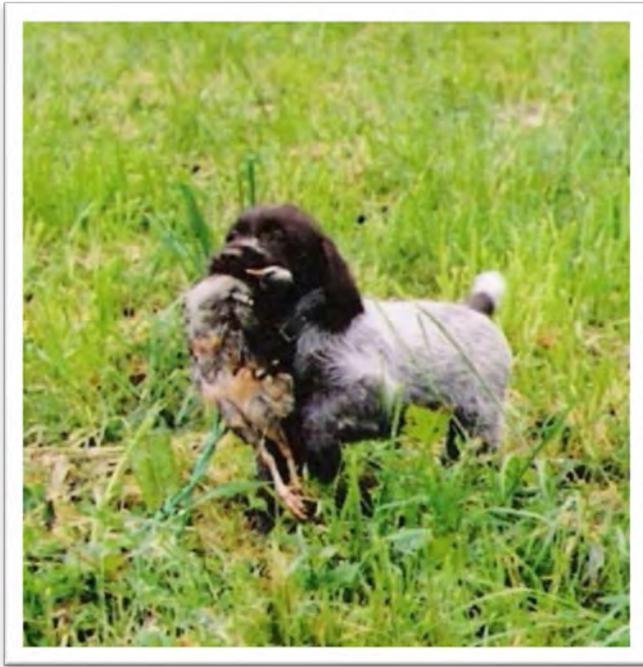


KORTHALS GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA

Breeding with Purpose



"Formed to preserve the Authentic Korthals Griffon"

www.korthalsgriffon.com

Facebook-Korthals Griffon Club of America

The club is officially a 501 (c) (6)

Issue #2 APRIL 2015

Officers



President:
Carol Ptak



Vice President:
Katherine March



Secretary/Treasurer:
Barbara Young



What is a Purebred Dog?

"It is commonly accepted that a purebred dog is a dog with known and documented ancestry from a breed's foundation stock. A hybrid is not considered purebred, although crossbreds from the same two breeds of purebreds can have "identical qualities". The difference is that hybrids do not breed true (meaning that progeny will show consistent,

Replicable and predictable characteristics), and can only be reproduced by returning to the original two purebred breeds. Only documentation of the ancestry from a breed's foundation stock determines whether or not a dog is a purebred member of a breed."

Source: Wikipedia

President's Message

It is NOT about color. "My dogs are all tested KBKB so they are authentic Korthals Griffons – aren't they?" This statement or variations on the same theme is the most frequent question that the KGCA board of directors answers. The answer is that there is not sufficient information given just the results of the tan point color genetic test. Any dog that is tested KBKB cannot produce a tri-color tan point progeny. That is all. The KBKB genetic test is not a test to ensure that the dog is indeed an authentic Korthals Griffon. Unfortunately the contamination by the outcross is so prevalent in the breed that the genetic identification work done in the breed in the last 10 years is irrelevant since the sample identifying the griffon was already contaminated with the outcross. The only requirement for the genetic baseline is that the dogs were AKC registered. However many of the dogs that are AKC registered are considered as hybrids under the KGCA policy. Breeders were just not aware of the issue when the outcross happened and was imported to North America. The KGCA has published the following criteria for the listing of litters on the site. Posting on the KGCA list is agreement to having the rating posted with the litter. The rating system would be as simple as grades in school – A, B, C, D, or U. The KGCA would consider only those dogs with an "A" rating to be authentic Korthals griffons. However the club also realizes how scarce these dogs are and understands the need of a breeder to possibly use breeding stock with one outcross. The KGCA does not endorse nor challenge any breeder's decision but rather to educate breeders and the public considering a puppy. It is the intent to provide information to the purchasing public on available litters. Any litter posted on the website or Facebook will have the following rating applied after research of the pedigree. The lifelong dedication of Barbara Young has resulted in over 21,000 griffon pedigrees to now be available to anyone on line at no charge. This database goes all the way back to Korthals original stock **that was kept in the breeding program.**

"A" rating would be a litter with no genetic evidence of an outcross on either the sire or dam's pedigree.

"B" rating would be a litter where there is one outcross on either side within a 10-generation pedigree.

