

AMERICAN SINGER CANARY STANDARD CLASSIFICATION

Model adopted in 1943

CONFORMATION

- Maximum 19 Points (20 POINTS). Refers to how well bird conforms to physical model
- Bird **5 and 3/4** inches long measured either from top of head to tip of tail, or tip of beak to tip of tail
- Angle of Bird **when not singing, between 35 to 45 degrees** from vertical, **should not have the roller hoop** when it stands in position **when it sings**

- **Head**----- Rounded, not too much dome
- **Beak**----- Medium
- **Eye**----- Round, well set
- **Neck and Throat** ----- Full song expansion
- **Carriage** ----- Lively, alert, fearless
- **Shoulder**----- Pronounced
- **Back** ----- Rounded, not too flat
- **Wings**----- Medium
- **Breast**----- Rounded and full
- **Thigh** ----- Not much showing
- **Legs** ----- Medium
- **Tail** ----- Medium, close
- **Feathers**----- Tight



FAULTS

- **FLAT HEAD (FH) - THIN NECK (TN) - CROSS WINGS (CW) - THIGH (T) - FISH TAIL (FT)**
- **DEDUCT MAXIMUM OF 4 POINTS FOR THESE FAULTS**
- **GOOD CONFORMATION 19 POINTS**
- **FAIR CONFORMATION 18 POINTS**
- **POOR CONFORMATION 17 POINTS**
- **WORST CONFORMATION 16 POINTS**

CONDITION

- **Maximum 10 Points (5-10)**. Consider issues as apparent health, vigor, cleanliness or both bird and cage and conformity of cage setup to standard
- **DEDUCT MAXIMUM OF 2 POINTS FOR EACH FAULT FOR HEALTH-VIGOUR-CLEANLINESS**
- Write notes for **DIRTY TAIL, LONG NAILS, DIRTY AND DAMAGED FEATHERS, DIRTY CAGE**

AMERICAN SINGER CANARY SONG STANDARD

An outstanding free harmonious song, pleasing to the ear, neither too harsh nor too loud, with plenty of variety

• DEFINITIONS OF AN AMERICAN SINGER

- **SONG:** A musical sequence of notes and tours naturally given, **not too loud or too soft**, medium, **pleasing to the average human ear; varied, full songs, no repetition of short tours or notes becoming monotonous. No overly sustained notes**
- **FREEDOM: (10 POINTS MAXIMUM)** Freedom, which means how soon and how often they sing. A good, healthy bird should sing on and off all day. So, at a show, **the first 10 minutes are devoted to counting how many times each bird starts singing. Each song is worth one point up to a maximum of 10 points**
- **RENDITION: (60 POINTS MAXIMUM)** The term Rendition refers to the song as a whole, the musical interpretation or presentation of song. Song should not be monotonous, either by a sustained note or notes, or through repetition. **The more variety the better song is.** The official definition of Rendition is: **"Song of the AMERICAN SINGER should have just the right amount of blending of roller and border to be pleasing to the ear, neither too loud, harsh or monotonous, of the right quality, strength and variety, without any more than 6 chop notes in his song."**
 - ❖ **50-60 POINTS -----10 songs + no or 1 fault**
 - ❖ **40-50 POINTS ----- 7-10 songs + 1 fault**
 - ❖ **30-40 POINTS----- 7-10 songs + too much Roller or Border; 2 + FAULTS**
 - ❖ **20-30 POINTS ----- 1-7 songs + 3 fault**
- **VARIETY: (20 POINTS)** A change in general song, intermixture or succession of different tours and notes pleasing to the human ear
- **VOLUME:** Medium is desired, not too loud or too soft
- **LENGTH:** The longer the total song the better
- **RANGE:** Capable of wide dynamic range, without becoming thin on the high notes or muddy in the low range
- **TONE: (30 POINTS)** Tone is defined as music or sound with reference to its pitch, quality and strength. Pleasing tone is desired, no harsh or nasal notes. **PLACE EMPHASIS ON QUALITY OF TONE WHICH REFERS TO THE BIRD'S ABILITY TO SING ON KEY WITH A BEAUTIFULL, STRONG, RICH FULLNESS TO THE SONG**
- **TEMPO:** The delivery should be slow enough so that the song can be understood by humans
- **CREATIVITY:** Changes the order of the tours, constantly surprises the listener
- **SMOOTHNESS: (10 POINTS)** Song should smoothly build up, then taper off, **not cut off abruptly or stick on one note for too long**
- **MELODIOSNESS:** Refers to the pleasing, harmonic way the bird puts his song together. **The song should flow from one passage to another in a pleasant, coherent stream of sound rather than bounce from one sound to the next with little connections**
- **SHOWMANSHIP:** The bird should stand upright and proud while singing, **no roller "hoop" (horizontal stance) or singing from the bottom of the cage**
- **QUALITY:** Depth and richness of song notes
- **STRENGTH:** Vigor shown in a strong song, not necessarily loud; **power of endurance**

