

GP meeting in Germany 9.-10. October, 2010

PINSCHER-SCHNAUZER CROSSBREEDING PROJECT

– SHORT TRANSLATION TO ENGLISH



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INTRO

Back in the 1980's we were very concerned about the health situation of the German Pinscher and had discussions about an idea of crossbreeding and it's goals with each other (kennels Dorthonion, Waldschatz, Yarracitta = undersigned). The first application for crossbreeding permission was made by us in 1990. At that time our application was rejected. Next application was made in 1995 (by kennels Dorthonion and Yarracitta), and this time it was approved by the Finnish Kennel Club in 1996.

Back then, and of course still today, the goal is to widen the gene pool of our small breed, to get new blood into it after generations of inbreeding, and through that to decrease the health issues in the breed. Another aim was to improve some of German Pinscher's conformational weaknesses.

CROSSBRED LITTERS

• F1-generation

- a. Yarracitta P-litter 6-9-1997 sire: Yarracitta
Reticcarudolf (red GP) dam: Argenta's Pollyanna
(p&s Schnauzer)
2 puppies (2+0)
Coat: long, rough
Color: "red" (carries wild boar)
Unfortunately both had cryptorchidism, not used for breeding.
- b. Yarracitta O-litter 24.5.1998 sire: Balthasar v
Achterplätzchen (p&s Schnauzer) dam:
Yarracitta Ipanapapanetta (red GP)
8 puppies (4+4)
Coat: 7 long, 1 short
Color: 3 "red" (carries wild boar) and 5 wild boars
- c. Yarracitta U-litter 4.12.2010 sire: Ceriinan
Gilbert (b&t Pinscher) dam: Ankor
Kurazh Eparhia (p&s Schnauzer)
5 puppies (5+0)
Coat: long, rough
Color: all wild boar
Not used for breeding yet, due to age.

• F2-generation

- a. Yarracitta E-litter 20.8.2000
sire: Ceriinan Harris (red GP)
dam: Yarracitta Oiolenkaunokki (*F1*, "red", carries wild boar)
5 puppies (1+4)
Coat: 2 long- and rough coated, 3 short coated
Color: 1 "red" (carries wild boar), 4 red (*carried colors unknown*)
- b. Yarracitta N-litter 25.4.2002
sire: Fundora's Charmat (red GP)
dam: Yarracitta Oiolenkaunokki (*F1*, "red", carries wild boar)
8 puppies (3+5)
Coat: 3 slightly longer coat, 5 short coated
Color: 7 red, 1 wild boar

Summary F2-generation: 2 litters = 13 dogs
Coats: 5 longer coat, 8 short coat
Colors: 12 red, 1 wild boar

• F3-generation

- a. Yarracitta J-litter 17.4.2003 sire: Yarracitta Eppuhuippuheppu (*F2*, "red", carries wild boar) dam: Of Leijliden Unra-Eliza (red GP)
5 puppies (3+2)
Coat: short
Color: 3 wild boar, 2 red
- b. Yarracitta K-litter 26.5.2006 sire: Aron Arming Harmony Star (red GP) dam: Yarracitta Nöpölöppönen (*F2*, red)
9 puppies (4+5)
Coat: short
Color: red
- c. Yarracitta L-litter 8.12.2009 sire: Waldweg Millenium (red GP) dam: Yarracitta Nitanaturelli (*F2*, wild boar)
2 puppies (1+1)
Coat: short
Color: red
- d. *Megamagee S-litter 25.4.2011*
sire: Yarracitta Eppuhuippuheppu (*F2*, "red", carries wild boar)
dam: Rattenjäger Minne Für Megamagee (red GP)
11 puppies (5+6)

Coat: 4 longer and rough, 7 short

Color: 4 wild boar, 7 red

Summary F3-generation: 3 litters, 27 dogs

Coats: 23 short, 4 longer

• F4-generation (to normal register)