"C" rating would be a litter where there is either more than one outcross on one side or there is one outcross on both sides.

"D" rating would be a litter with multiple incidences of the outcross on both sides.

"U" rating would be a litter where there is insufficient pedigree information

The defined outcross is the existence of *Under Du Ruisseau Du Massacre LOF17921* or any of his descendants in a pedigree within 10 generations. To be very clear, the KGCA is not making any accusation or casting any dispersion on this dog or the breeder of this dog. This dog is simply the point at which the pedigrees of all the dogs carrying the tan point gene converge. However, the issue of color is not the point. The tri-color gene was simply a flag that allowed the genetic research to be done to determine that convergence point. This issue is one of health and capability of the dog to do the job for which it was intended. Recently the club was asked about the incidence of cancer in the breed. The board researched the database and discovered that every dog with reported cancer was a hybrid by the KGCA policy. This is not to say that every hybrid will have disease. Also it is unrealistic to assume that every authentic griffon will be healthy to an old age. We also realize that the publicly available information on cause of death is limited. However there is a strong correlation between the hybrid and the incidence of diseases not seen in the authentic griffon in this country predating the import of the outcross. This is the whole reason for the KGCA. The Korthals Griffon Club of America was founded in 2013 with the following objectives:

- (a) to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Korthals Griffons and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;**
- (b) to urge members and breeders to accept the approved KGCA standard of the breed as the only standard of excellence by which the Korthals Griffon shall be judged;**
- (c) to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at all events which the breed may qualify for.**

The KGCA will accomplish these objectives by education of griffon breeders and increasing awareness of the puppy buyer to the choices available to them. The next President's message will explore the assertion that tan point has been in the breed from Korthals' time since one of his original breeding stock was a tricolor black dog named Satan. I would encourage you if you are not already to become a full member of the club. Please consider supporting the club with a paid membership so that we can continue the education. Membership application and dues payment can be found at <http://korthalsgriffon.com/>. Until Next time.

Vice President's Message

From: Katherine March

"Food Fights"

My perfect dogs have begun to have food fights. After nearly 7 years together, Coulee has been stalking 12-year-old Bobbie's food. He inhales his, and Bobbie puts her fork down between bites like the lady she is while Coulee will approach with threatening body language if given the chance. Why now? Of course Bobbie defends her food, and if they are not supervised they dive into that alarming, noisy, physical, non-bloody display. That's not to imply that blood would not eventually stain the carpet. Now Bobbie is given her food in her favorite room, and Coulee is left to mourn the lost opportunity.



A study at Tufts University (Wrubel, Moon-Fanelli, Dodman, Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, March 15, 2011, Vol. 238, No. 6, Pages 731-740) "Interdog household aggression: 38 cases (2006-2007)", analyzed factors associated with interdog household aggression and determined treatment outcomes.

Most pairs (79%) of dogs/fighters in the study were same sex, and/or were new additions to the household. Fight triggers included owner attention, food, excitement, and found items. Risk factors were determined to be history of living in multiple households, adoption after 12 weeks of age, or being acquired from a shelter. These factors would benefit with further study of when the aggression began – before changing homes or going to a shelter.

The data show that sex of the dog makes a difference in the likelihood of conflict, as well as in the effectiveness of behavioral improvement. Females are more apt to engage in conflict in the home, and their fights may be more serious.

Two behavioral techniques have proven to be highly effective in resolving the in-house conflicts. One method is the "nothing-in-life-is-free" approach in which the dog is taught to always respond to a command (sit, stay, down, etc.) before getting any resource (food, petting, etc.). The other method is to choose a dog that always gets resources first. The problem is that you need to know which dog to choose. Should it be the younger, stronger, older, or more active? The theory is that if the routine of acquiring resources is consistent, the dog can predict when the reward will come, thus does not assume the need to take charge. In this study, use of either or both of these methods resulted in reduction of at-home aggression of 75% in males and 57% in females.

The study does show that in the majority of cases the aggression between the dogs in the household may be reduced with training. It also demonstrates the variables the researchers needed to deal with that point to the need for further studies. Nevertheless, taking the time to implement one or both of the above training techniques has a significant chance of reducing the aggression. As always we need to treat our dogs as unique individuals, and learn to work with them..