JUDGING

- ❖ Judge Sits no closer than 8 feet from the class
- ❖ The ideal class should be with 7 birds, not less than 6 not more than 8
- ❖ The song should flow from one passage to another in a pleasant, coherent stream of sound rather than bounce from one sound to the next with little connections
- ❖ PLACE EMPHASIS ON QUALITY OF TONE

CONFORMATION AND CONDITION FAULTS

- ❖ FLAT HEAD (FH) - THIN NECK (TN) - CROSS WINGS (CW) - THIGH (T) - FISH TAIL (FT)
- ❖ ROLLER "HOOP", SINGING FROM BOTTOM OF THE CAGE, NO MANSHIP, MOVING A LOT BETWEEN PERCHES
- DEDUCT MAXIMUM OF 4 POINTS FOR THESE FAULTS. Based on evaluation provide conformation points:
 - GOOD CONFORMATION 19 POINTS
 - FAIR CONFORMATION 18 POINTS
 - POOR CONFORMATION 17 POINTS
 - WORST CONFORMATION 16 POINTS
- DEDUCT MAXIMUM OF 2 POINTS FOR EACH FAULT FOR HEALTH-VIGOUR-CLEANLINESS

FREEDOM AND RENDITION FAULTS

- ❖ LESS THEN 10 SONGS IN THE FIRST 10 MINUTES
- ❖ REPITITION OF SHORT TOURS AND REPITITION OF SAME NOTES
- ❖ MORE THAN 6 CHOPS NOTES IN HIS SONG
- ❖ HIGH PITCH FLUTE, WHINING NOTES, EEE NOTES. ROUGH NOTES, NAZAL NOTES, STEEL NOTES and OFF NOTES
- ❖ SHRILL, TOO LOUD, TOO SOFT OR TOO THIN
- ❖ CUTS OFF ABRUPTLY OR STICKS ON ONE NOTE FOR TOO LONG
- ❖ TOO MUCH ROLLER. BORDER or WATERSLAGER in the Song (Fault for value of song)
- ❖ LACKING IN VARIETY, RANGE, STRENGTH AND QUALITY
- ❖ TEMPO TOO SLOW OR TEMPO TOO FAST

RENDITION POINTS

- ❖ 50-60 POINTS -----10 songs + no / or 1 fault
- ❖ 40-50 POINTS ----- 7-10 songs + 1 fault
- ❖ 30-40 POINTS----- 7-10 songs + too much Roller or Border; 2 + FAULTS
- ❖ 20-30 POINTS ----- 1-7 songs + 3 fault

HOW TO MANAGE POINTS STARTING FROM THE FIRST CLASS

- FIRST Class, for a YOUNG decent Bird ----- -- 50 POINTS, for a Decent Bird
- FIRST Class, for an OLD decent Bird ----- 52 POINTS, for a Decent Bird
- SECOND and THIRD classes, -----53 and 54 POINTS, for a better young and old Bird
- Latter classes ----- 55 and 56 POINTS, for Better Birds
- Winners of the show ----- 57 and 58 POINTS
- Use decimals after the fourth class to prevent ties