

CLEVELAND SHOW

23 July 2011

Judge: Sheila Sowter

The Cleveland Show is usually an excellent day out for all with lots to see and do. This year it seemed scaled down as its usual venue, Stewart Park, wasn't available and the show was in a sports ground nearby. I didn't have time to appreciate what was on offer however as over 90 rats were entered and 89 turned up. Though it was a joint NFRS/YRC show the owners seemed all to be YRC or Scottish Rat Club venturing south.

Though I had booked the last train that would get me home, with such a large entry I had to rush off as soon as I had completed the judging. These days with a large entry judges have insufficient time to complete critiques and to make personal notes. All that they have for writing the report are the critiques, and since I don't know who I'm writing for, I feel I should avoid writing anything which might make a novice feel it wasn't worth showing ever again. The critiques themselves may be somewhat blank and there is the danger that they may go astray. I'm sorry, but the critiques for the entire agouti kitten class have vanished.

Congratulations however to Toyah Leitch whose BOA was an agouti kitten, congratulations also to Julie Botterill for a Russian blue agouti BIS with the best show qualities of an agouti based rat and to Stillyrats for a rex RBIS with lovely curls.

Thanks to Jannette Rogers for coping with an extra complicated show entry (the NFRS and YRC follow different protocols). Thanks also to Ellie Thurley for scribing in legible handwriting and to Jannine Taylor and Rachel Broughton for stewarding and, in Jannine's case, scribing for the last few rats

Self section

PEW AD (1): 1 (101) Yabba Dabba Doo. D. Good thick tail, well set ears, nice eyes, clean coat, plump.

BUFF KIT (1): 1 (401) Yabba Dabba Doo. B. Good condition though small, pleasant coat, colour fairly even, good eye colour.

BLACK KIT (1): 1 (801) Yabba Dabba Doo. Lovely ears and eyes, fair tail, back rather silvered, groin beginning to rust.

IVORY AD (1): 1 (1101) Trinovantum. Spends far too much time at her food bowl. Good thick tail, pink stains on neck. Nice head, eyes and ears. Slight tail tip damage.

IVORY KIT (1): 1 (1201) Trinovantum. D. Nice eyes, Slight pink stain on neck, head rather narrow.

SELF ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (101). 2 (1101).

SELF KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (801). 2 (1201). 3 (401)

SELF ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1(801). 2 (101). 3 (1201). 4 (1101).

Marked section

BERKSHIRE AD (2): 1 (1302) Rachel Broughton. Spends far too much time at his food bowl.

Plenty of belly white fairly symmetrical. Good large ears, fair eyes, lovely tail. Has tail stop but no head spot. Some yellow buck grease. 2 (1303) Bog Myrtle. Nice head, eyes and ears. Whisker bed should be all white for a badger. White drag larger up left side than right. Demarcation irregular, goof tail but no tail stop.

Somewhat better rat than 1302 but much poorer Berkshire.

HOODED AD (1): 1 (1701) A. & A. McKinnon. Saddle complete but far too wide and uneven width. Hood edge irregular. Nice eyes and ears, slight rusting near tail. Tail goodish but brindled

ESSEX AD (2): 1 (2302) Ratoon. D. Gorgeous eyes, nice head, lovely ears, good tail. Not enough belly white but good colour gradation up sides. 2 (2301) K. & K. Rattray. D. Nice ear and eye, tail shortish, nice head spot but with extra spot. Nice belly, nice gradation of colour from belly to spine though better at the head than at the tail end. Slight rusting on rump.

CHINCHILLA AD (1): 1 (2501) Julie Botterill. Good solid lad. Mostly nice colour but some bronzing on head and down spine. Blaze irregular and rather long. Nice eyes and head. Tail thick but shortish.

HUSKY AD (1): 1 (2901) Julie Botterill. Likes his food. Slight damage at rather thin tail tip. Roaning goes most of the way down the body but silvering irregular. Nice eyes and ears.

MARKED ADULT AND ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (1302). 2 (2302). 3 (2501). 4 (2301).

Russian section

RUSSIAN BLUE AD (2): 1 (3103) Stillyrats. Not enjoying herself. Lovely well set ears when sitting in tank but resolutely back when talking to judge. Good head, lovely eyes, thick tail, some rusting on rump, white toes on front feet. 2 (3102) A. & A. McKinnon. Gorgeous tail,

good head, fair eyes. Colour fairly even but white toe tips and slight rusting underneath. Enjoys his food.

RUSSIAN BLUE AGOUTI AD (2): 1 (3501) Julie Botterill. Gorgeous tail, Colour somewhat uneven, too much brown at the rear, white front feet. Nice head, eye and ear. Enjoys his food. 2 (3502) Jannine Taylor. D. Nice colour, almost even lovely eyes and ears, good tail.

RUSSIAN ADULT AND ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (3501). 2 (3103). 3 (3502). 4 (3102).