Safety of other family members is a separate issue not to be ignored.

For now, I see that my 12 year old, who is recovering from knee surgery, has become more vulnerable in advanced years, and the younger dog is taking the opportunity to be pushy. There is always training work to do, but for now, rather than set the dogs up for failure, Bobbie Jo gets to savor her meals in her own room.



Secretary/Treasurer Message

Income & Expense Report

1/2013 to 3/2015

		Income	Expenses	Total
2/6/2013	Dues	\$485.00		\$485.00
2/13/2013	Start up Expenses:		\$400.00	\$ 85.00
3/31/2013	Dues	\$ 70.00		\$149.00
6/3/2013	Dues	\$ 70.00		\$224.00
10/21/2013	Dues	\$ 30.00		\$254.00
12/2/2013	State Cooperation fee		\$ 50.00	\$204.00
2/12/2014	Dues (110.00) Web page/domain (-\$152.36)	\$110.00	\$152.00	\$161.64
3/4/2014	Dues	\$ 70.00		
3/18/2014	Dues	\$ 70.00		\$301.64
4/15/2014	Dues	\$270.00		\$571.64
5/7/2014	Dues	\$ 30.00		\$601.64
6/24/2014	Domain, web page transfer		\$ 85.99	\$515.65
7/3/2014	Dues (PayPal)	\$ 33.71	\$ 1.98	\$547.38
12/4/2014	State filing fee		\$ 50.00	\$497.38
1/9/2015	Web Hosting		\$170.27	
1/23/2015	Dues	\$ 95.00		\$422.11
2/3/2015	Dues	\$ 65.00		\$487.11
3/3/2015	Dues	\$175.00		\$662.11
4/3/2015	Dues	\$ 35.00		\$697.11

Home-Prepared Diets for Dogs

I was recently convinced to change to a home prepared diet for my dogs after watching Carol feed her dogs over many years. I found this article at Whole Dog Journal and thought I would share it.

People whose dogs suffered from seizures, IBD and other digestive disorders, allergies (both food and environmental), skin problems, chronic ear infections, arthritis, and more have seen their dogs' symptoms reduced or eliminated after they began feeding a homemade diet. At first, it seems counterintuitive that a diet change would affect disorders like environmental allergies, seizures, or arthritis, but there are several factors involved. Poor-quality and over processed ingredients, artificial colors and preservatives, hormones, antibiotics, and other chemicals can contribute to overall ill-health and create or increase allergic sensitivity. Carbohydrates that are often 50 percent or more of dry dog foods are harder to digest than animal proteins and can lead to inflammation in the body. In contrast, homemade canine diets, particularly those that have few or no grains or starchy carbs, are higher in protein (which supports both the skin and the immune system) and are easier to digest (which can improve the health of the digestive tract and keep the body's immune system from becoming overactive).

For more information on Home-Prepared Diets for Dogs, purchase any of *Whole Dog Journal's* e-books on the subject.

Board Minutes

KGCA Board Meeting Minutes

GotoMeeting

April 10, 2015 9:00 am

Present: Carol Ptak, Katherine March, Barbara Young

Presidents Report: Carol gave an update on recent activities and travels. Noted one member's dues had been received thru PayPal.

Vice President: Katherine filled the board in on recent activities and hopes in Agility for the near future.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Dues received: 12 paid members (6 UK members not paid) Balance \$697.11

Correction: date last minutes to Feb. 27th

Old Business:

1. Logo- no update
2. Update on database Correct # to 21,530 with over 1500 German records still to be entered in the near future.

New Business:

1. New article-"Answering the Question"- which will go out with the next newsletter.
2. A new article had recently been written and published by Lisa Duran on the conformation of the WPG in one of the dog magazines.
3. A recent inquiry on health of the Griffon was received which prompted a scan of the 21,530 records in the Herrenhausen database and a count of different items such as # of dogs with HD, eye problems, bite issues, eye entropia and ectropia, and cancer. These numbers will be printed in the upcoming newsletter. One major discovery in checking pedigrees with the 12 reported cancer cases indicated a single common ancestor of "Under Du Ruisseau Du Massacre".
4. A discussion of the word and definition of Cross Breed vs Hybrid was held. The definitions of both are the same in the Oxford Dictionary. It was decided to continued using the word Hybrid for our purposes.

