

# **NO PERFECT WAY**

The truth is there is no ONE perfect way or "system" to develop your stud.

That's what makes this sport so amazing; it's an individual journey to the tops of the show bench.

Those who put in the work and do their due diligence to really fine tune their aviary and birds will be the ones who make up the 5%.

The winning "System" for you is the compilation of showing methods and tactics that allow you to get the best results for the unique combination of you, your schedule, the types of birds you are showing and the distances you travel to shows.

Makes sense right?

With that being said, there are some foundational principles that all individual systems should be built upon.

If you keep these principles in your aviary you will be way ahead of most of the studs and fanciers out there.

So here they are in no particular order because the importance of each one is exactly the same.

## **1. Always keep good records!**

There is no way to consistently better your aviary, birds and results when you don't have records. From the very minute a bird enters your aviary it should have a paper trail. Everything that bird does from show training, breeding, showing, health, results and everything in between should be recorded.

## **2. Good health is 75% of the equation!**

Just like any athlete, budgies need to be in good health in order to perform at their peak levels. There is no sense of buying top class birds if you don't keep them in top condition. A sick and unhealthy "world-class" budgie is in the same category as a losing budgie. So keep health a priority

## **3. The show result never lies!**

This actually goes hand in hand with number one, you may have your favourites in your aviary, you may have birds that you think "look" amazing but in the end results speak louder than words. Shows will always show you who you're best birds are. Again this is why it is also important to keep good records.

## **4. Quality over Quantity!**

A few good budgies are better than a large number of inferior ones plain and simple. Not to mention that they are easier and cheaper to maintain as well.

## **5. Start with a good foundation**

Start with 2 to 4 pairs of good quality breeders and build a nucleus from them.

## 6. Successful showing requires a 365 day per year commitment

This is pretty self-explanatory but just because the show season is over doesn't mean your commitment to your birds should be. In fact that should be the time to really audit and reformulate your aviary and birds (according to your previous year's records) and put together a plan of attack and plant the seeds for the next show season.

## 7. Be Strategic!

Strategy will always beat out luck in the long run so if you plan on counting on luck or "chance" to win shows then you're probably better off saving your money and getting a new hobby. Treat it like a real sport, your birds like real athletes and you like a real coach.

## 8. Spend quality time with your birds

You will improve your record if you give the birds kind, gentle and regular attention so they will trust you. This should make them contented and unafraid. This loving care they receive will encourage them or motivate them to perform on show day.

## 9. The aviary matters!

Too many fanciers underestimate the value that the aviary has on their results. The aviary is the starting point of everything and is the nucleus of all of your efforts. Keep it clean, dry, organised and comfortable for your birds and manage it like a true champion.

## 10. Develop your own unique equation!

You need to be self-aware of the unique situation that make up your aviary and devise a specific plan of attack for it. Again it's an individual journey to be a show winner so understanding the specific and unique needs of you, your schedule, your birds, the shows you will be entering, the system you will be using and everything in-between is very important to achieving success in this sport.

So there you have it,

The 10 Commandments of Winning Shows!

When you strip away all of the fancy names, varieties, show systems, tips, tricks, strategies and "secrets" these are the principles that you will find at the very base of every champion fanciers process no matter which system they are using.

Do yourself and your wallet a favour and if these are not part of the base principles in your aviary now then I highly recommend you make it a priority to implement these commandments into everything you do going forward.

I hope you enjoyed this article and found some value in it.