Gueugnon Show from 2016. Photo: Archive Carneau Club France.*

The club has a rich associational life, with annual club days where technical discussions are held and of course in the French way: everyone together at the table and enjoying the meal together.

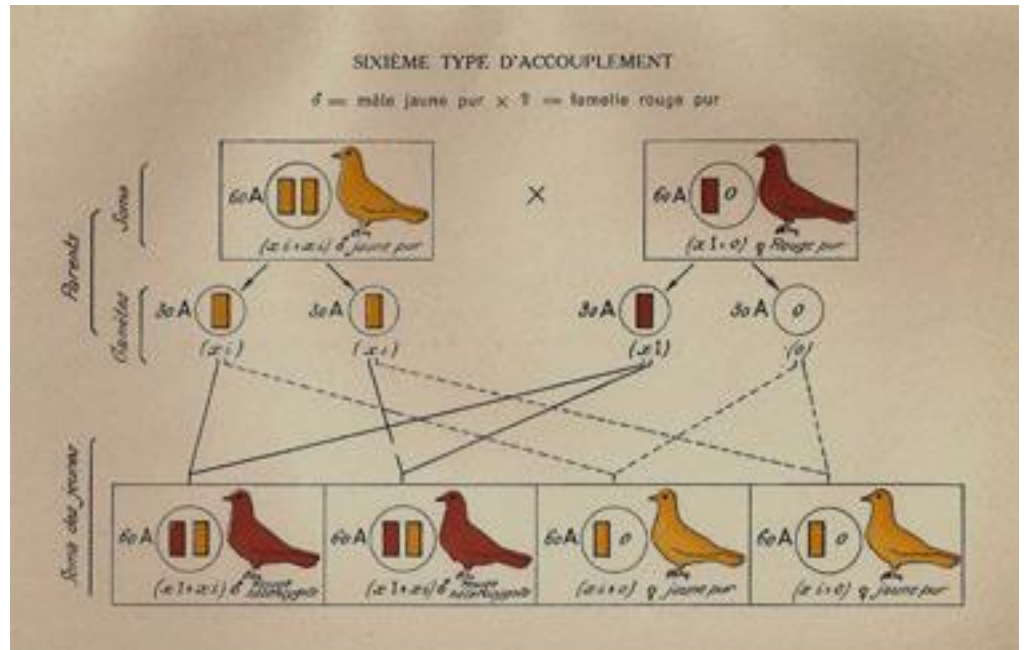
The creation of this book is partly due to Mme Francqueville, who still had in her possession all the issues of the club bulletins from February 1955, which supplied a lot of information. It is also worth mentioning that the Carneau Club since 1968 up until now is keeping a ranking of their annual National Champions.

In an incredibly rich photo panorama, displayed on 44 pages and compiled by the chairman René Villain, all colours and all the Standard details of the Carneau and of course the Huppé-Picard are shown and discussed.

René Baryła provides a summary of the ideal feed composition for the Carneau, with a detailed view of all the ingredients. (Keep in mind, the Carneau is originally a utility pigeon!)



Left: In this booklet about the secrets of Carneau breeding, written by R. Lienhart in 1928, the inheritance of the yellow colour in the Carneau was clearly described.



Right: This is such a scheme for the Yellow X Red colour, as described in 1928 in the booklet by Lienhart.

Noteworthy is that these breeding schemes currently still apply for the breeding of the Carneau, and there are six of these schemes included in the new Club Book.

Furthermore, in the book:

Disease and prevention, extensively covered by Jack Dessay, with Alain Bordenave adding some tips about the problems you may encounter during breeding the Carneau.

The last European EE standard of the Carneau, illustrated by Bernard Couden, in which he also discusses the perspectives concerning the assessment of the Carneau.

An aspect which is rarely discussed, but does contribute to a large extent to the success of a Club Day, are the ladies who prepare the meal, set the tables, and, not to forget, clean up the mess afterwards. In this Club book this group was put in the spotlight, photographed and extensively thanked for their effort. Good job!

