

THE 17 NATIONAL BELGIAN PIGEON BREEDS

By: Ger Brouwer (NL)

The 13th International Pigeon Show of the South-Netherlands will be held on November 2 and 3, in the events hall De Kraan in Berkel-Enschot (NL). At the show there will be a special display of the 17 National Belgian Pigeon breeds. What are they?

Ghent Cropper

A very old breed whose ancestor was known in our region as early as the 14th century.

It is a large and rather heavy pigeon with an impressive crop and a full foot feathering.

The Dominican variety is typical of this breed.

Class: Cropper pigeons.



Leuven Pouter

Originating in the 19th century it appeared mainly in the Leuven and Brussels region. A medium sized cropper with an upright, almost perpendicular stanced, a pear-shaped balloon and well-filled foot feathering. Always quite rare, another name for this breed is: Signoor.

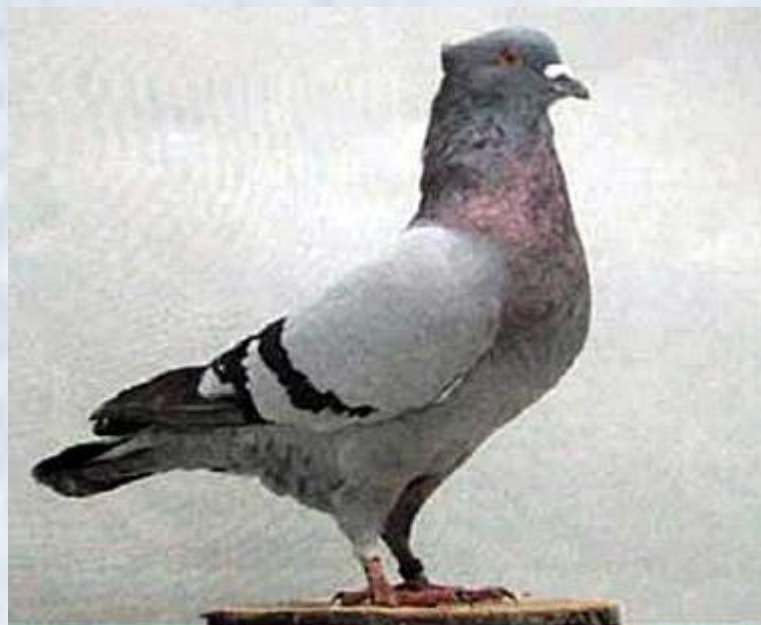
Class: Cropper pigeons.



Smyter

Originally a Flemish breed, it is a rather heavy pigeon with a peak crest at the back of the head. When displaying behind the hen the cock 'throws' itself towards her. (Hence the name 'Smyter', meaning 'throwing'.) The basic colour is gray-black.

Class: Form (utility) pigeons.





Carneau

A French-Belgian breed, arising in the 19th century in the region of Tournai-Lille. Until the first half of the 20th century they were mainly bred in France for meat production.

Class: Form (utility) pigeons.

Belgian Beauty Homer

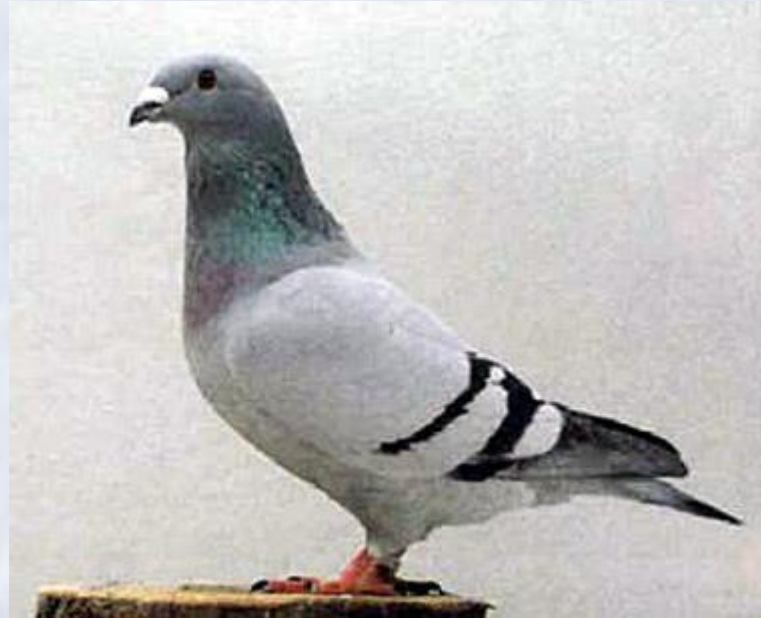
Closely related to the world-famous Belgian Homing pigeon. For forty years, the Belgian Beauty homer has been exclusively selected for elegant type, a beautiful headline and standard colours.

