

# My first year of showing

# Sebastopol Geese

**M**y first show season with Sebastopol Geese came in 2011. I have showed Wyandottes for many years, but never before tried my luck with the Geese.

It was the National at Stoneleigh of that year and I had entered a smooth-breasted Gander. He won his class which was great. I also showed my curly-breasted Gander and Goose which also won. My 'curly' Gander won the award for 'Best Sebastopol' and came very close to receiving top honours of 'Champion Goose' according to the judges, who on the day were a little undecided, instead opting for a Steinbacher as their champion.

I entered the same Geese at the Federation show in Stafford 2011 and again won with my curly-breasted Sebastopols. However, this time I went one better, and to the family's amazement, won the award for 'Best Goose' and 'Reserve Champion Waterfowl' with my smooth-breasted Gander. We were duly elated.



Two smooth-breasted females on the pond



A breeding pair of 'curly' Sebs

In 2012 I entered the BWA Waterfowl show and was over the moon (and totally surprised) to take the award for supreme champion. The proceeding National show proved successful with many first prizes and the award of 'Best Sebastopol' with a Goose. The Federation yielded similar results, but this time going one further to take the

award for 'Best Goose / Gander.'

I have thoroughly enjoyed the first year of showing Sebastopol Geese and am looking forward to the shows this year (providing they are clean enough and in good condition). It's been good to meet some of the people involved with Geese and the advice is always appreciated.

I have just finished reading Chris Asthon's new book, *Keeping Geese* which I found very helpful and would highly recommend to anyone who wants to look after their Geese properly.



Another pair of 'curly' Sebastopols



The BWA Supreme Champion. Photo By R Stephenson & Poultrykeeper.com