

GCCF REGISTRATION POLICY FOR LaPERM CATS



Agreed/effective February 2009

Breeds which have been approved for use in outcrossing are:

Somali, Abyssinian, Ocicat, Asian Shorthair, Tiffanie, Burmese (European Burmese in the case of imported cats) and Tonkinese, plus variants of these breeds.

In addition, unregistered domestic LH and SH and their registered progeny are permitted in the pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide registering organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004, and those of their descendants. All other breeds are listed as non-approved.

Full Register

LaPerms with Full or Provisional recognition which have within the preceding three generations only LaPerms.

Supplementary Register

LaPerms with Full or Provisional recognition which have within the preceding five generations only LaPerms, LaPerm Variants, Somali, Abyssinian, Ocicat, Asian Shorthair, Tiffanie, Burmese (European Burmese in the case of imported cats) and Tonkinese, plus variants of these breeds. Cats of unknown parentage but registered as "of LaPerm type", or cats which have been granted a registration number for use in the LaPerm breeding programme but are referred to by another organisation as "Domestic LH" or "Domestic SH" are permitted in the pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004. In addition, unregistered domestic LH and SH are permitted in the fourth and fifth generations of pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide registering organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004, and those of their descendants.

Experimental Register

LaPerms with Preliminary recognition which have within the preceding five generations only LaPerms, LaPerm Variants, Somali, Abyssinian, Ocicat, Asian Shorthair, Tiffanie, Burmese (European Burmese in the case of imported cats) and Tonkinese, plus variants of these breeds. Cats of unknown parentage but registered as "of LaPerm type", or cats which have been granted a registration number for use in the LaPerm breeding programme but are referred to by another organisation as "Domestic LH" or "Domestic SH" are permitted in the pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004. In addition, unregistered domestic LH and SH are permitted in the fourth and fifth generations of pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide registering organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004, and those of their descendants.)

Reference Register I

1. LaPerm Variants which have within the preceding five generations only LaPerms, LaPerm Variants, Somali, Abyssinian, Ocicat, Asian Shorthair, Tiffanie, Burmese (European Burmese in the case of imported cats) and Tonkinese, plus variants of these breeds, shall be registered on the Reference Register with a LaPerm Variant breed number. Cats of unknown parentage but registered as "of LaPerm type", or cats which have been granted a registration number for use in the LaPerm breeding programme but are referred to by another organisation as "Domestic LH" or "Domestic SH" are permitted in the pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004. In addition, unregistered domestic LH and SH are permitted in the fourth and fifth generations of pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide registering organisation) prior to 23rd June 2004, and those of their descendants.
2. LaPerms and LaPerm variants which have within the preceding five generations any non-approved breeds and registered prior to (date of progression to Provisional status) shall be registered on the Reference Register as normal or rex coated of LaPerm type. This includes unregistered domestic LH and SH, with the exception of those in the pedigrees of cats registered (either with GCCF or with another bona fide registering organisation) before 23rd June 2004, and those of their descendants. NB. When kittens with one or both parents registered on the Reference Register are, under this Registration Policy, eligible to be registered on the Supplementary Register it is recommended that the person registering these kittens requests such registration and encloses documentary evidence of the five generations required. If this is not done the kittens may be registered on the Reference Register.
NOTE: Chinchillas (10) permitted in background of Asian SH/Tiffanie pedigrees are also permitted in fourth and fifth generations of LaPerm pedigrees.

Reference Register II

All cats resulting from matings between LaPerms and any breed other than those listed above as acceptable in LaPerm pedigrees shall be registered on the Reference Register as 'no recognised breed' with no progression.

NOTE 1: LaPerms with Oriental SH, Oriental LH, Siamese or Balinese cats in their pedigrees, registered prior to (date of progression to Provisional status), will continue to be registered as LaPerms, as will their progeny in succeeding

generations. After (date of progression to Provisional status) the progeny of LaPerms mated to Oriental SH, Oriental LH, Siamese or Balinese will be registered on the Reference Register as 'no recognised breed' with no progression.

NOTE 2: Before the registration of any white LaPerm or white LaPerm Variant, a BAER certificate of freedom from deafness for the white parent(s) must be supplied to the GCCF. For identification purposes cats must be micro chipped prior to testing.

Breeding Policy

This document is seen as a way of ensuring breeders observe what is considered 'best practice' in their involvement with the LaPerm and particularly in their LaPerm breeding programmes.

