



Association Provence Ornithologie

Association Loi 1901 du Grand Avignon

Élever l'Oiseau : une Passion, une Nécessité.

A BREEDER IDENTIKIT: JORDI VILAVELLA



Par Pierre Channoy

It is by a radiant day of August which I went accompanied by David to visit the breeding of Jordi Vilavella a friend that I knew for years.



For those who do not know Jordi Vilavella, it is a fascinating breeder with a singing spanish accent. His birds of predilections and which make its fame within the French breeding, are the canaries of «type». He breeds them with a spirit of canarybreeding pioneer. The canaries present in its room of breeding are not canaries of the most frequent varieties, I would say even more, they are varieties of "specialists".

What attracts the eye of any visitor neophyte as of the entry in the room, it is the presence of the canaries known as "frilled- hunchback vulture like pose ". Jordi breeds the "Spanish Giboso" and the "Gibber Italicus" which are according to Roger Le Duff first of all frilled canaries but on which work over the shape and the length of feather led to a general reduction in the bird compared to ordinary frilled.



Giboso espagnol
El. Jordi Vilavella
Photo: P. Channoy

Other varieties are also present, they are either also particular or common but new colors. I thus could admire "melado tinerferño" variety of which I did not even suspect the existence. or of the " Spanish llarguet " of which the number increases in the shows of our area. To also announce some "timbrados", new variety of song canary whose first characteristic is to have a particularly powerful song. The most common varieties are the " Spanish raza ", the "gloster", "the frilled Parisian ones", the "fife fancy" and since 2005 "borders". When I say to you that Jordi has the spirit of a pioneer, I mean he could not have been satisfied with common birds. He needs originality! Thus the glostes are worked in white and white series and satined whereas the razas are declined as a satined yellow and white and opal.

The breeding room was designed to control the most possible parameters. Many machines are thus present to fight against the mosquitoes, the bad smells, a

thermometer, a radio, a dimmer for the light and a purifying ionizer of air, the whole in a very openwork rectangular room by broad picture windows. Small remark with the way which struck me as a breeder of psittacidae: the absence of aviaries. The canaries of Jordi are maintained either in standard breeding "borgovit" cages or in long cages obtained by the removal of the partitions between the cages of breeding.



Frisé parisien
El. Jordi Vilavella
Photo: P. Channoy

The food turns primarily around the canary seed which is really the basic seed of the birds with a modulation according to the varieties and seasons with BEYERS premium mix seeds. It is in these cases there that the nickname of seed to the canaries given to the canary seed takes all its sense! Why a mode so Spartan? To this question, our breeder explains me that for the frilled ones, the gibosos, gibbers, razas and well of other varieties of type canaries, the commercial mixtures including leaders marks are not adapted and may cause intestinal disorders which can degenerate. For what food complements, softfood used is a standard dry CÉDé softfood with toast and germinated seeds.



Melado Tinerfeno
El. Jordi Vilavella
Photo: P. Channoy

In order to prevent the appearance of diseases, Jordi explains us why it is necessary to maintain a high level of cleanliness of the cages. Every 14 days, it is a treatment against the lice and a cleaning with bleach 3 times per year. It is true that with the first glance, I had been able to notice the clean funds of cage with few dejections contrary with in other breeders of canaries.

With such an installation and a perfect control of the conditions, the breeding may start as of the end January! For that, a lengthening of the duration of illumination is necessary. But this luminosity should be reached only

gradually in order to not dipphase the birds that is the interest of using of a dimmer. If the luminosity must increase, it is not the case of the temperature. The birds remain in full form and start to breed in a not heated atmosphere. Let us not forget however that the room of breeding is contiguous at the house and that we are nevertheless in Fos sur Mer and not in Lille!

According to Jordi, the season was not excellent but nevertheless correct with 3/5 offsprings after some difficulties on nest. Small remark not stripped of interest, these races of canaries which had struck me with my entry in the room (gibber and giboso) were confirmed to me as being races of difficult breeding. Any amateur wishing to launch out in these races must indeed know that if they fertilize eggs well, they are not good feeders!

Thank you Jordi for your reception and your spirit to communicate your passion!



Llarguet espagnol
El. Jordi Vilavella
Photo: P. Channoy



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