

**'PHAROS' NEW VARIETIES FOR PRODUCING
COMMERCIAL EGG-TYPE EGYPTIAN BREED OF
CHICKEN**

By

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Received: 13/05/2008

Abstract: *Pharos chickens are one of new foundation stocks, which involved in the process of establishing egg-type breed of chicken locally. It is a typical layer breed; the hen lays 240 egg during her 52 weeks of production with 56 g. as average egg weight. Developing Pharos was carried out by crossing Silver Montazah and Golden Montazah with both Lohman Brown and Lohman Selected Leghorn the two commercial layers. The distinguishing characteristics of Pharos sire line are, they are good layer of brown eggs, having single comp, yellow shanks and red ear lobes also, having long broad and deep bodies, deep breasts and well rounded. Its coloration is closely feathered line with golden colored, Colombian pattern with barred hackles, wings and tails. On the other hand, the distinguishing characteristics of Pharos dam line are that the birds will lay fair number of white shelled eggs, having single comp, white shanks and white ear lobes and they posses a moderate body size. The Silver dame lines had Colombian pattern and barred hackles, wings and tails.*

INTRODUCTION

Egyptian poultry industry is mainly depending on the importation of foreign strains, grand parents and parental stocks of chickens. Poultry men showed that actual self-sufficiency of poultry products could not be achieved with poor productivity of native chickens and continuous importation of the infrastructure of poultry industry. There are many local breeds and/or strains, which had been developed and selected by the committed breeders towards the goal of developing a proper gene pool that would meet the needs of producing either egg-type or meet-type breeds of chickens. This article is overview the new varieties of chickens Pharos a typical layer foundation stock as a threshold for producing commercial egg-type breed of chickens (APRI Golden). This project started in September

2004 in Sabhiah Poultry Research Station and worked on a composite of the two commercial layers Lohman Brown (LB) and Lohman Selected Leghorn (LSL) with some local strains of chickens to establish new foundation stocks as sire and dame lines refers by the geographical locations, such as the old name of Alexandria (Pharos). These foundation stocks will used for producing the commercial egg-type Egyptian breed of chickens.

DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENTAL METHODOLOGY

Recurrent selection program (crossing coupled with selection) used to establish the new varieties of chicken Pharos. Firstly establishing foundation stocks for brown egg producers by crossing Silver Montazah males with Lohman Brown (LB) females to produce

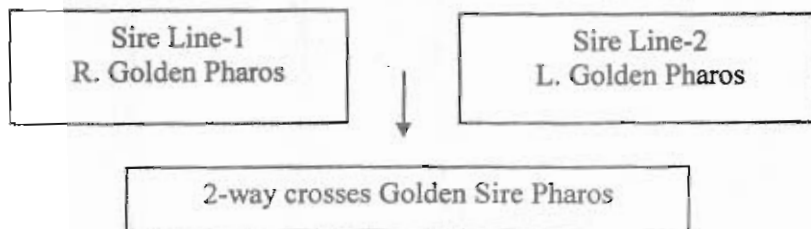
1. Single comp Golden Pharos (SCGPh) which utilized as a sire line-1
2. Single comp Silver Pharos (SCSPH) which utilized as a dam line-1

However, commercial layers (LB) contributed 87.5 % of brown egg producer's blood. Several distinguishing characteristics of Pharos brown egg producer's are, they are good layer of brown eggs also, having single comp, yellow shanks and red ear lobes and having long broad and deep bodies, deep breasts and well rounded. The coloration of Pharos sire lines are closely feathered lines with golden colored, Colombian pattern with barred hackles, wings and tails. However, the sire lines will be similar to Golden Montazah strain of chickens. On the other hand, the foundation stocks for white egg producers were developed by crossing Golden Montazah males with Lohman Selected Leghorn (LSL) females to produce:

1. Single comp Silver Pharos (SCSPH) which utilized as a dam line-2
2. Single comp Golden Pharos (SCGPh) which utilized as a sire line-2

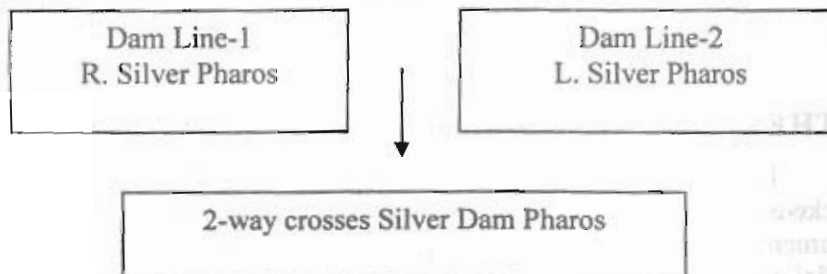
Commercial layers (LSL) contributed 87.5 % of white egg producer's blood. The distinguishing characteristics of Pharos white egg producer's are that the birds will lay fair number of white shelled eggs, having single comp, white shanks and white ear lobes and they posses a moderate body size. The Silver dame lines had Colombian pattern and barred hackles, wings and tails. It will be similar to Silver Montazah strain of chickens. The second stage of establishment was to improve the productivity of Pharos chickens through initiating three breeding programs:

1. Brown-egg producers: 2-way crosses will used to produce the Golden sire Pharos, which lay brown egg shell as follows:



All pictures at 16 weeks of age

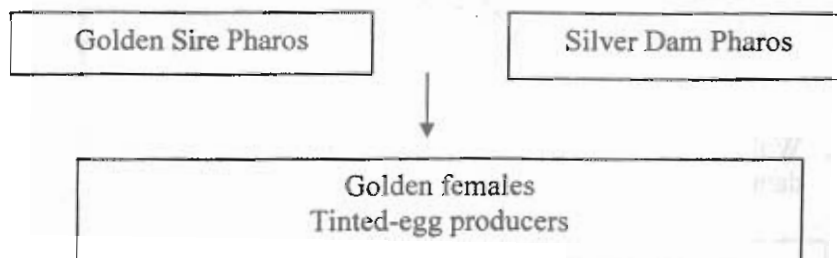
2. White-egg producers: 2-way crosses will used to produce the Silver dame Pharos, which lay white egg shell as follows:





R, denote to LB crosses and L, denote to LSL crosses

3. Tinted-egg producers: This will achieved by crossing Golden sire with Silver dam, the female will lay tinted egg shell as follows:



THE GOALS OF DEVELOPING PHAROS CHICKENS

The targets of developing the previously mentioned varieties of chickens (Pharos) are that they will used in the processes of producing the commercial egg-type Egyptian breed of chickens, moreover achieving self-sufficiency in egg production, saving hard currency spent for importation of parent stocks or commercial breeds of chickens and selling commercial baby chicks to foreign countries.