Newsletter: The board decided to continue with the timetable of putting out a newsletter every 2 months. Due to Carol's travel with her job, if she is unavailable for an article the newsletter will continue to be mailed. Members please feel free to contribute. Just send to Barbara @ grifhh@yahoo.com

The next board meeting was scheduled for May 11th, 2015 at 9:00 thru GoToMeeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Young



New Evidence shows link between Spay & Neuter & Cancer

by Dr. Becker

A recent study raises even more questions about traditional spay/neuter practices for U.S. dogs.

The study, titled "Evaluation of the risk and age of onset of cancer and behavioral disorders in gonadectomized Vizslas,"¹ was conducted by a team of researchers with support from the Vizsla Club of America Welfare Foundation. It was published in the February 1, 2014 issue of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*.

Like previous research on [Rottweilers](#) and [Golden Retrievers](#), the results of the Vizsla study are a call to action to take a closer look at current neutering recommendations.

Vizsla Study Results

The Vizsla study involved 2,505 dogs, and reported these results:

- Dogs neutered or spayed at any age were at significantly increased risk for developing mast cell cancer, lymphoma, all other cancers, all cancers combined, and fear of storms, compared with intact dogs.
- Females spayed at 12 months or younger, and both genders neutered or spayed at over 12 months had significantly increased odds of developing hemangiosarcoma, compared with intact dogs.
- Dogs of both genders neutered or spayed at 6 months or younger had significantly increased odds of developing a behavioral disorder, including separation anxiety, noise phobia, timidity, excitability, submissive urination, aggression, hyperactivity, and/or fear biting. When it came to thunderstorm phobia, all neutered or spayed Vizslas were at greater risk than intact Vizslas, regardless of age at neutering.
- The younger the age at neutering, the earlier the age at diagnosis with mast cell cancer, cancers other than mast cell, hemangiosarcoma, lymphoma, all cancers combined, a behavioral disorder, or fear of storms.
- Compared to intact dogs, neutered and spayed dogs had a 3.5 times higher risk of developing mast cell cancer, regardless of what age they were neutered.
- Spayed females had nine times higher incidence of hemangiosarcoma compared to intact females, regardless of when spaying was performed, however, no difference in incidence of this type of cancer was found for neutered vs. intact males.
- Neutered and spayed dogs had 4.3 times higher incidence of lymphoma (lymphosarcoma), regardless of age at time of neutering.
- Neutered and spayed dogs had five times higher incidence of other types of cancer, regardless of age of neutering.
- Spayed females had 6.5 times higher incidence of all cancers combined compared to intact females, and neutered males had 3.6 times higher incidence than intact males.

Vizsla Researchers Conclude More Studies Are Needed on the Biological Effects of Spaying and Neutering, and Also on Methods of Sterilization That Do Not Involve Removal of the Gonads.

The Vizsla researchers concluded that:

"Additional studies are needed on the biological effects of removing gonadal hormones and on methods to render dogs infertile that do not involve gonadectomy. Veterinarians should discuss the benefits and possible adverse effects of gonadectomy with clients, giving consideration to the breed of dog, the owner's circumstances, and the anticipated use of the dog."

Spaying & Neutering Continued

I absolutely agree with the researchers' conclusion that studies are needed on alternative methods of sterilizing dogs that do not involve removing the gonads. As I explained in an earlier [video](#), over the years I've changed my view on spaying and neutering dogs, based not just on research like Vizsla study, but also on the health challenges faced by so many of my canine patients after I spayed or neutered them. These were primarily irreversible metabolic diseases that appeared within a few years of a dog's surgery.

My current approach is far removed from the view I held in my early days as a vet, when I felt it was my duty and obligation to spay and neuter every dog at a young age. Nowadays, I work with each individual pet owner to make decisions that will provide the most health benefits for the dog.