Shaded section

ARGENTE CRÈME AD (1): 1 (3701) Bog Myrtle. D. Pleasant colour but only apricot to half way down sides. Coat slightly chewed, fair ears, nice eyes.

SIAMESE AD (3): 1 (4103) Ratoon. D. Black eyes. Rump shading good, nice nose and ears, feet rather pale. Lovely head, eye and ear, beautiful condition. 2 (4101) Julie Botterill.

B. Black eyes. Good face, good tail, ankles rather pale and white toe tips. Nice eyes, fair ears. Pink stains on back of neck. Fair shading but appearance spoiled by chew marks. 3 (4102) Kelly Miller. Red eyed and a Berkshire (or even a hooded) not a full Siamese – look at the feet which are white. She felt embarrassed and kept hiding in the judge's coat. Nice nose point. Slightly dehydrated.

BURMESE AD (1): 1 (4502) Stillyrats. Good solid lad. Good tail, lovely eyes, nice ears. Rather silvered and rather grey for Burmese.

BURMESE KIT (1): 1 (4601) Jannine Taylor. B. Nice eyes, head rather narrow as yet, good tail. Nice condition but rather silvered and a slightly odd colour for a Burmese.

SHADED ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (4103). 2 (4502). 3 (4101). 4 (3701).

SHADED KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (4601).

SHADED ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (4103). 2 (4502). 3 (4101). 4 (4601).

AOV Section

TOPAZ AD (4): 1 (4705) Ratoon. Spends too much time at his food bowl. Tail thick but shortish and slight tail tip damage. Nice colour almost even, lighter in the middle, richer on the head. Lovely eyes, good ears. 2 (4706) A. & A. McKinnon. Enjoys his food. Gorgeous tail, almost even colour. Nice eyes, good belly. Little to choose between him and 4705. 3 (4704) Yabba Dabba Doo. Nice colour head and rear, uneven overall. Lovely eyes, good ears, fair tail and head, good belly. 4 (4707) Stillyrats. Goodish tail, fairly even colour. Nice ears, nice eyes, head a bit narrow for a buck, colour possibly still to develop.

TOPAZ KIT (2): 1 (4803) Yabba Dabba Doo. Colour almost even though not full adult as yet, fair tail, good eyes, nice ears, good belly. 2 (4802) Yabba Dabba Doo. Not full adult colour as yet, nice eyes, nice ears. Head a bit narrow but may improve.

SILVER FAWN AD (2): 1 (4904) K. & K. Rattray. Colour almost even but slightly chewed on back. Nice tail, fair eyes and ear, rather narrow head, good belly. 2 (4901) Jannine Taylor. Colour developing nicely, good on sides, nice eyes and ears, good belly. Let down by kinked tail, would otherwise have been first.

SILVER FAWN KIT (2): 1 (5001) Toyah Leitch. Only just starting to get adult coat. Nice ears and eyes, good tail, head rather narrow. 2 (5002) Trinovantum. Seems to have had disagreements with cage mates, bitten tail tip, chewed coat, small scab on ankle. Nice ears, fair eyes, promising colour.

SILVERED AD (2): 1 (5101) Jannine Taylor. Good solid lad. Gorgeous tail, nice silvering on back, not so much on head, nice ears and eyes. White toe tips. 2 (5102) Lucy Carr.

Spends too much time at his food bowl. Good silvering on back, not much on head. Good eyes, nice head. Nobble at tail tip.

SILVERED KIT (3): 1 (5201) Jannine Taylor. Even silvering, nice ears and eyes. Fair tail, head rather narrow for a buck but may improve, beautiful condition. 2 (5203) Rachel Broughton. Not very minky, might be dark phase pearl. White toe tips, nice eyes, nice ears, fair tail. 3 (5202) A. & A. McKinnon. Plenty of silvering though rather uneven. Flattened tail tip. White belly button! Rather rusty underneath. Nice eyes. Ears, particularly left, rather folded.

AGOUTI AD (6): 1 (5303) K. & K. Rattray. Colour, though not perfectly even, has plenty of reddish tinge. Good eyes and ears, fair tail, white toe tips. 2 (5306) Yabba Dabba Doo. Lovely head, eye and ear, coat rather chewed but nice colour. 3 (5307) Ratoon. Rather dark but nice even colour. Gorgeous eyes, nice ears, lovely tail. 4 (5304) K. & K. Rattray. Even colour and with some reddish tinge. Good eyes and tail. Ears large but a bit folded.

AGOUTI KIT: *See introduction.*

PEARL/CINNAMON PEARL (1): 1 (6101) Jannine Taylor. Enjoys his food. Good head, lovely eyes and ears, tail thick but shortish with slight damage at the tip. Colour not yet fully developed. Took my hand lovingly between her teeth but did not draw blood so not disqualified.

AOV ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (6101). 2 (5101). 3 (4705). 4 (4904).
AOV KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (5401). 2 (5402). 3 (5001). 4 (5201)
AOV ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (6101). 2 (5401). 3 (5101). 4 (4705).

