

Show Report – North Region Show, Birdwell, 25th Nov 2012

Judge: - Kerry Bradburn

I always look forward to the shows, whether I'm judging or They are always well organised and the show held on the 25th of was no exception. The weather this show had took a severe turn particularly in the 48 hours before This, along with Christmas fast may have cost us one or two



DID YOU KNOW?
69 Animals were exhibited at the Northern Show, comprising 29 Standards and 37 Mutations & 3 X entries

North Region exhibiting. and friendly, November leading up to for the worse the event! approaching usual

exhibitors. Some folk that had made the journey talked of road closures en route and indeed my father and I had to follow a detour due to the A38 being flooded. However the breeders in attendance had pulled out all the stops and produced a good number of entries each.

As usual we started with the young standard females and it was immediately apparent to me that the changeable damp weather had taken its toll on these young animals.

The Medium Darks had 6 entries and I awarded a 1st and 2nd for two females from Richard and Eddie Crutchley, both these chins were of good general quality being big, blocky and well furred with reasonable clarity - just condition separating the top two.

Three Mediums failed to deliver a 1st, with the 2nd from Sam and Chris Galt again of reasonable type, with eye appeal, good size and conformation but condition and clarity were missing. The 3rd from Wendy French had good size and shape but the fur was a little woolly and lying flat over the hips.

The darks produced a 2nd and 3rd for Rich and Eddie. The 2nd had a lovely fur type, good size and a full neck but was light on the hips and priming. The 3rd was again well furred and blocky but was out of condition and had a slightly creamy belly.

One novice Medium produced a 3rd for ribbon for Sian Allcoat that was of reasonable clarity with a good neck but was very immature in fur. The 1st and 2nd Medium Darks went on to take the group awards.

The young standard males proved to be a different prospect altogether and were in better prime and far superior to the young females. The Medium Darks 1st was a lovely young male with silky fur of good length, strong and upright with a deep defined tip, with good conformation and show condition completing the picture. The 2nd from Sam and Chris was also a nice male with eye appeal and a plushy fur but just a grade down in clarity to the top animal.

Two Darks produced a 1st and 2nd again for Eddie and Rich, the 1st I liked very much, clear blue silky strong fur with beautiful long guard hair that did not detract, sharp underbelly and plenty of that wonderful eye appeal. This young male went all the way to Best Standard and Reserve Show Champion - Very well done. The 2nd was also a lovely male and had plenty of potential but was just down in all departments to the winner, he followed up the first to become Reserve Best Std.

The adult standard females were few in number but there were some good chinchillas amongst them.

I awarded a 1st to a single Medium Dark that had all the required fundamentals to be a good solid breeding female, again from Richard and Eddie. A 3rd was awarded to a female from Allan and Carole Mills that had good size and shape but was a little open furred and dull on the day.

The Darks were awarded a 1st and 3rd both for Richard and Eddie, the winner and Best Adult Female had plenty of strong dense fur with desirable veiling coverage and good size with a full neck, but she was a little past her best. The 3rd was well furred but required more size and fur in the neck.

The adult standard males Medium Darks produced a 2nd for Wendy French for an animal with reasonable fur type, well prepared that needs better size and clarity.

The Darks produced a 1st and Best Adult Standard for Rich and Eddie that had good size and shape with even veiling and plenty of dense plushy fur, he was priming but was a quality chinchilla no doubt !

I also awarded a 1st to a single Extra Dark that was superbly flashy and had eye appeal to spare with first class true silky fur and a shiny white bar bouncing back at me under the show lights, sadly he lacked in size and conformation, however this couldn't prevent him being awarded Reserve Adult Standard. One novice adult male was awarded a 2nd for Sian Allcoat that had good dense fur of clear colour and was of fair size and shape. We then had a break for lunch and a lovely hot and cold buffet was enjoyed by everyone.

We restarted with a large class of Wilson Whites which were headed by a very large blocky animal from Sam and Chris. It had long strong stand up fur which was of good clarity but was a little open but was still a comfortable winner. The 2nd from Sandy King was blocky, well furred and skilfully prepared but the animal lacked sparkle. Two HC's were also awarded to Sam and Chris and Allan and Carol, both had some quality but both were down in clarity of colour.

Next we're the Beiges and were overall a little disappointing, all the exhibits had something to commend but all having significant faults. The best a 2nd for a very young baby from Wendy French that had the clearest colour of the group but still short of 1st ribbon clarity, it had plenty of strong upright fur and was well prepared and blocky. The 3rd from Sandy was big and blocky but was open furred and the HC from Sam and Chris had tight fur but showing a creamy bar.

Two Pink Whites produced a 1st and 2nd for Wendy French, the first was quite a nice subtle peachy colour was well furred and had been prepared very well. The 2nd was almost as good but lacked a little in the neck.

A novice Pink White was awarded a 2nd for Denise Oaten that had good strong fur and was blocky but just a little too creamy for a 1st ribbon.

A large class of young Black Velvets came next and I awarded a 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 3 x HC's. The 1st from Eddie and Richard was a good black with sharp intense mutation fur spreading well over the shoulders, neck and flanks and a clear white belly, it was however priming but still took Best Young Mutation. The 2nd and 3rd from Sandy were quite different; the second being well furred and intense coloured but down in clarity and the 3rd a powdery blue black which lacked in intensity and coverage but this could change with age.

The AOC class produced a 1st and 2nd Brown Velvet. The 1st from Rich and Eddie was a good all round chinchilla, clear in colour with a good spread of mutation fur that was strong and fine. The 2nd from Sam and Chris was a deeper more chocolate colour but had uneven fur length and lacked a little in conformation.

A 3rd was awarded to probably the darkest Sullivan Violet I've ever seen, it was very dense and had good blocky shape but unfortunately was showing some presence of off colour. A 2nd was also awarded to a Sullivan Violet/Ebony wrap that had good dense silky fur and blocky shape but was out of condition and down in clarity of colour on the day and finally rounding off the young mutations a 3rd for a single Charcoal that again had good strong tight fur but needed to be clearer in colour. All the above we're from Paul Spooner.

The Adult Mutations were few in number but did provide the eventual Show Champion, a single Black Velvet but what a example! Big, blocky with volumes of extra dense silky intense blue black mutation fur and a sharp white underbelly. Very well done.

A single Pink White also received a 1st for Allan Mills, big and blocky with plenty of strong fur but needing more sparkle to go further.

Allan also had a 2nd for a big blocky strong furred Wilson White that was a little too creamy for a 1st ribbon.

A single Beige from Sandy received a 1st, it was groomed to perfection with lots of good upright fur that was a little open but was clear in colour and large and blocky. This animal followed the Black Velvet to achieve Reserve Best Mutation. Well done.

We rounded off the show with 2 novice exhibits, a 1st for a Black Velvet from Sian Allcoat that was big and blocky with good coverage through the neck and down the flanks and of good clarity but unfortunately lacking prime, and finally a 3rd ribbon awarded to Sonia Obzerova for her Beige that was blocky with good strong upright fur of fair density that had oxidised somewhat.

When judging for best at the end of the show the Black Velvet was a stand-out winner that was a pleasure to behold. The young standard male, still immature in his development couldn't compete on density and fur mass at present but I'm sure is one to watch for the future.

My warmest congratulations to Eddie and Richard on all of their achievements on the day and to anyone else who won a ribbon - I hope you feel a sense of pride and gratification.

I thoroughly enjoyed the show, the quality of the exhibits and the company too. Thanks for inviting me.

Kerry Bradburn – NCS Judge