

Show Report – Scottish Show, Biggar, 12th Oct 2008

Judge: - Stephen Helmore

The trip to Biggar was a long travel so I managed to book and & Breakfast in Biggar on the night which, quite by chance was cottages away from the hall!

An entry of 72 animals, split as and 15 novice entries gave me classes to judge and comment on.

I split the 13 Young Standard two classes.

The seven Medium Darks were all quite out of prime and set the pattern for the general condition on the day with very few chins anywhere near a good finish. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd awards were for chins from Eddie and Richard Crutchley. The 1st and 2nd had very good blue colour with silky, strong, dense fur, although the 3rd had better conformation she was down on colour to the top two. The 1st became Best Young Female, Best Young Standard and Reserve Best Standard in Show.

The six Mediums also had a 1-2-3. The 1st from Wenda Barron had good colour and dense fur type but was narrow in the neck and shoulders having the better of Steven King's female. We had just one novice young female entered by Alison Dalziel which was a good quality chin, blocky with silky strong fur but quite out of condition. I didn't hesitate in awarding a 1st and when compared to the main show chins the novice entry became not only Reserve Young Standard Female but also Reserve Young Standard.

The 11 young males also split into two classes.

The five Medium Darks had 1-2-3 awards with Eddie and Richard taking 1st and 3rd, being split by a dark chin from Aileen Cook. The top animal had a good blue colour with a strong tight fur. Aileen's 2nd was not as bright but had very good coverage, with the 3rd ribbon winner only 4 months but really blue and showing good potential to develop into a quality chin. The top two became Best and Reserve Young Standard Males.

The six Mediums had a 1st and 2nd from James Buchan. The 1st winner at 4½ months had good colour with silky fur and again showed potential to develop into a very nice chin. The 2nd although more mature than the first winner, was not as bright but a good all round type.

There were ten Adult Standard Females split into three classes.

The three Medium Darks had 1st and 2nd for Eddie and Richard. The 1st winner was a very good type, blue colour, silky strong fur, although the 2nd placed animal had better conformation and veiling but was down in colour and condition to the 1st. The 1st became Best Adult Standard Female.

The three Mediums had a 2nd for Wenda for a large female with silky fur but down in clarity of colour and condition.

The four Darks had 1, 2, 3, and HC awards although all were differing types. The 1st winner had really blue colour and dense fur that featured no guard hair. The 2nd had a better fur type and was good chin but down in condition to the 1st. The 3rd was a large female with very good veiling but down in colour with the HC brighter but down in all other aspects, all were brought by Eddie and Richard.



way for me to stay at a Bed Saturday only 3

57 main show some good

Females into

The six Adult Standard Males were judged as one class with 1st and 2nd from Eddie and Richard significantly better than the other four. The top chin was an exceptional Extra Dark, good coverage with very strong dense plushy fur although not quite as blue as the 2nd winner which was nearly perfectly presented. They became Best and Reserve Adult Standard Males and Best and Reserve Standards with the 1st becoming Best In Show.

Two Novice Males had a 2nd for Alison Dalziel which had good blue colour with plushy fur type that could have slightly better conformation.

After lunch we recommenced with a class of three Beiges. Second and third went to Wendy French - The 2nd winner only 4 months old showing a good colour and strong fur type developing, although the flanks still had soft baby fur. The 3rd winner was 5 months but had a more coarse open fur, but still had a good colour.

A good class of four Black Velvets had 1, 2, 3 and HC awards. The 1st from James Buchan, a good sized blue black, plushy fur and reasonably good coverage having the better of 2nd and 3rd from Eddie and Richard. 1st and 2nd were Best and Reserve Young Mutations.

A large class of seven A.O.C.'s had a 1st and 2nd for two Pink Whites with Eddie and Richard's 1st with a very plushy strong fur type and having a strong influence from the Beige in its colour. This had the better of Wenda's chin having a more cream colour and not as strong fur. A 2nd and 3rd for the two Wilson Whites, with James Buchan's chin having a better clearer colour to Eddie & Richards more creamy chin. A 1st for Wenda Barron's Violet which had good colour and reasonably strong fur type and sheen to its appearance, but was on the small side and lacked conformation. Also a 2nd for a Brown Velvet from Steven King at 5 ½ months with clear colour, good conformation and reasonable coverage but slightly weak fur.

There was a 2nd award for a Self Black from Lisa Gill in the Novice Young Mutations for a chin with good colour and wrap around black coverage but was small and narrow.

A class of three Adult Black Velvets were the only main show class of Adult Mutations, with 1st and 2nd awards for two very good chins from Eddie and Richard. The 1st had good coverage, strong dense plushy fur and a really intense black to its colour with 2nd, albeit a good chin not challenging the 1st, but both went on to become not only Best and Reserve Adult Mutations but Best and Reserve Mutation and the 1st became Reserve Best in Show .

We had nine novice Adult Mutations. Lisa Gill had 2nd and 3rd ribbons for two Wilson Whites, the 2nd having clear but not blue colour, reasonably strong fur and good conformation, with 3rd having a softer fur type with a slightly creamy colour. Lisa also had a 2nd ribbon for a Brown Velvet, a reasonably good type with slight tinge to its colour.

Congratulations to Eddie and Richard for bringing both Best and Reserve Best in Show chins. My thanks go to Scottish Region for their hospitality and their work staging an efficient and smoothly run show. Thanks also to all who came with their chins to make my trip a worthwhile venture across the border.

Helmore

Stephen