Whenever possible, I prefer to leave dogs intact. However, this approach requires a highly responsible pet guardian who is fully committed to and capable of preventing the dog from mating (unless the owner is a responsible breeder and that's the goal).

My second choice is to sterilize without desexing. This means performing a procedure that will prevent pregnancy while sparing the testes or ovaries so that they continue to produce hormones essential for the dog's health and well-being. This typically involves a vasectomy for male dogs, and either a tubal ligation or [modified spay](#) for females. The modified spay removes the uterus while preserving the hormone-producing ovaries.

The cases in which I opt for a full spay or neuter usually involve an older dog who has developed a condition that is best resolved by the surgery, for example, [pyometra](#) (a uterine disease in female dogs), or moderate to severe benign prostatic hyperplasia (an enlarged prostate in male dogs) that is impeding urination and/or causing the animal discomfort. Generally speaking, mature intact dogs have had the benefit of a lifetime of sex hormone production, so the endocrine imbalances we see with spayed or neutered puppies don't occur when

A Word About the Problem of Homeless Pets and Spaying/Neutering

It's important to understand that I'm not advocating the adoption of intact shelter animals to people who may or may not be responsible pet owners. Shelter veterinarians don't have the time or resources available to build a relationship with every adoptive family, so all the animals in their care must be sterilized prior to adoption to prevent more litters of unwanted pets.

Would I prefer that shelter vets sterilize rather than desex homeless pets, so that those animals, too, retain their sex hormones? Absolutely I would. But for the time being, the U.S. shelter system isn't up to that particular challenge, nor are DVMs in this country routinely trained in how to perform anything other than full spays and neuters.

So while I totally agree with the need to sterilize shelter pets, I don't necessarily agree with the

Vaccine Titer Tests

The use of vaccine titer tests can help you decide whether or not your puppy is completely protected from disease after her "puppy shots," or if your adult dog really needs any more core vaccines.

It's a similar situation with annual or semi-annual so-called vaccine "boosters" - not many people know much about their dogs' vaccination status, so they take their veterinarians' word that their dogs are "due" for more vaccinations.

The truth is, there is no single vaccination protocol that will protect all dogs for all things, without over-vaccinating most of them. Vaccination really ought to be determined on a case-by-case basis, because each dog's risk factors are unique, based on his age, genetic inheritance, current health, geographic location, and lifestyle.

That said, there is a very useful tool that can help an owner gain solid information about whether her dog is likely to be protected against the most common infectious diseases: the vaccine titer test. Positive test results can also give a dog owner some solid ammunition for countering those who blindly promote (or require, in the case of some boarding or training facilities) so-called "current" vaccinations, which can mean many different things to different people.

Answering the Question

by Barbara Young

A little about my background: Breeder of GSP's since (1982) and WPG's since (1984), Owner trainer/handler in field and show, Active hunter, AKC Judge of the Sporting Group+ some hounds and Best In Show. I founded the AWPGA and served as the first President. My focus is on the preservation of the purebred Korthals Griffon.

If there was another breed crossed with the Korthals Griffon which breed could it be? Why is there speculation that there was another breed? I hope to try to answer these questions in the following article.

Historical documents tell us what the Korthals Griffon (Wirehaired Pointing Griffon) should look like and be. In Jean Castaing's book "Le Griffon D'Arret A Poil Dur Korthals" he indicates that among the patriarchs almost all were white and brown or grey and brown. The only one of the Korthals' patriarchs mentioned in the book, with a black coat was the dog named "Satan" who was suspected of having some Pointer blood. According to Castaing, Korthals foresaw the dominance of the black color as undesirable and took steps to eliminate all traces of black in his kennel early. This was prior to the first breed standard being adopted at a meeting of 16 breeders, on the 15th of November 1887. Castaing goes on to state that the "fire color (tan markings)" are an indication of a misalliance.

So where could the tan markings of today come from?

We are fortunate to be able to track the indicator of the tan markings thru the paper "Wirehaired Pointing Griffon-Breed Improvement or Destruction?" written by Carol Ptak. This information led me to look at possible breeds with tan marking located in Europe. It would be safe to say that the problem only goes back to the identified source where all the ky genes converge.