Class: Form (utility) pigeons.

Liège Beauty Homer

A very old breed that was present in the Liège region by the 18th century. It distinguished itself from the then Antwerp Homer by its shorter beak and rounder head. The current Liège Beauty Homer has been selected in the past fifty years as a pure exhibition variety that in body type and head is very closely related to the Liège Barbet.

Class: Form (utility) pigeons.



Renaisien (Ronsenaar)

These pigeons were bred in the Ronse region at the beginning of the 20th century.

They have been officially recognised since 1908. Originally a utility breed, today it is purely an exhibition variety. Only the white colour is recognised.

Class: Form (utility) pigeons.



Limburg Jacobin

Re-created in (Belgian) Limburg in the 1970s. The breed is related to the Capuchin, hence the cap and collar structure. They are still quite rare. A breeding program has been set up at the children's farm, Torhout.

Class: Structure pigeons.



Liège Barbet

Bred in the Liège region in the 19th century from an Owl pigeon and the then Camus pigeon. They were also used as a homing pigeon at the time. The variety is related to the Liège Homer. It has a 'jabot' (frill) on the breast.

Class: Owl pigeons.

Luttich (Liège) Owl

Its range of distribution is limited to Liège and its surroundings. They are thought to be bred from the French Owl in the 19th century. and they are still closely related to that breed. It has a jabot on the breast.

Class: Owl pigeons.



Ghent Owl

A breed that developed in Ghent in the 1950s and officially recognised since 1960. They are closely related to the Flanders Smerle. Only the white colour is accepted. They have a jabot on the breast and a peak crest at the back of the head.

Class: Owl pigeons.





Flanders Smerle

In the 1930s this breed was very closely related to the Antwerp Smerle. The only noticeable difference between the two breeds was the pointed crest of the Flanders Smerle. This is the only Owl breed is still very close to the 'peasant owl', once very common in the Low Countries. They have a breast frill and a peak crest at the back of the head.

Class: Owl pigeons.

Antwerp Smerle

Around the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries, this breed mainly occurred in Antwerp. It was also used as a racing pigeon over short distances. They have changed enormously since the 1940s, especially in head shape and body weight, due to outcrossing with various English and German Beauty Homer breeds. This is currently the largest of the Owl pigeons. They have a frill.

Class: Owl pigeons.



Belgium Ringbeater

A very old breed, related to the Speelderke but is clearly larger and sturdier. The male flies around the female in circles beating his wings with a loud clapping sound to win her attention. They have a peak crest at the back of the head.

Class: Tumblers-sub Ringbeater.



Speelderke

A very old breed, that in its present form occurred as early as the 17th century. Like the Ringbeater, the male flies around the female in circles beating his wings with a loud clapping sound to win her attention. They have a peak crest at the back of the head.

Class: Tumblers-sub Ringbeater.



Belgian Highflyer

An old breed, which in the 19th century was common in the Liège area. The breed is certainly related to the English Cumulet. Highflyers can fly for a long time at very high altitudes. They are only recognized in white.

Class: Highflyers and Tumblers.

Belgian Tumbler

Tumblers are one of the oldest pigeon groups. As their name indicates, they tumble while flying. This pigeon was at one time certainly related to other Tumbler breeds, such as the French and Cologne Tumblers.

Class: Highflyers and Tumblers.





SIERDUIVENSHOW ZUID NEDERLAND

Manifestatie Nationale Belgische Sierduivenrassen



13^e Internationale Sierduivenshow Zuid-Nederland 2 t.m. 3 november 2018 te Berkel-Enschot

Evenementengebouw de Kraan, Kraan 39a Berkel-Enschot gem. Tilburg

- Provinciaal kampioenschap NBS
- 2 erecertificaten per keurmeester
- Internationale deelname
- Aparte verkoopbeurs
- Open keurdag vrijdag 2 november
- Gratis parkeren
- Heel mooie praktische ereprijzen te winnen

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zaterdag 3 november 10.00 uur tot 16.00 uur

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