

SIDE SPRIGS

Written & photo by Bev Davis
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Side sprigs are caused by the combination effect of two co-dominant genes. The gene has to be carried by both the male and female for it to be seen. One bird can carry it and it won't be seen until that bird is mated with another bird that is carrying that gene. This is why it's so difficult to get rid of.

Sprigs can be seen easily on a males comb but not so easily on the comb of a female.

I did come across sprigs in one of my flocks some years ago and culled for it, I haven't seen it since but that doesn't mean the gene isn't still being carried by some birds. It's a good idea to have strict breeding records for faults like this.

