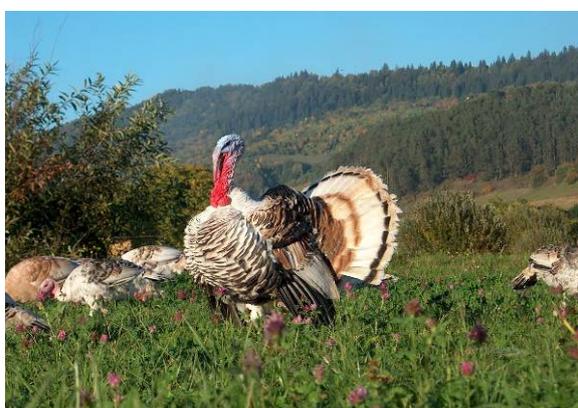


Characteristics of old Hungarian turkey breeds

Hungarian landrace turkey



White and spotted Hungarian landrace turkey (Tápiógyörgye, 2004); Photo: István Szalay)



Spotted turkey (Zetelaka, Székelyföld, 2003); black and spotted turkey (Vajdaság, 2007);
Photo: Kisé, Do thi Dong Xuan

Common characteristics of Hungarian turkey

Head: Long and wide, strong, covered with red or bluish papillae. The skull is round-shape. Head and upper part of the neck of males are naked.

Beak: Strong, curved. It is extremely strong at the base. Above the beak a flesh-like appendage is found, which grows long and hangs down from the beak if the male is excited. The flesh-like appendage is much smaller on females.

Eye: Round, vivid.

Caruncles: Big, hanging down to the middle of the neck, covered with papillae.

Neck: Long, curved backward. The 15–18 cm long upper part of the neck is naked and covered fully (back) or almost fully (front) with papillae.

Trunk: Long, deep at the middle, round-shape.

Breast: Wide, deep and round. Beard on the males' breast is long, bristle-like and standing out.

Back: Short, wide, slightly curved, rising from the neck to the middle of the back and then – slightly curving – inclined towards the tail.

Wings: Very wide, kept high and fit to the body. Wings of excited males reach to the ground.

Tail: Long usually inclined, almost reaching to the ground or fan-shaped on males if excited.

Lower thighs: Long, well-muscled.

Shanks and toes: Shank is thick, strong and long. Toes are straight and strong.

Posture: Martial bearing, straight.

Plumage: Hard-set and brilliant.

White Hungarian Turkey

Body weight: Male: 6.00–8.00 kg
Female: 5.00–6.00 kg

Beak: Flesh-coloured.

Eye: Dark hazel.

Head, face, caruncles, papillae and flesh-like appendage: Flaming red, or – on excited males – blood-red, bluish-white and then getting dark violet.

Shank: Flesh-coloured. Toe nails are white.

Plumage: White in all sections. Beard of the male is black.

Black Hungarian turkey

Body weight: Male: 6.00–8.00 kg
Female: 5.00–6.00 kg

Beak: Slate black.

Eye: Dark hazel.

Head, face, caruncles, papillae and flesh-like appendage: Flaming red, or – on excited males – blood-red, bluish-white and then getting dark violet.

Shank and toes: Slate black.

Plumage: Black in all sections.

Copper turkey



Copper turkey (Gödöllő, 1998); Fotó: Szalay István

Body weight: Male: 5.00–7.00 kg
Female: 4.00–5.00 kg

Beak: Dark at the base and getting light horny-coloured towards the tip.

Eye: Dark hazel.

Head, face, caruncles, papillae and flesh-like appendage: Flaming red, or – on excited males – blood-red, bluish-white and then getting dark violet.

Shank: Salmon or flesh-coloured. Toe nails are light horny-coloured or white.

Plumage: Colour of males is dark brownish red (copper-red) on the fore part of the body with light barring sometimes. Wing and tail feathers are white. Females are slightly lighter than males.

"Hungarian" Bronze turkey



Bronze turkey female (Farmstead of Fehér Sándor, Tápiógyörgye, 2003) Photo: Szalay István; and bronze turkey male and female (Mezőszilvás, Mezőség, 2004); Photo: Kisné, Do thi Dong Xuan

Body weight: Male: 6.00–8.00 kg
Female: 5.00–6.00 kg

Beak: Dark at the base and getting light horny-coloured towards the tip.

Eye: Yellowish brown, dark brown or dark hazel.

Head, face, caruncles, papillae and flesh-like appendage: Flaming red, or – on excited males – blood-red, bluish-white and then getting dark violet.

Shank: Blackish with brown shade on young birds and salmon or flesh-coloured shade on adults. Toe nails are light horny coloured

Plumage: This is as the standard Bronze Turkey. Ground colour is dull black but the exposed surfaces of the feathers are glossed with rich iridescent red green on the fore part of the body and with a brilliant copper coloured bronzing, edged with black on the rear half. On the tail, tail coverts and sides there is a terminal edging of white, which also appears on the breast feathers of the females. Main tail feathers and tail coverts are distinctly penciled, medium brown and black.