In conclusion I found in the book 10 pages with 12 culinary delights, with the meat of the Carneau playing a leading role.



Left: Two pages from the 44 pages photo panorama in which all colour varieties and all Standard details of the Carneau, and of course its little brother the Huppé-Picard, are presented and discussed.

Here, you will also see a photo of the white Carneau, recognized alongside the Red and the Yellow in the Netherlands. That is not the case with black and dun, which are not recognized in the Netherlands.



## Standard Carneau

**Drawing by:** Jean Louis Frindel (F)

**Entente code SBI:** F / 7

**(Form pigeons 2014)**

**Country of origin:**

Belgium and North-France.

### **Overall Impression:**

Medium size, strongly built, but active pigeon with slightly upright stance.

### **Breed characteristics**

**Head:** Medium-sized but not gross or coarse, well arched, an unbroken rounded line from the beak to the neck.

**Eyes:** Fiery orange-red with a light yellow ring around the pupil (three-coloured eye).

**Eye ceres:** Small, round and pale (flesh-coloured).

**Beak:** Medium length, not too heavily built, light coloured.

**Wattle:** Smooth and not pronounced.

**Neck:** Not more than medium length, full at the shoulders, narrowing to the head. Throat rounded and well defined.

**Breast:** Broad, rounded and deep.

**Back:** Broad and very slightly sloping.

**Wings:** Must not reach the tail tip, Held closed to the body and covering the back well without crossing,.

**Tail:** Not too long, well closed, held in line with the slope of the back.

**Legs:** Barely medium length, broadly spaced stance, strong and always clean-legged. Nail colour of no importance.

**Feathering:** Abundantly feathered, but must not be too tight. Hard feathered but appearing sleek/ smooth.

### **Colours:**

Red and Yellow and White.

Red and Yellow with a white wing 'rose'.

Red and Yellow white lower back.

Red and Yellow with a white wing 'rose' and a white lower back.

### **Colour and marking**

The colours deep and rich and with intensive sheen, coloured up to the skin, also the feather shafts are coloured. The wing 'rose' ideally to consist of about 20 white single feathers, not forming a white field.

### **Faults**

Too long, too coarse or too small in body. Narrow or flat breast. Body held higher than near horizontal. Coarse head. Steep forehead. Eye not 'three'-coloured. Red or thick eye cere. Beak other than pale. Wings not covering the back well (open-backed). Matt or Bluish colours. Light under colour. Poor markings.

**Order of Importance:** Breed type and body form, size (weight) - Balance and posture - Colour and marking - Head and beak - Eye colour and Eye cere.

**Ring size:** 9 mm. Weight: 600 - 675 grams (indicative).

Club Days of the Carneau Club de France, with technical examination, were held 17, 18 and June 19, 2016, at the home of President Rene Allain in Monteaux (Loir-et-Cher), France.



In the building "a la Colombe" on his premises - an authentic winery - René and his wife can easily accommodate 25 people, thus three-quarters of participants were also able to spend the nights of the Congress at René's.

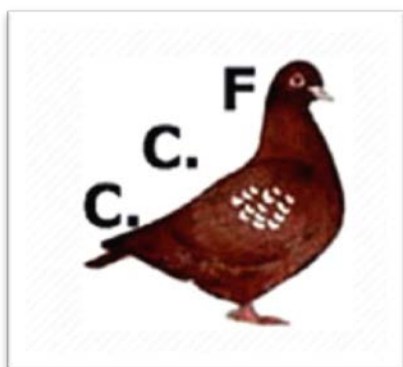
*Left: An excellent meal, served perfectly, thanks to the ladies!*

*Below: The contact between the present Club members was optimal.*

**Who would not like to be a member of such a friends' club?**

The popularity of the Carneau is growing in France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany. Strangely, in the Netherlands, the Carneau has far less supporters.

Do you want to know more of the breed and the French club, or do you want to get hold of their fine book, please contact the chairman, René Allain.



## Carneau Club Français et Huppé Picard

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