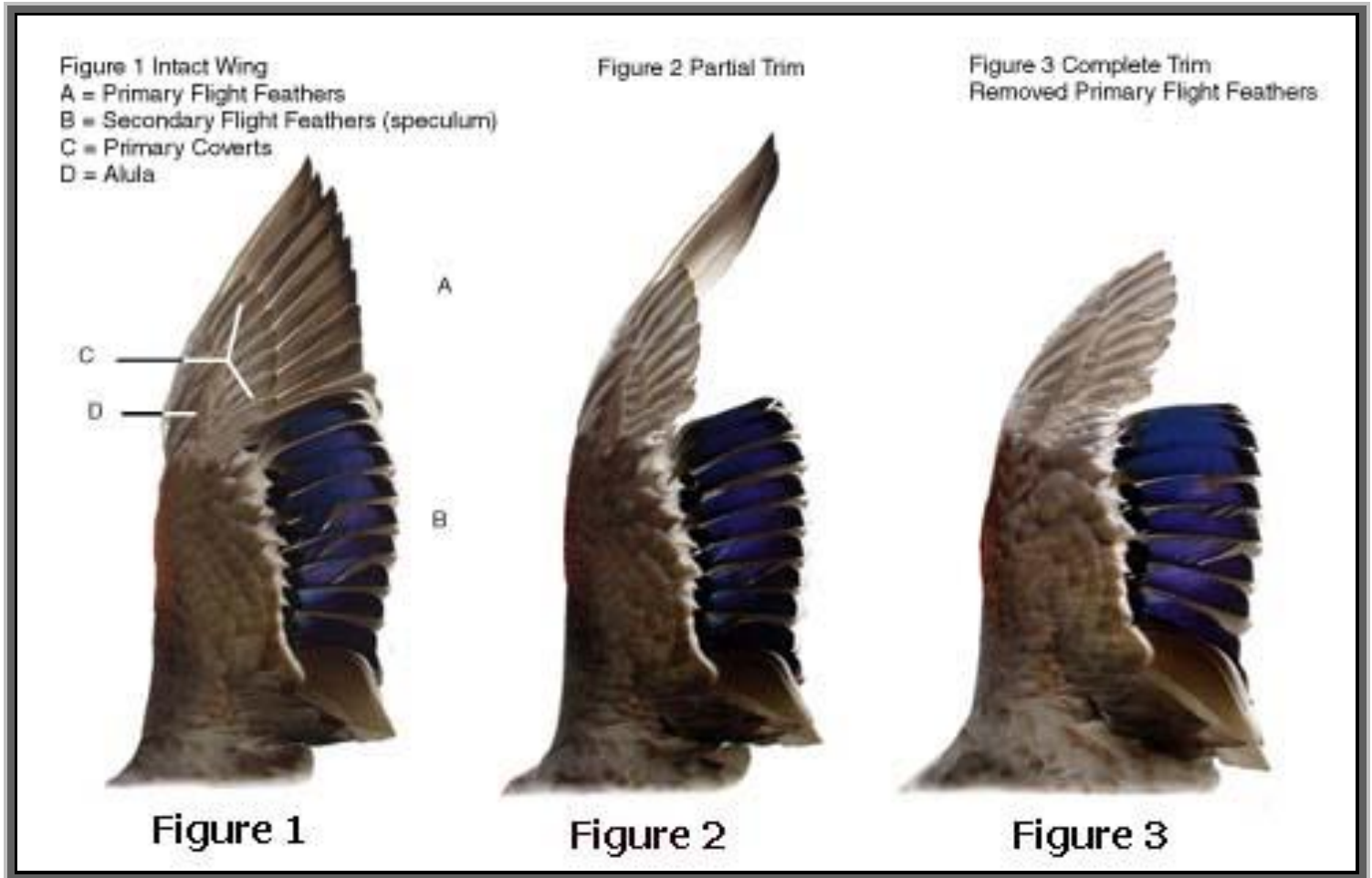


Wing Clipping for Waterfowl



The image above, is a 3-step view clipping a Mallard's wing.

With either wing, use sharp scissors or tin cutters to do the job. You need only to clip one to keep the bird grounded.

Figure 2 exhibits an optional partial trim that will still keep the bird grounded. This trim leaves the two outer primaries intact to maintain two even points while the bird has both wings closed.

To obtain a complete trim as in **figure 3**, cut each shaft of the 10 primary feathers just under the primary coverts. Leave intact the secondary feathers to maintain a natural appearance and/or to preserve the beauty of ducks with colored speculums. Take your time, and be neat about it.

If you wish to keep your birds from flight, you only need to clip once a year. Observe your bird's molt each summer, as waterfowl drop all their flight feathers in early to mid-summer; growing a new set by late summer through early fall. Pen your birds prior to the completion of new growth so they don't fly while attempting to catch them. Avoid clipping too soon, as there is blood within the casing of the feather shaft closest to the wing. If not ready to trim, the feather shaft will resemble the ink tube of a ball point pen.

Below is a list of common breeds kept by waterfowl enthusiasts. *Certain birds may have limited flight ability that would allow for short flight ventures beyond their area.

Recommend to Clip

Ducks

All exotic or wild *i.e.*, Mallard
Call
East Indies
*Campbell
*Welsh Harlequin
Australian Spotted
Mandarin
Muscovy
Bantam Hybrids

Geese

*Production Toulouse
*Roman
Canada
Egyptian

All Swans

No Need to Clip

Ducks

Pekin
Rouen
Cayuga
Saxony
Swedish
Magpie
Runners
Aylesbury
Buff Orpington
Silver Appleyard

Geese

Exhibition (dewlap) Toulouse
Emden
African
*Chinese
Pomeranian
Sebastopol
Pilgrim
Buff