The LaPerm, unlike most breeds but typical of other rex breeds, owes its origin to one cat - Curly, who was born in 1982 on Linda and Dick Koehl's farm in The Dalles, Oregon. Several years of unregulated breeding gave rise to a small colony of curly, or rex coated cats on the farm and when selective breeding began these cats were the basis of the breed. As with other rex breeds, starting with a small gene pool meant that outcrossing to straight coated cats was vital to improve the size, health and strength of the breed's gene pool. Both long and short coats were present in the original colony and are recognised within the breed.

Aims

It is vital that regular selective outcrossing is maintained to increase the gene pool and improve stamina and health whilst maintaining correct type. When breeding curly to curly it is vitally important that careful selections are made to ensure low inbreeding coefficients. This is 'best for the breed' in its ongoing development.

Guidelines

The LaPerm gene (Lp) is dominant so LaPerm Variants do not carry the LaPerm gene, but may be useful in breeding programmes when mated back to LaPerms. LaPerms may carry the straight haired gene recessively so LaPerm x LaPerm matings can produce LaPerm Variants. LaPerms which carry the straight haired gene are known as Heterozygous LaPerms. Homozygous LaPerms do not carry the straight coated gene and will produce only rex coated offspring. There are no differences in appearance between Homozygous and Heterozygous LaPerms. The eventual aim of the LaPerm breeding programme is to produce Homozygous LaPerms but while the breed is still developing it is important to maintain breeding with both Homozygous and Heterozygous LaPerms.

The majority of matings are most likely to be between LaPerm x LaPerm, LaPerm x Approved Outcross Breed and LaPerm x LaPerm Variant. Matings between LaPerm Variant x LaPerm Variant cannot produce LaPerms but the offspring of such matings may be registered as LaPerm Variants.

Breeders should ensure, to the best of their knowledge, that any LaPerms or LaPerm Variants from which they breed are of sound temperament, free from any hereditary defects, (including those listed in the GCCF Standard of Points), and conform as closely as possible to the Standard of Points, (excluding the coat description where variants are concerned). All cats used for outcrossing should be thoroughly researched, of sound temperament and free from any hereditary defects. Blood type B appears to be very rare in the LaPerm. It is recommended that cats with blood type B should not be introduced into the LaPerm breeding programme in order to prevent the occurrence of problems with blood type incompatibility. LaPerms are not compatible with Cornish, Devon or Selkirk Rex. Such matings are therefore highly undesirable. The product of such matings will be registered on the Reference Register and cannot be considered to be LaPerms or LaPerm Variants. They cannot be used in any Rex breeding programme and should be placed on the non-active register. It is considered to be in the best interest of the LaPerm breed to keep it entirely separate from other incompatible Rex mutations. Under no circumstances should any cat with Sphynx ancestry be introduced into the LaPerm breed. Selection for hairlessness contradicts the coat quality requirements for Rex cats. The product of any matings between Sphynx and LaPerms will be registered on the Reference Register. They cannot be considered to be variants nor be used in any LaPerm breeding programme and should be placed on the non-active register. Breeders shall ensure that any LaPerms or LaPerm Variants from which they breed shall be registered with the GCCF in accordance with the Rules in force at the time. It is recommended that the progeny from any matings that are not required for LaPerm breeding, should be placed on the Non- Active Register, to avoid the introduction of the LaPerm gene into other varieties of pedigree cats.

Breeds which have been approved for use in outcrossing are:

Somali, Abyssinian, Ocicat, Asian Shorthair, Tiffanie, Burmese (European Burmese in the case of imported cats) and Tonkinese, plus variants of these breeds.

Chinchillas are permitted at the fourth and fifth generations of LaPerm pedigrees if they precede Asian group cats because chinchillas are permitted to appear in the background of Asian group cat pedigrees

All other breeds are listed as non-approved.

Domestic longhairs and shorthairs were used in the development of the breed in the USA and may appear in the background of the pedigrees of imported cats. Siamese, Balinese, Oriental SH and Oriental LH may also be seen in the background of pedigrees where outcrosses to these breeds were carried out before the LaPerm's promotion to Provisional status.

Breeders will be encouraged to take advantage of any relevant official scheme, which may be devised by the BAC to test the soundness of the LaPerm breed.

Note: It is recommended where the colour of a cat is in question a DNA test, (where such a test exists), be arranged.

For further information please contact the Secretary of the Joint Rex Breed Advisory Committee