

## Show Report – Southern Region, Bugbrooke, 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2008

Judge:- Ron Gardner

There were 70 animals show, and the overall quality of the animals was a little I hope things improve as the progresses. Having said that, winners earned their awards, Champion and Reserve were winners.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**72 Animals were exhibited at the Southern Show, comprising 42 Standards and 30 Mutations**

exhibited at this and condition disappointing. season all the ribbon and the Show both worthy

The judging began with two Young Standard Females, in total. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> ribbon winners in the Medium phase both had good conformation, the 1<sup>st</sup> being better for colour.

classes of numbering 19

The Medium-Dark phase were better all round, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> winners being two good animals, with lovely conformation, plenty of width at the shoulders, and good colour with the 1<sup>st</sup> being the bluest of the two. This animal was Best Young female and went on to take all the top standard awards, and was only pipped at the final hurdle, becoming Reserve Show Champion.

The Young Standard Males, again two classes, totalled only nine animals. The Medium-Dark phase 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon winner was of good colour, conformation and veiling, and was very well prepared for the day. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ribbon winner was smaller and needed more in the neck.

The 1<sup>st</sup> in the Medium phase was blocky, with strong fur and just edged the Medium-Dark for Best Young Standard Male. The 2<sup>nd</sup> in the class needed more in the neck and didn't have quite the same veiling coverage.

I then had a class of two Novice Adult Standard Females that gained no awards. One had lots of fur, but lacked condition and appeared to be dirty and in need of a dust bath. The other had good length fur but lacked density and was only average colour.

The Adult Standard Females were seven in number and were all judged in one class. The 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon winner was in prime and had beautiful conformation with good strong fur, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> ribbon winner not as bright, priming and woolly down the sides.

The Adult Standard Males were two in number and 1 Novice animal made the group up to three. Only 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ribbons were awarded, the 1<sup>st</sup> having excellent prime, good coverage and density, taking the award for Best Adult Standard Male and Best Adult Standard and Reserve Best Standard.

The Novice Mutations were just five in number and made one A.O.C. class. I awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> for a lovely Black Velvet, which had good conformation and coverage, with nice strong fur and a lovely white belly. Congratulations to this Novice, attaining the award for Reserve Young Mutation with this chin. There was also 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ribbons for two Wilson Whites, the 2<sup>nd</sup> ribbon animal having both good conformation and colour, with the 3<sup>rd</sup> also having good conformation. Both were good Novice animals. I also awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ribbons to two Self Blacks, which both lacked width in the shoulders.

On to the Young Mutations, and a class of seven Wilson Whites. The 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon winner was a nice clear colour, with good fur strength and was in prime. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ribbon winner was blocky but was creamy rather than a clear white colour.

A class of three Violets came next. These were all the darker phase of Violets and in my opinion were not as attractive as the lighter, bluer colour phase - however I did award 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ribbons. The 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon winner had nice conformation, a good neck, upright fur and a clear belly. The 2<sup>nd</sup> had less in the neck, the fur was weaker and it was breaking.

Three Brown Velvets followed, the 1<sup>st</sup> of which had nice conformation and a good neck, plenty of width in the shoulders, and clean belly fur, but did appear to be slightly tinged.

Five Black Velvets came next, the 1<sup>st</sup> of which was sharp for colour, with white belly fur. It had the best coverage, but was out of prime. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ribbon winner was a reasonable chin, but was not a blue-black.

The A.O.C. class produced the eventual Show Champion - A lovely Beige that had good colour, strong fur and was in lovely condition on the day. I also awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon for a Pink White which was large and blocky, with good colour and was well presented.

The Adult Mutations numbered just two with a single Novice entry making up the numbers. The novice Wilson White was awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> for good strong fur, excellent conformation and beautiful colour. This Novice is also to be congratulated for attaining Reserve Adult Mutation with this chin. The last 1<sup>st</sup> ribbon award of the day was for an adult Pink White that had stronger fur than the youngster, but not such good colour.

Due to the entries being a little low, and to my show Manager keeping things running, we were finished by 3pm which allowed a leisurely approach to collecting animals and clearing up, and the relaxed and informal atmosphere that had prevailed all day made this show a pleasure to judge.

I would like to thank the hard working “crew” from both Southern and West Midlands regions, with a special mention to the hard working kitchen slaves who kept us well fed and watered all day.

It was nice to see two of our “very dedicated” members from Scotland make the journey to Bugbrooke. From the smiles and joviality emanating from them both, I imagine they felt their long journey was worthwhile and I look forward to seeing them again at the next one!!

**Ron Gardner**

