

Green Peafowl: Historical Significance, Subspecies Classifications, and Distinctive Characteristics

1. How many subspecies of green peafowl are there?

There are three known subspecies of green peafowl: a) **Java Peafowl**, b) **Indo-Chinese peafowl**, and c) **Burmese Peafowl**.

a) **Java Peafowl** (*Pavo muticus muticus*): Males have green and golden feathers on the neck, chest, and back, with eye-like spots, called ocelli, on their long feathers.

Females have reddish-brown feathers on their backs and wings.

Both sexes have a fan-shaped crown of feathers on their head.

They are native to the [island of Java](#) and other parts of [Indonesia](#).

b) **Indo-Chinese Peafowl** (*Pavo muticus imperator*): They are native to Southeast Asia, including [China](#), [Myanmar](#), [Thailand](#), [Laos](#), [Cambodia](#), and [Vietnam](#), and have muted green-bronze feathers on their body, neck, and wings.

c) **Burmese Peafowl** (*Pavo muticus spicifer*): Their crest and neck are green colored, and are duldest among the three subspecies.

They are native to northwestern Burma, parts of India, and Bangladesh.

2. What is the historical significance of green peafowl?

In ancient Burma, the green peafowl was a symbol of the monarchs.

The green peacock was on the flag of the governor at the time of British rule in Burma.

It was also on the flag of the state of Burma, from 1943-1945.

It was the [coat of arms](#) of Myanmar's last kingdom, called the [Konbaung kingdom](#).

For a long time, it was illustrated in [Japanese painting](#)

3. Do you know about the diet of green peafowl?

They are omnivorous and eat plant-based matter such as fruits, flower buds, and berries as well as animals such as invertebrates, reptiles, frogs, and venomous snakes.

4. Who coined the name *Pavo muticus*?

The name was coined by the [Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus](#) in 1766.

5. What are the unique characteristics of green peafowl?

Green peafowl are the longest of all wild flying birds. A male's head-to-body length varies between 1.6 and 3.2 m, whereas a female's measures between 1 and 1.4 m.

The train length in males ranges between 1.3 and 1.8 m, while females lack a train.

The males produce the distinct "ki-wao" call, whereas females produce an "aow-aa" sound.

References

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_peafowl