- a. Megamagee M-litter 30.5.2009
sire: Ceriinan Gilbert (b&t GP)
dam: Yarracitta Jeppanapoppanen (F3, wild boar)
4 puppies (2+2)
Coat: short
Color: 3 black&tan, 1 wild boar
- b. Sawonmuan A-litter 18.11.2009 sire:
Rattenjäger Ewig Eine Eins (red GP)
dam: Yarracitta Kirppukiwakiwa (F3, red)
7 puppies (5+2)
Coat: short
Color: red
- c. Megamagee R-litter 17.2.2010 sire:
Windläufer Weise Waltzer (b&t GP) dam:
Yarracitta Ketschuppibaby (F3, red)
8 puppies (2+6)
Coat: short
Color: red
- d. Yarracitta D-litter 1.6.2012 sire:
Gangland Wolfrider's Bearclaw (red GP)
dam: Yarracitta Loistolyyli (F3, red)
7 puppies (2+5)
Coat: short
Color: red

Summary F4-generation: 4 litters, 26 dogs

Coats: all short

Colors: 22 red, 3 black&tan, 1 wild boar

• F5-generation – general information

To date there have been one (1) F5-litter in Finland, four (4) in Germany and one (1) in Sweden.

RESULTS

1. Temperaments

For me, the temperament is the most important thing in dog breeding, and always the main priority in my small scale breeding hobby. The fate of this breed is depending on it's temperament in the first place. German Pinschers still have a bad reputation from "the old times", that we all know. Even one shy or aggressive Pinscher is too much, it destroys the breed's reputation. German Pinscher's original duty as countryside ratter or stable guard practically exists no more. Today the Pinscher is mostly a companion, often also a family pet, that lives in cities with children and this is the position this breed needs to be adjusted to, otherwise there is no place for it.

Generally it can be noted that the German Pinscher's temperaments have got very much better in Finland over the last 20-30 years. The reason for this is that most breeders have understood how important thing the temperament is and also have worked for better temperaments in their breeding. On my own behalf I have been trying to do my best to improve temperaments by using only dogs with absolutely good temperaments: in other words dogs that are social, open and kind to people.

14 crossbred dogs have been participating in Finnish mental tests between years 2003-2009 and attained the average of 124,6 points. In the same time period "purebred" Pinschers' (56 dogs tested) average was 121,9 points. The percentage of dogs reacted to shooting in crossbreds was 14,3% and in purebreds 16,1%. The differences aren't big. These average numbers of course don't tell much about German Pinscher's temperament, but they are directional info. The most important thing in mental test results are different features of the test and their results.

2. Coat types

Long and rough coat is partially left out already in F2-generation and mostly also in F3-generation, so it has not been any real problem.

One F3- generation litter contains 4 longer- and rough coated dogs. We have gained more knowledge about this coat type inheritance (autosomal dominant), so it can be controlled.

3. Colours

Wild boar- colour is caused by combination of p&s Schnauzer's colour allele aw and Pinscher's colour allele at. Wild boars have been born to crossbred lines, also later than only F1- generation. Actually all F1- generation "red" dogs are also carriers of wild boar, because they have inherited this aw- allele from their Schnauzer-parent, and red colour allele ay from their Pinscher parent.

Wild Boar is supposed to be one of the original colours of German Pinscher, which was removed from the Breed Standard in 1973 with many other colours.

Wild boar colour's inheritance is also well known, so by focusing to get rid of the colour it would be quite easy. Anyhow, we have felt that dogs that are used in breeding must be picked for their other qualities than colour. The German Pinscher population is not so wide that we could keep a colour as a main principle when working with crossbreed lines. The close relationships in Finnish Pinscher population already set limitations. The main principles must be temperament, health and conformation; healthy and correct structure. Colour is a minor point considering breeding as a whole.

4. Hip dysplasia

Hip dysplasia is more common in p&s Schnauzers than in Pinschers. In the last 10 years there have been about 10% of dysplastic findings in Pinschers (FCI grades C and D), where as in the same time range p&s Schnauzer's dysplastic findings are as high as 40% (FCI grades C, D and E).

