

Show Report – Scottish Region, Bridge of Earn, 22nd Nov 09

Judge:- Eddie Crutchley

After so many days of rain and morning of the show proved to clear. Dorothy dropped me at her way to Perth for some retail had spent a very comfortable hotel about five miles south of The Institute is very nicely adequate for such a show.



DID YOU KNOW?
**45 Animals were exhibited at the
Scottish Show, comprising 27
Standards and 18 Mutations**

more rain the be fine and the venue on therapy. We night in a small this new venue. appointed and

We started with the thirteen Standard Females, which were separated into eight Mediums and five Medium-Darks. The former were quite disappointing with no 1st and apart from the 2nd ribbon winner they were quite a dull lot. The foremost animal had reasonable conformation and strong fur with slight eye appeal but was down on condition. In general the animals throughout were well out of condition. The Medium-Darks proved somewhat better gaining 1st and 2nd ribbons. The first was a big blocky animal with good conformation and coverage and strong stand up fur supported by well defined guard hair but it just lacked the silkiness we so desire. The second was a similar animal not quite such good conformation but slightly down in colour which I believed to be pen stain. Two nice animals which went on to become Show Champion and Reserve.

Twelve Young Standard males were shown which really could not be separated for colour so all were classified as Medium-darks. I separated them by condition as none were poor but neither were they outstanding. They all had something to commend them and accordingly ten were awarded HC's following a second and third rosette winner. It is quite possible that in better condition the lower end of the group may gain higher awards at later shows as I did recognise their individual qualities.

The Adult Standards had one Male and one female neither being of sufficiently high quality on the day to warrant a first place. The male showed potential as it had good conformation and coverage where the fur was not broken and showed some eye appeal even though it was badly out of condition.

Fourteen Young mutations were presented which in general were in better condition than the standard animals seen earlier. Only two gained firsts, these being a beautifully coloured Sullivan Violet which had that lovely blue sheen to the fur which so grabs your attention. This animal had good coverage of mutation fur, nice conformation and reasonable fur quality which could be slightly longer. There was a slight mark on its back which was not always evident and I am sure will comb out in future. It went on to become Best Mutation. Reserve to the Sullivan Violet was a very young Beige again having beautiful blue colour, good conformation and coverage. The fur was very fine though at this stage was not silky. There was a notable Pink-white which I believe was a litter mate of the Beige above, again wonderful colour but not quite dense enough in the fur at present.

Adult mutations, similar to the standards, only two shown, a Black Velvet of very good quality in most respects but which was dirty and ill prepared. This is very annoying as this

could have been awarded a Best in Show here but negligence cost the animal this accolade. Please take more care. Similar remarks regarding cleanliness can be accredited to the Wilson white which was good but not quite in the class of the Black Velvet. Two good animals spoiled.

There were only two Novice animals both being Adult mutations. Both had large amounts of fur missing and therefore could not be afforded awards today. I suggested that the owners should spend a little time with one of the more experienced members learning how to groom; as I left this advice had been taken as I noticed a senior member grooming one of these animals and it was making quite a difference. I do hope that these new entrants will keep trying as they learn more about these wonderful animals.

Thank you for the invitation , shame about the lack of condition and the numbers in the adults.

Eddie Crutchley