

**TuBAvi (2017-20)**  
**TuBAvi-2 (2021-24)**

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**Ministry of agriculture, food sovereignty and forestry** –  
National Rural Development Programme 2014/2022 – Measure 10.2 –  
Conservation, use and sustainable development of genetic resources  
in agriculture



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**CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN ITALIAN POULTRY BREEDS:**  
deepening and monitoring  
**TuBAvi-2**



*Breed data sheet*

**COLLO NUDO ITALIANA**  
*Gallus gallus domesticus Sp.*

*Origin and morphological,  
genetic, reproductive,  
and productive traits*



FONDO EUROPEO AGRICOLO PER LO SVILUPPO  
RURALE: l'Europa investe nelle zone rurali



MINISTERO DELL'AGRICOLTURA  
DELLA SOVRANITÀ ALIMENTARE  
E DELLE FORESTE





The presented data were registered  
in the nucleus population of Collo nudo italiana  
conserved at the University of Molise (UniMOL).  
The data are presented by breed.

Latest update: June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Collo nudo italiana male and female

White



Male, Bramante Giuseppe Farm, UniMOL

Black



Female, Bramante Giuseppe Farm, UniMOL

Wheaten



Female, Bramante Giuseppe Farm, UniMOL

Cuckoo



Female, Bramante Giuseppe Farm, UniMOL



## Collo nudo italiana

*Gallus gallus domesticus* Sp.

**Breed data sheet: origin and morphological, genetic, reproductive, and productive traits**

### Breed origin and development

Name of the breed	Collo nudo italiana
Synonyms or local names	-
Geographic origin	Probable European origin, most likely originating from Transylvania Naked Neck breed, from Romania and Germany
Geographic distribution	Toscana, Veneto; Piedmont, Emilia Romagna
Estimated total population size	Not available
Extinction risk status (FAO, 1998)	Unassessable
Any other specific information	The breed is characterised by a bare neck, that is either totally free from feathers or has a tassel of feathers at the front bottom.

#### Historical origin

The origin of the Collo nudo italiana breed dates back to the years that followed the First World War, even if it was not acknowledged abroad, and appears to be the result of the cross-breeding of Transylvania Naked Neck and Comune italiana breeds.

It distinguished from other breeds for the typical neck, that was bare, but often adorned with a thick tassel of feathers at the front bottom. The breed was known for the large simple comb, irregularly serrated, and for the white ear-lobes, that reminded of its mediterranean lineage. The skin was extraordinarily thin, that made plucking easy. The comb was remarkably resistant to freezing, even during cold winters.

The Collo nudo italiana breed was described as an excellent layer of large-sized eggs, with delicate and delicious meat.

Over the years, it risked extinction, but managed to survive and spread thanks to the enthusiasm and the efforts of dedicated breeders. During recent decades, it has gained larger fame, thanks to promotional activities that have made it available also in other world areas.

#### Bibliography and sitography

Mazzon, I. (1934). Pollicoltura Padovana - Storia monografia delle razze padovane. Tip. Antoniana, Padova

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## Qualitative and quantitative morphological traits in adult breeders

### Discrete or qualitative traits

Feather morphology	Normal
Feather distribution	Normal, with the exception of the neck, completely free from feathers; the front of the neck can present a tassel of feathers
Plumage structure	Abundant, adherent, and soft
Plumage colours	Multi-coloured breed, with different colours depending on the area. The most prevalent colours are: White, Blue, Wheaten, Black (every shade), Wild type (every shade), Cuckoo.
Colour features	Single-colour, bi-colour, depending on the plumage colour
Chick plumage colour	Variable, depending on the colour
Comb type	<b>Simple comb:</b> small to medium-sized, starting just over the beak; average serrations; blade well-rounded and slightly following the nape without touching it  <b>Rose comb:</b> not larger than the skull; granulation as thin as possible; the spike, not too long, follows the line of the nape; fine indentation permitted
Comb points	
Ear-lobe colour	Pure white to yellowish white, sometimes streaked with red
Beak colour	Yellow, striped yellow, or horn
Iris colour	Orange-red to brown depending on the colour
Muffs	Absent
Beard	Absent
Tuft	Absent
Skin colour	Straw white to intense yellow with red neck
Shank colour	Variable depending on the colour
Shank feathering	Free from feathers
Skeletal variants	-
Other specific and distinct visible traits	-

Colour pattern
<b>White:</b> very pure white plumage, brighter in the male; it can take on a golden luster stressed by feeding and stabling. White down.
<b>Black:</b> intense black plumage, with strong bright green sheen in the male. Grey to black down, lighter down admitted in the male.
<b>Wild type:</b> in the <b>male</b> , head with golden yellow cap, cape absent; back, shoulders, wing coverts brilliant dark red. Saddle feathers golden yellow, with black striping. Main wing coverts black with blue/green metallic sheen. Primaries black, with narrow brown edge on the outer web. Secondaries with inner web and point black, outer web brown forming the

wing bay. Breast black with green sheen whitout brown traces. Belly and legs black. Tail black with strong green sheen. Greyish down. In the **female**, head gold yellow, cape absent. Plumage in general brown gold with black peppering, slightly lighter rachis (when this is stressed, it results in the brown wild-type colour). Primaries black with narrow outer edge brown and peppered. Secondaries with inner web black and outer web peppered brown. Breast salmon. Belly and legs grey/brown. Tail black, the two upper main tail coverts marked like the remainder of the plumage.

**Melanised wild type:** in the **male**, head with dark cap, cape absent. Small wing coverts and back dark red/brown. Primaries black, with brown edging on the outer web. Secondaries with inner barbs black; outer barbs black, forming the wing bay. Wing bars black; belly and legs black. In the **female**, head almost black and neck plumage absent, except for a tassel of feathers that is discontinuously present on the front bottom of the neck. Breast light salmon. Overall plumage brown with black peppering, rachis light brown, and blackish edging, that can be more or less marked. Legs grey/brown. Belly grey/black.

**Cuckoo:** ground colour black marked with a light blue regular barring that is slightly arched and not too precise. Rachis regularly barred like the feather. Down should preferably show a regular barring like the remainder of the plumage. The colour of the male is slightly lighter.

### Quantitative traits

Parameters	Male		Female	
	Average±SD*	Min-max	Average±SD*	Min-max
Body weight (g)	2370±178.2	2244-2496	1793±236.7	1428-2176
Body length (cm)	38.45±0.08	38.4-38.5	37.87±1.73	35.1-40.8
Chest circumference (cm)	36.05±0.49	35.7-36.4	34.37±1.79	32.8-37.8
Shank length (cm)	9.45±1.20	8.6-10.3	9.42±0.46	8.8-10.3
Shank diameter (cm)	1.96±0.20	1.81-2.10	1.70±0.11	1.46-1.81
Wing span (cm)	37.60±5.94	33.4-41.8	36.87±1.38	34.5-38.5

\*SD: standard deviation