Rex section

SELF REX AD (1): 1 (6501) A. & A. McKinnon. Back coat wavy rather than curly, belly wavy. Back half brown, front half black, Nice eyes and tail. Somewhat folded ears, slit in left ear.
MARKED REX AD (1): 1 (6701) A. & A. McKinnon. Not very curly. Good tail, nice eyes. Saddle far too wide, 'open waistcoat' under chin but no unwanted spots of colour on belly.
RUSSIAN BLUE AD (1): 1 (6901) K. & K. Rattray. Rexing shows up well on this colour. Rather thin along back but otherwise nice curls. Good head, nice ears and tail. Lovely eyes. Good colour.
AOV REX AD (9): 1 (7308) Stillyrats. Good curls though hair beginning to thin on back. Good eyes, nice tail and ears. 2 (7305) Jannine Taylor. Spends too much time at the food bowl. Lovely curls, good colour, good eyes, ears and head. White toes. 3 (7306) A. & A. McKinnon. Topaz. Likes his food. Curls shows well on this colour. No bald patches on back. Good thick tail slightly shortish, nice ears, fair eyes. 4 (7301) Ann-Victoria Martin. Topaz. Good solid lad. Nice colour, rexing shows well on this colour. Good tail, nice eyes.
REX ADULT AND ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (7308). 2 (7305). 3 (6901). 4 (7306).

Dumbo section

SELF DUMBO AD (1): 1 (7501) Julie Botterill. Good head, fair eyes, good thick tail, ears slightly creased.
SELF DUMBO KIT(1): 1(7601) Yabba Dabba Doo. Good fairly even buff colour but white belly spot. Nice ears, fair eyes, good condition.
RUSSIAN DUMBO AD (5): 1 (7904) Ratoon. Lovely Russian blue colour. Lovely ears and eyes, good tail and head. 2 (7902) Ratoon. Lovely Russian blue colour. Good large ears. Nice eyes, good head, white toes. 3 (7905) Stillyrats. Good Russian blue agouti colour. Slightly creased ears. Good tail and eyes. Nice head. 4 (7901) Julia Botterill, Nice Russian blue colour even though white feet. Nice eyes and head. Fair ears very slightly creased.
SHADED DUMBO AD (1): 1 (8101) Jannine Taylor. BE Siamese. Enjoys his food. Nice back shading, good points. Thick tail. Ears slightly creased.
AOV DUMBO KIT (2): 1 (8401) Jemima Fettes, Agouti colour rather dark, but even. Very slightly creased ears. Gorgeous eyes, good tail. White front toes. 2 (8402) Jemima Fettes. Good silvering on back but doesn't extend to head. Slight rusting of black at groin. Slightly creased ears. Nice eyes.
REX DUMBO AD (1): 1 (8501) A. & A. McKinnon. Band not wide enough for a banded husky and no obvious silvering. Rexing is more wavy than curly. Slightly creased ears. Good face markings though blaze a little irregular. Cut on belly.
REX DUMBO KIT (2): 1 (8602) A. & A. McKinnon. Nice dumbo, poor capped. Good ears, nice eyes, good length tail. Cap has white drag on right chin, too much colour behind the ears. 2 (8601) A. & A. McKinnon. Left ear slightly creased, right ear good. Good eyes. Berkshire markings rather irregular. Tail stop but no head spot. Fair curls.
DUMBO ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (7904). 2 (7902). 3 (7905).
DUMBO KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (8401). 2 (8402). 3 (7601). 4 (8602)
DUMBO ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (7904). 2 (7902). 3 (8401). 4 (7905).
GUIDE STANDARD AD: 1 (8701) Catherine Mace. Russian silver agouti. Enjoys his food. Colouring uneven. Russian silver colour on head is correct for Russian silver. Tail thick but short. Nice eyes and ears. 2 (8703) Trinovantum. Golden Himalayan. Good points. Ears rather crumpled. Fair tail, nice eyes, colour uneven, greyish not golden mid back.
NEW VARIETIES (2): 1(02) Jannine Taylor. Wheaten Burmese. Good points, nice eyes and ears. Good head, thick tail. Compared with standard, colour is greyish brown not 'mid sand', base coat does not seem to be light brown. Eyes correctly black. Nice rat but not to written standard. 2 (03) Bog Myrtle. Apricot agouti. Nice eyes, ears, head. Good tail. Pale colour not near pale 'apricot', nearer to 'buff'. Undercolour appears white. Belly colour difficult to be sure of as somewhat stained.
KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (5401) Toyah Leitch. 2 (5402) Toyah Leitch. 3 (801) Yabba Dabba Doo. 4 (5001) Toyah Leitch.
ADULT AND SUPREME CHALLENGE: BIS (3501) Julie Botterill. RBIS (7308) Stillyrats. 3 (6101) Jannine Taylor. 4 (7904) Ratoon.
STUD BUCK: 1 (4705) Ratoon. 2 (3501) Julie Botterill. 3 (5308) Bog Myrtle. 4 (7306) A. & A. McKinnon.