So, what breeds should be considered? Those with tan markings consistent with the indicator we are tracing? A search of the FCI (Federation Cynologique Internationale) database for breeds that have tan markings in their breed standards provided the information for this article.

To start off with, I excluded dog breeds where tan was associated with the coat color of black, since black would be a dominant color and would produce a black nose and/or coat. Neither of these would be desirable for an outcross in the Korthals Griffon because of the breed standard disqualification for black. I also excluded breeds that were excessively larger or smaller than the Korthals Griffon.

This excluded breeds in the following groups:

Group 1 Sheepdogs & Cattle Dogs

Group 2 Pincher & Schnauzer-Molossoid & Swiss Mountain Cattle dogs

Group 3 Terriers

Group 4 Dachshunds

Group 5 spitz and Primitive types

Group 6 Scenthounds & related breeds

Group 8 Retrievers-Flushing Dogs & Water dogs (Group evaluated but none fit the criteria)

Group 9 Companion & Toy Dogs

Group 10 Sighthounds

Answering the Question continued

The last Group is the Pointing Dog Group, which would be the most likely to be used for an outcross. Of those associated with this group from different countries, I again selected for the tan markings without the color black.

The following breeds were excluded:

Pointing breeds: *Denmark*-Old Danish Pointing Dog, *France*-Ariege pointing Dog, Auvergne Pointer, Bourbonnais Pointing Dog, French Pointing Dog, Pynenean type, Saint Germain Pointer. *Germany*-Germany Stichelhaar, German Shorthair, German Wirehair, Pudelpointer, Weimaraner, *Hungary*- Vizsla, *Italy*-Bracco Italiano, *Portugal*- Portuguse Pointing Dog, *Slovakia*- Wirehaired Slovakian pointer, *Spain*-Burgos Pointing Dogs.

Spaniel Types: *France*: Blue Picardy Spaniel, French Spaniel, Pont-Audemer Spaniel, Brittany Spaniel (French), *Germany*- Large & Small Munsterlander, *Netherlands*-Drentsche Partridge Dog, Frisian Pointing Dog

Griffon Types: *Czech Republic*- Bohemian Wire-Haired Pointing Griffon (Czech Fousek), *France*- Korthals Griffon, *Italy*- Spinone.

Pointers types: *England*- Eugene Pointer, English Setter, Gordon Setter, Irish Red & White Setter.

* This brings us down to the possible breeds allowing tan without black:

Braque Francais Gascogne Type Picardy Spaniel German longhaired pointer

* What characteristics make the Korthals Griffon unique and determine the breed's type?

Here is a summary of the Korthals Griffon breed standard from FCI.

A rustic medium sized breed, longer than tall. Skull is not broad. Muzzle is long and square. The eyes are large, rounded, dark yellow or brown with bushy eyebrows and well developed moustaches and beard. The plains of the head are parallel with not too pronounced stop. Nose always brown, ears of medium size laying flat and set on a line with eyes. Neck moderately long with body length markedly greater than the height at (1/20th to 1/10th), chest deep, not too wide, ribs slightly sprung. Tail carried horizontally or with tip slightly raised, docked. Shoulders well set on rather long, very oblique (sloping). Thighs long and well muscled with hocks well angulated. Coat-harsh and coarse, never curly or woolly with soft undercoat. Size 55-60 cm males and 50-55 cm females.

From this summary, I looking at the following breed characteristics: Coat, head & ear shape, eye-size & color, body proportions, set of front and neck, tail carriage, and front and rear angulation, top line and underline.

Answering the Question continued

Take each of the four possible breeds individually and compare the conformational characteristics of each breed with the characteristics associated with the hybrid we are seeing today. Since the known hybrid mix of "Under du Ruisseau Du Massacre" was a French dog, I concentrate primarily on the two French breeds and follow up with the two German breeds that are less likely because of their location and breed.

Braque Francais-Gascogne type (French)

There are two different types of French Pointing Dogs, the large size is the Gascogne type and the smaller is the Pyrenean type. The muzzle length has important proportions –the length is somewhat shorter than that of the skull. The skull is almost flat or very slightly rounded, and shows a medium furrow. The muzzle is broad & rectangular, sometimes a little convex. Lips are pendent, eyes are well open, ears are of medium length set at eye level, slightly folded and



rounded at the tip, Neck is of good length, slightly arched, back is broad and long in profile. Coat short. Size males 58-69 cm, females 56-68 cm.

