

NEW VARIETIES: GUIDANCE NOTES FOR BREEDERS AND JUDGES

November 2009

CHINCHILLA

A cavy with a long ticked agouti-pattern all over the body except for white or cream areas that must be clearly defined and distinct. These are restricted to eye circles, nostrils, jowls, chest and belly. The belly should be wide and just visible when the cavy is viewed from the side, but not a crisp line against the ticked side of the body. The Chinchilla has a paler base colour than the normal Agouti, to be as pale a shade as possible without losing the desired grey pigmentation on skin, ears and eye rims. Too dark a shade of body colour is a fault.

Allowable colours are:

- White/Grey Chinchilla - pale grey base with long white ticking, white markings.
- White/Beige Chinchilla - beige/mink base with long white ticking, white markings.
- Cream/Grey Chinchilla - pale grey base with long cream ticking, cream markings
- Cream/Beige Chinchilla - beige/mink base with long cream ticking, cream markings

LUNKARYA

A longhaired cavy in the Peruvian model (having a frontal, chops and two hip rosettes), but differing in coat texture, which should be as harsh as possible. The coat is curly in a ringletted fashion, giving a corkscrew effect that needs to be present from the base of the coat to the ends. The hair on the frontal and chop furnishings is rexoid but not ringletted, like the coat on the belly. A young Lunkarya may have a softer coat than an adult and this should be taken into account. The Lunkarya should be presented in show condition on a board. Due to the random corkscrew effect of the coat the Lunkarya cannot be presented with a parting. The Lunkarya must be shown free of knots and tangles, but should not be brushed out in the manner of the other longhaired breeds. Judges should be able to run their fingers through the coat to check for coat quality and presentation. Brushes and combs must not be taken to the judging table.

DARK SABLE

The Dark Sable is a dark sepia coloured 'shaded cavy'. The masking top colour, a very dark sepia (nearly black), starts from the nose encompassing the head, the front feet and extending right down the back of the cavy. This

masking top colour extends down the sides of the cavy shading to a dark sepia colour to a lighter shade of sepia on the belly. Eye colour to be dark ruby.

It is important that the shading and mask are clearly visible for this breed to be assessed by the judge. In the young cavy the body colour is a single shade of dark sepia, as the shading has not yet developed, these are not suitable for showing.

The Sable can be assessed by placing the very dark sepia feet against the belly, this will identify the distinctly lighter shade of the belly. The dark ruby eyes of the Sable are different to the required black-eye colour for the Self Black.

The **Chocolate Sable** is a colour variant of the Dark Sable. This shows the same development of markings, with colour starting from a from a deep chocolate colour (mask) shading to a milk chocolate belly colour.

SABLE FOX

Colour shading is as for the Sable, with a white belly, eye circles, pea spots and lacing hairs as for the normal Fox.

SELF CARAMEL

All characteristics as for a Self Cavy but with colour to be warm toffee, distinctly darker than the Self Beige. Eyes light ruby.

SWISS:

A coated cavy with a coat of medium length that stands erect, with a plush springy texture. The hair must be thick and even in length all over the body, 6-9cm in length on the adult cavy, soft and plush, yet firm. The hairs on the belly are shorter and may be wavy. A crest anywhere in the coat (usually on the head) is a disqualification. Swiss should be shown on a board and may be in any colour or combination of colours.