All breeding dogs are hip examined. To this date all hip examined crossbred dogs have been healthy. The following numbers include the hip results of three first crossbred generations, totally 11 dogs:

8 dogs A/A, 2 dogs A/B, 1 dog B/B.

That was the situation in 2010. To this date, year 2013, 17 crossbred dogs have been hip examined, with the following results:

A/A: 13 dogs, B/A: 2 dogs, B/B: 1 dog, C/B: 1 dog.

5. Eyes

All breeding dogs must have their eyes examined, and the eye certificate is only valid for 8 months. So the breeding dogs must be eye checked quite often (practically every time when they are used). Below are some statistics between years 1999-2009:

Examined Pinschers, total: 387 dogs

HC affected: 64 dogs, = 16,5%

Age group 1-5 years, examined 199 dogs, HC 24 dogs = 12,1%

Age group 5-9 years, examined 154 dogs, HC 33 dogs = 21,4%

Age group 9-13 years, examined 34 dogs, HC 7 dogs, = 20,6%

Suspected HC: 23 dogs

As you can see, there are way less affected dogs in the age group of 1 to 5 years, than in other age groups. This is understandable as usually HC will develop at older age. Taking this into consideration, it's quite obvious that our breed's real eye situation is a bit worse than the percentage, 16,5%, shows.

At this moment, the HC situation in crossbred lines (first 3 generations):

Examined: 19 dogs

Healthy: 13 dogs

HC: 2 dogs = 10,5%

HC suspected: 3 dogs

PHTVL/PHPV 2-6: 1 dog

Although 19 dogs is a very small sampling for reliable statistics, we can say that the situation with crossbred lines haven't at least gone worse than in purebred Pinschers. Still we must keep following the situation in future, so that statistics can be made with better sampling.

The biggest problem with eye examinations are the very different interpretations of different ophthalmologists, even with one single individual. As an example I mention one crossbred dog bred by me, who is now 7,5 years old. It's eyes have now been examined 5 times, with very different diagnosis:

1 st examination year 2004, age bit under 2 years:	affected HC
2 nd examination year 2005, age bit over 2 years:	free from eye diseases
3 rd examination year 2006, age 3,5 years:	affected HC (in Kennel Club's eye panel)
4 th examination year 2009, age almost 6 years:	suspected HC
5 th examination year 2010, age 7 years:	free from eye diseases (in KC's eye panel)

So, after all these different diagnoses this dog is now considered having Clear eyes. What should be thought of all this?

I really don't know. After latest KC's eye panel I had a discussion with the Finnish Kennel Club about this matter. The FKC has placed an Eye Committee consisting of ophthalmologists to screen and follow different eye sicknesses in all breeds. The Committee today has the opinion that some types of HC can disappear from the eye with age (for example floss-like changes in Y-sutures of the eye).

6. Vaccination reactions (usually after first distemper shot)

About 20-25% of Finnish Pinschers have some kind of vaccination reactions, from mild to more severe, about 8 to 14 days after first vaccination.

Also some of the crossbred dogs have had vaccination reactions, but those have been VERY mild with short duration and could be treated with cortisone tablets only. Some puppies haven't had any treatment, because their owners have forgotten all I have told them about the vacc. reactions. Some crossbreds have been taken to vet and reactions have stopped immediately afterwards, and some haven't needed any treatment because the reactions have stopped before they have got to the vet office.

In crossbreeding's three first generations (39 dogs) about 7 or 8 dogs have had vaccination reactions (= about 20%). The symptoms have been very short lasting and

mild, if I remember right. I haven't collected any statistics about them. I assume that widening of the gene pool has somewhat helped, *as there haven't been any severe reactions*. The vaccination reactions are generally considered to be an autoimmune problem caused by long lasting inbreeding. The mildness of reactions in crossbreds could perhaps be a sign in this direction.

