

Kathryn Winton - Mirribandi Belgians

From: "Virginia Gagan-Wilson" <Virginia@dogsnsw.org.au>
Date: 25 September, 2015 4:40 PM
To: "Kathryn Winton - Mirribandi Belgians" <mirribandi@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Intervariety Breeding of Belgian Shepherd Dogs.

Dear Kathryn

Receipt is acknowledged of your email, dated 15 September 2015, requesting a copy of Dogs NSW rationale for the change to ANKC clause 9.11, effective February 2016, in relation to the intervariety breeding of the Belgian Shepherd Dog.

This matter was discussed at the 2014 ANKC Ltd Board meeting where it was resolved as follows:-

THAT from 1 January 2015 the inter-variety mating of Belgian Shepherd Dogs shall only be conducted in accordance with FCI breeding requirements.

The rationale provided was as follows:-

Indiscriminate intervariety breeding will destroy the Breed. All this type of experimentation was done when the Breed was being developed. After the war, intervariety breeding was undertaken in Belgium because of the small numbers they had left after the war, but it is certainly not done now. In other European countries, permission has to be sought before this can be undertaken and again never with the grey. In other European countries, except Belgium where the grey is not shown nor bred from, the breeding pair have to be 3 generations clear for their phenotype before permission is considered. In France, the grey can only be mated to the fauve (fawn) Tervueren.

Intervariety breeding in the Belgian Shepherd is not permitted in the Country of Origin.

And it is not recommended to do intervariety, in other countries it can only be done with the permission of the breeding commission.

In Europe, to be accepted for this intervariety, the dogs need to have:

three generation clear pedigree

selection by the breeding commission, or to be a champion

before intervariety mating is permitted, a minimum 1 litter in their own variety and the puppies have to be high quality

the only intervariety mating allowed is Groenendael x Tervueren and Malinois x Laekenois

The grey color is not recommended for the Breed.

It is concerning that unacceptable intervariety breeding is being undertaken in Australia – a grey Tervueren to a Groenendael – unheard of in any country in Europe which has the Belgian Shepherd Dog.

Problems arise when breeding the progeny from intervariety matings.

All experimentation was done in Belgium at the time of development of the Breed, and finally they decreed what could be mated to what, as they had realised that coat length and colour were being affected. The three generation criteria required allows for consolidation of coat length and coat colour.

Genetics is a very difficult science for the lay person to comprehend, this is one of reasons that the three generation clear requirement has been adopted in Belgium.

Following the decision of the ANKC Ltd Board, at its 2014 meeting, it became apparent that there would not be sufficient time for approval for intervariety matings to be sought from ANKC and, therefore, by Electronic Motion #111, the ANKC Ltd approved the above resolution to be amended to read:-

Belgian Shepherd Dog (Groenendael); Belgian Shepherd Dog (Laekenois); Belgian Shepherd Dog (Malinois) & Belgian Shepherd Dog (Tervueren)

Effective from 1st February, 2016 the inter-variety mating of Belgian Shepherd Dogs shall only be conducted if they have been approved by ANKC in accordance with FCI breeding requirements, and the submission for the intervariety mating has been received by ANKC at least 6 months prior to the proposed mating.

The only allowable submissions for intervariety matings are:

Groenendael to Tervueren, Tervueren to Malinois, Laekenois to Malinois

And the pedigree of both the Sire and Dam must be 3 generations clear for the variety.

28-Sep-15