This is a pointer type dog, which is not in the same type in proportions as the KG. It is noted in the standard and makes mention of tan above the eyes, legs and lips,

which comes from a possible historical link to the hound breeds. It is also larger in size than the KG.

Picardy Spaniel (French)

A strong, broad backed dog, well boned with dark amber eyes, which are well opened. Ear set rather low, framing the skull with beautiful wavy silky hair. Neck is well set into the muscular shoulders, slightly sloping top line with straight, not too long, wide and full loin. The croup is very slightly sloping and rounded,

chest deep and reaching to the elbow, tail set on not too high furnished with lonely silky feathering. The shoulders are rather long and somewhat upright. Chest deep and wide, reaching well down to elbow level. Flanks are deep though with a slight tuck-up. Hocks are slightly bent with rear pasterns straight. Feet round, large with feathering between the toes. Coat dense and not too silky, fine on head, slightly wavy on

the body. Size 55-60 cm with a tolerance of up to 62 cm in males.



the body. Size 55-60 cm with a tolerance of up to 62 cm in males.

*I think this is the most likely cross so far with its size, shape, and neck length, eye color of amber, eyes are well opened & friendly. The breed is most often marked with tan on the head and legs. The size is fairly close to the KG. Coat is softer which we are seeing in the KG today. The tail set is again lower or level. Shoulders are similar to the KG in that they are long but upright **not layed** back as in the KG. Again we are seeing a more upright placement of the withers and the shoulder of the KG. The width of the chest is also wider than the ideal KG. Where the KG standard requires a longer and well angulated hock today we are seeing only slightly bent rear hocks.*

Answering the Question continued

Deutsch Langhaar (German)*

This is a setter type breed with a dark red color. The standard indicates fawn markings may occur as a very old throw-back to the hounds. I think this is an unlikely sample for our survey. Males are 60-70 cm and females 58-66 cm. I've had experience with this breed since the early 1980's and in that time have never seen a tan marked dog. It is in all respects a setter type. Eyes brown, as dark as possible. Neck strong & noble, not too short, Back is straight, firm not too long, fore chest well developed ribcage broad and deep, reaching at least to elbows. Tail carried horizontally, the last third being slightly curved upwards. Shoulders are close fitting, Coat length is specific 3-5 cm with shorter on the head.



The general appearance of the Deutsch Langhaar is that of a setter. In my experience the general profile is not close to the KG but more similar to an Irish setter. I have never seen a tan marked DL even though it is mentioned as a possible throw back to the old breeding programs, which included hounds. The breed has moved from an all red dog to including red and white with the latest breeding programs. The general profile, bone structure and color does not meet the requirements as a match for the hybrid KG.

Small Munsterlander (German)

Tan markings are allowed in this breed at the muzzle, the eyes and around the anus. The Small Munsterlander is primarily a brown and white dog as compared to the larger version, which is black and white. It is characterized by its setter type with good bone. It is a strong dog of medium size, showing balanced proportions with a lot of quality and elegance. It is longer than tall in proportions and the head is equal in the length of the skull from the occiput to the stop and to the length of the muzzle from the stop. The skull is lean, flat to slightly arched with a slightly pronounced stop. Eyes are of medium size and as dark brown as possible. Ears are set on high, lying close to the head. The length of the neck is not described. However, the topline is slightly sloping and withers are pronounced. Loins are short, broad, and muscular, croup is long and broad. The underline is slightly tucked up in an elegant curve (lean). Tail is set on high with long flag of medium length.



Again I feel this is an unlikely candidate because of its being a German breed. The general appearance of the SM is of a spaniel or small setter. I would need to research the relationship between the large and small Munsterlander to determine if there is a similar foundation dog in the background which carried the tan markings. They look very similar which if they are from original stock and were divided by size and color, the black may still be in both breeds. Note the eye color is dark brown and of medium shape. It appears the body proportions are similar to the KG but without the length of neck required for a KG. Head shape although of equal proportions is not shaped exactly like the KG giving it a more setter appearance. The ear set is higher.