7. Shows

Not all are interested in showing their dogs. These days shows aren't so very important to me, but they are entertaining happenings. Of course I am happy if dogs bred by me are taken to showrings, and even more if they succeed. From crossbred lines so far 4 dogs have finished their Finnish Champion-titles, and some dogs that have CAC's, and some dogs who have been awarded with "Excellent". A special joy has been the success of 3rd generation crossbred bitch Yarracitta Kaneliprinsessa, with her titles: FI & SE & NO & LT CH, Finnish Winner-2009 & 2011, Lithuanian Winner-2010, who also achieved the title "Showdog of the Year 2009 & 2010" by the Finnish Pinscher Club. This is especially nice because she is still in the appendix registry and only 3rd generation of actual crossbreeding. Other crossbreds to date that have achieved their Champion titles are: FI CH ISPUJW-04 Yarracitta Juccacuccanen, FI CH Yarracitta Ketschuppibaby and FI CH Yarracitta Loistolyyli, all 3rd generation dogs.

CROSSBREEDING PROJECT AND FUTURE PLANS

The Finnish Pinscher Club has set various criteria and aims for breeding to widen Pinscher's gene pool. The main points are: As many individuals from as many litters as possible should be used for breeding; Inbreeding Coefficient shall not be higher than 6,25% (counted with 6 generations); male can have only 4 litters in Finland and bitch only 3; same combinations shall not be repeated. Crossbreedings and imports aim of course at the same goal, widening of the gene pool.

When two other of the original applicants of crossbreeding permissions quit breeding, I had to proceed alone. This has of course slowed down the progress. I am only a small scale breeder, and breeding is only a hobby for me, not a business, and that is the way I have always wanted to keep it.

When in the early 2000's there were some cases of HC found also in crossbred dogs, I seriously considered to quit the project. I made a decision to keep a long break for monitoring the HC developments. Today I have decided to proceed with the project. Hereditary Cataract is obviously so rooted in our breed, that I doubt we will ever get totally rid of it. In our breed HC has affected the dog's life only very little, and there are only a few that have gone totally blind (maybe under 10 individuals, the exact numbers are not known). In my breedings there are none, so far.

Many experts say that HC is not the biggest problem of this breed. The most severe problem would be too narrow gene base as well as very small genetic variation within the breed.

Because of these reasons I have finally made the decision to use the rest crossbreeding permissions (2) there are left, and hope that in future they would become helpful for the breed. The possible benefits of the crossbreeding may not be even seen these days. So, the project will continue.

The first crossbred combination will be actualized this autumn:

Sire: FI CH Ceriinan Gilbert, 6 years old black&tan Pinscher male

Dam: Ankor Kurazh Eparhia, 5,5 years old p&s Schnauzer bitch, import from Russia

Both of these dogs have very good temperaments and they are healthy. First generation offspring will most likely be wild boar colored bearded dogs. With combining them in next generation again to black&tan Pinscher, the theoretical outcome will be 50% black&tan puppies (free from wild boar-color) and 50% wild boar colored puppies.

This litter was born in 2010, and there were 5 wild boar males, Yarracitta U-litter.

Plans for the last permission also exist already. As soon as I am able to find the suitable dogs, this last combination will be actualized. But it is not easy to find suitable dogs, as both breeds have their own faults and then both dogs should also comply with each other as good as possible. Also one thing to be noted is that there are not so many dogs offered for use; you have to take what you can get.

Besides these plans, I am going to use two 3rd generation crossbred bitches for breeding. Their puppies will be registered as "purebred" Pinschers, not anymore in appendix registry. These bitches are:

FI & SE & NO & LT CH FW-09 & -11 LTW-10 "Showdog Of The Year 2009 & 2010"
Yarracitta Kaneliprinsessa

and

FI CH Yarracitta Loistolyyli.

Yarracitta Kaneliprinsessa's litter was born in 2011, 3 males and 4 bitches, all red, Yarracitta S-litter.

Yarracitta Loistolyyli's litter was born in 2012, 2 males and 5 bitches, all red, Yarracitta D-litter.

I am very happy that some of the new breeders are interested in taking the crossbred lines forward. It makes sure that these lines will go forward and hopefully give the breeders useful gene material for future.
Anyway, the future breeder generations will be facing many challenges.

This was it, thank you for your interest.