

## *Malay Breeder Introduction*

My name is Werner Lamkemeyer, born 1954, I'm member of German Malay Club since 1981. I started with chicken breeding since year 1957 and became member of local poultry club of Emsdetten in year 1969 (first New Hampshire, Brahma).

Do you know that cockfighting in Germany is strictly forbidden? So we are used, to breed Gamefowl only for exhibitions. Unfortunately sometimes the vitality does suffer, when breeders do select only on beauty after standard description. The pure blood selection is the second reason that they would not fight like crosses or cockfighting hybrids.

The total vitality of Gamefowl mostly is depending on the so-called "Heterosis-Effect", when in the F1 Generation a strange blood line is added to another "thick" Gamefowl blood or strain.

Our German Malay strain was selected after very old standard description from year 1897. We have the original document in GMC's archive by President in Emsdetten / Germany or just look in Data CDRs "Gamefowl Info" in file "standards".

The European strain of Malay is depending on introduced strains from England and Holland of the last century since 1834. Malay Gamefowl is the 1<sup>st</sup> acknowledged Poultry in Germany after Standard Definition (1850), source "BDRG – Chronicle" by author Paul Doll. (BDRG is meaning: "Bund Deutscher Rassegeflügelzüchter = Society of German Poultry Breeders")

In 1997 we discovered a famous painting (oil on wood) in the Museum of Art and Art History in Münster / Germany at Domplatz: A Bible-theme "Wedding of Kanaa with Kitchen Still life" with imaged food like onions, eggs, ham, crabs, and sensational Mongolicus – Hunting-Pheasant, a remarkable House Rabbit, a calve's head and the best of all: **An Oriental Gamefowl Hen**, looking optical like a wheaten or partridge **Malayhen** with walnut comb! The painting artist was Ludger tom Ring the younger one, he created this classical famous painting in the year 1570.

Remember! Vasco da Gama discovered the sailing way to India in the year 1498. For the first 20 or 30 years the Portugese Flag was hissed at the trading boats on that dangerous sailing route down at African coast to the Cape of Good Hope and to India and later back to Portugal and Spain. Circa 50 or 60 years later the East Indian Company (since 1648 belonging to Holland) did the job. We think, there would be no other way for importation of Oriental Gamefowl to Portugal, Brabant (later Netherlands), GB, Germany and later whole Europe in those early times. Ludger tom Ring painted that Oriental Malay hen only 72 years after Discovery of Sailing Way to India that is meaning, two or three human generations or 60 chicken generations.

We German Malay breeders honestly believe on historical sources, that Malayan Oriental Gamefowl will be the oldest strain of chicken breed in Germany (or even world). From 1200 to 1800 only the local crossings in Bankiva types were available in Germany and west part of Europe and nothing else! So all new strains from India and Malayan and Indonesian Archipels were very welcome, to cross in, because the former breeders could notice, that Malay are laying their eggs in the winter months. The reason is, they are descending from the antipodes, where yeartimes are opposite from ours.

But their own poultry was laying only in the summer months from May to August. So they crossed that very expensive Orientals (3 Gold Coins per bird was meaning 1 year to work in good sold professions) with those so-called “dunghills” and after selection of following generations they received the good known breeds from nowadays like Modern Game, Rhode Island Red, Barnevelder, New Hampshire, Wyandotte. Later pure asiatic breeds like Croad Langshan and Cochin arrived and they crossed further with only diluted side-strains of Malay or Oriental Game to get Brahma, Orpington or Australorp and so on. Each year they were creating those new “breeds”, means new crosses.

At the river Indus in West Pakistan archaeologists discovered a warrior's grave with sensational content: Skeletal of his wife, his horse, his dog and his Oriental Gamecock. The Carbon Analysis said, the C14 values are to count until 3000 years before Jesus Christ. So we believe that Oriental Gamefowl will be in human hand since more than 5000 years.

Do you know that the first tamed animal was the Dog?  
It is depending on the Gray Wolfe. The second tamed animal group was the family of Ruminants (Sheep, Cow and Goat). The third tamed animal group perhaps was the Pig family. But before the Horses will appear – the **Chicken family** came to surface in India and neighbourhooded archipels.

They bred the half-wild Gamefowl chicken rudimentary at villages and got them tamer and tamer in each generation. The men loved to gamble and select by power and vitality, sometimes on size, fertility and colour. Their women appreciated the eggs and meat from those Chickens.

The Chicken got food and safety in neighbourhood of villages from dangerous animals. Never animals were tamed to house breeds like Tiger, Bird of Prey or Griffin, Chakal, Fox and so on.

Culture in whole room Asia is much more elder than in Europe, so we here in Germany got (even in 1570) 1834 a very good pure blood selected Oriental Gamefowl with all attributes we still wish and like in our times yet.

Last years I digitalized all since 1972 collected files on CDR, to offer all Gamefowl breeders. So files will be able, to get good overview and inform nearly complete about Gamefowl, even casual in history or poultry art.

The value of Oriental Gamefowl is NOT only depending on their fabulous understanding of Cockfight styles, no – the indirect Agricultural value will be very important because all neighboured vitalized blood lines got their influence from Oriental blood.

So we are standing at the “Mystical Port” of Genetic Pools, through that all the time Oriental Strains are running to Agricultural breeds and hybrids, to refresh them or to create each year new the calculated lines crossed together to receive endproduct so-called “Broiler” or “Laying Hybrids” like Lohmann Brown or Warren.