

Amethyst Budgerigars

The Amethyst Budgerigar is very new, and still quite rare. Like the beautiful Amethyst gemstone, Amethyst budgies are a pinkish or reddish-purple colour.



This is an Amethyst Clearwing budgerigar. The white wings set off the pink or red purple of the body colour very nicely indeed.

Amethysts also occur in other budgerigar varieties such as: Rainbows, Fallows, Texas Clearbodies, Dilutes, cinnamonwings, and recessive and dominant peds.

Exhibition classes for Amethysts exist within the Australian Heritage Budgerigar Association, and the main judging criterion is that the bird that is most visible pink or red wins.



This is a piece of Amethyst gemstone. Notice the Amethyst crystals on the inside of the polished ball. Amethyst is a reddish or pinkish purple type of Quartz.

Comparing the Amethyst Gemstone with the Amethyst budgerigar shows remarkable similarities in colour.

With thanks to the Heritage Budgerigars (AHBA) 64 St Elmo Pde KINGSGROVE NSW 2208 enquiries by Facebook or Bob Pitt's email robertpitt47@icloud.com phone 02 9150 5875 annual membership is \$20 for this article and it will certainly make Clearwing/Rainbow/Goldenface Breeders happy

The members of the Australian Heritage Budgerigar association are building up numbers of this spectacularly beautiful variety of Budgerigar for distribution to other members of the AHBA.

Genetically it is a Red - Purple Cinnamonwing Clearwing. Red - Purple itself is also a very new colour in budgerigars, it is far more intense and redder in colour than previous older - style Violets. Older - style violet budgies lack the reddish overtones in their body colour, and they also lack the intensity of colour as well.

The sex-linked cinnamonwing gene has been used to dilute the blue component of the body colour in the Red - Purple Clearwing, leaving the pinkish or reddish tones of the Amethyst. In the case of Fallow Amethysts, the Red - Violet colour has again been added to the clearwing gene, but the dilution of the body colour is done by the Fallow gene itself. Similarly, with the Amethyst Texas Clearbody, the Clearbody gene itself dilutes the Red - Violet to Amethyst. Cinnamonwing is not used at all.

Rainbows also come in the Amethyst colour. They are identical to the Amethyst clearwing, with opaline and Australian goldenfaced blue genes added. Dilute Amethysts are Red - Violets diluted by the dilute gene itself, with no cinnamonwing or clearwing genes involved.



This group of Rainbow budgies features Amethyst Rainbows at the top left and also below at the lower central position. Note their light Pinkish-Purple colour. These are spectacularly beautiful budgies.

We still have copies of the 2 books

CLEARWINGS by Malcolm Freemantle UK \$ 25 Incl Post

and **Rainbows with Goldenfaces** by Ken Gray UK at \$20 1 p and many things to do with all these mixes are covered in one or other of these very good paperbacks