

## Show Report – Scottish Show, Biggar, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2010

Judge: - Lyn Gardner

Having passed my Judges back in February, I looked forward October Scottish show which was first Judges appointment.

We had a good journey north on with plenty of traffic, but no major was a glorious autumnal day, with sunshine which enhanced the wonderful scenery even more. We

same journey in February this year, when we had heavy snow all around, which made the mountainous scenery even more spectacular, but I must admit it is just as breathtaking when bathed in autumn sunshine.



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Saturday, hold-ups. It lovely already made the

Sunday morning was not quite so good first thing, with dense fog, and a definite chill in the air, but the sun came up and the fog dispersed, and the last 11 miles or so into Biggar were very pleasant. We arrived at the hall to find just a handful of members in attendance, and I have to say the numbers of animals for me to judge (18 Standards and 9 Mutations) was a little disappointing.

After having colour phased the standards, I began with a class of five Young Standard Females. It became apparent almost immediately that very few of the chins were in any sort of show condition which may have accounted for the lack of entries. However, I awarded 3 ribbons to this class, all Medium phase females. The 1<sup>st</sup> award was bright, with good conformation, but lacked veiling, but was good enough to take Best Young Standard for Steven King. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and HC awards were very open furred. The five Young Standard Males, colour phased Medium (x2) and Medium-Dark (x3). In the Medium phase I was disappointed by the overall appearance and only awarded two HC's. The Medium-Darks fared a little better with a 1, 2, 3. The 1<sup>st</sup> was a clear, bright animal, but also needed better veiling, and went on to take Reserve Young Standard for James Buchan. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was also clear but very out of condition on the sides, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> had good density, but was not as clear as the first two.

The three Adult Standard Females colour phased into 1 Medium to which I awarded a 3<sup>rd</sup>, and two Medium-Darks which achieved 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. These were all good sized adult females, with good conformation, but all badly out of condition.

The last class of five Adult Standard Males was the best of the day, with two Medium phase to which I awarded a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup>, and three Medium-Dark, which gained a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The 1<sup>st</sup> in this class became the eventual Show Champion for Wenda Barron, and was a nice male. Clear, but as with all the standards on the day, not blue, was of a good size and was in the best condition on the day. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ribbons were also good size and conformation but very out of condition.

We then had a break for lunch, and resumed with just nine mutations to judge. The young animals were an AOC class of five. There were two Wilson Whites, a 2<sup>nd</sup> and an HC, two Pink Whites, the 1<sup>st</sup> of which was a lovely young chin with great potential for the future. It was a

good size with excellent conformation, and was easily Best Young Mutation, bred and shown by our youngest showing member, Connor French.

There were just four Adult Mutations, which all gained awards. I awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> to the Pink White, a large, blocky chin, but rather woolly on the sides, and a 1<sup>st</sup> Brown Velvet, a nice chin with good conformation, excellent coverage with the mutation fur coming right down the sides, and great density of colour. The Best Mutation was an absolute jumbo of a Black Velvet, which again had really good coverage, the density of the colour was very good, but it was perhaps just a little light in the neck, and unfortunately breaking badly all around, bred and exhibited by James Buchan. This brought the day's activities to an end, and Ron and I thank all those responsible for the running of this small, but enjoyable show. We both know only too well what hard work it is, and can only hope that things improve in the future.

**Lyn Gardner**