Answering the Question continued

Dogs with hybrid lines

What are the characteristics observed today in our Korthals Griffons of hybrid breeding?

Heads- shape has changed to more stop, shorter muzzle, sometimes-narrow underjaw, eyes are less owl like. The head is described in the standard as: Big & Long with harsh hair, thick but not too long. Skull not too broad but with parallel lines. Stop should not be too pronounced.

Neck- The FCI breed standard calls for a moderately long neck which requires a long well laid back shoulder. What is being seen in the show ring is a short to medium length neck -at times giving the impression the head sits almost on the withers.

Size has remained stable and many are actually smaller than desired with lighter bone where others are oversized. This begs the question of their ability to perform the desired work in the field and the water outside of short competition events. The KG should be a dog able to hunt over ruff conditions for long periods of time. The size for the KG is listed at 55-60cm males and 50-55 cm for females. They have been compared to the jeep as an all terrain vehicle rather than the speedy sports car.

Eye color seems to have changed to mostly the yellow shades (light -medium). It is rare to find the brown eye. The shape should be large and rounded.

The body shape is listed as slightly longer than tall with a strong well-developed back and loin. The Chest should be deep, not too wide, with the ribs slightly sprung. Many of today's dogs are tending to the square with a straighter front angulation and more upright shoulder which falls in line with the change in other proportions.

The tail should be carried horizontally or with the tip slightly raised, and be docked by a third or a quarter. Many of the above breeds carry their tails higher than the KG standard indicates. The KG being bred today has moved from a horizontal carriage to a higher tail set with some 12 o'clock tails seen. This can change the angle of the croup.

The thighs are listed as being long and well-muscled however the breed has moved into more of a cobby conformation, which changes these proportions.

Let's talk about coat! The standard calls for a harsh and coarse coat, which is never curly or woolly with a fine dense undercoat. Length of coat is not mentioned, however those familiar with the wire coat understand that the wirehair will not grow to a long length before breaking. Most coats will stay within the 3-5" length. The softer coat will be longer because it is composed of primarily the undercoat hair follicles of incorrect texture. These coats can be long and abundant which are not suitable for work in the field. The length of coat should be shorter on the legs. We are seeing long coats on the legs of the current hybrids.

Answering the Question continued

In conclusion we have established thru the paper from Carol Ptak that there is a direct link to the tan characteristics and a single litter of puppies. From my database it appears several dogs in the litter were bred and produced puppies. So our quest was to determine which breed from the possible breeds available contained the tan markings which were used in the breeding. Since tan markings are not accepted in the Korthals Griffon, and documents from Jean Castaing indicate it was eliminated early in Korthals breeding program and not included in the first breed standard, we feel confident in the fact it was introduced thru another breed. To determine which breed we selected for color, size, function, availability and general conformation. By using the official breed standards of the FCI the selection was narrowed down to 4 breeds. Each was evaluated first on having tan markings without black in the coat, general conformation, coat and function. This narrowed the choice down to a single breed...the Picardy Spaniel.

The health of the Griffon

I was recently requested to search my database for cases of Cancer to determine if there was a common link. In doing so I also made note of other defects as I scrolled down thru the 21,000 dogs.

The results are posted to the right.

I then pulled the pedigrees to see if there was a common ancestor link. I did not have time to check each of the different items but was able to determine a common ancestor link to 14 dogs.

This unfortunately is the dog listed in the article above "Under du Ruisseau Du Massacre".

The issues associated with the common ancestor were:

Cushings

Cataracts, blindness & Diabetes

Cancer (Lymphoma, tumors, malignant Oral tumors, Oral squamous cell cancer)

I have been told of additional cases of cancer but without the registered names have not been able to search the pedigrees.

Counts from database

Hips:

Dysplastic-131, Borderline 235, HD 2- 76

Teeth: mostly from NAVHDA records

Overshot-17, Narrow jaw-3, Undershot-58, Cross bite-14

Monorchard-9

Eyes

Ectropic-22, Entropic-14

ACL-4

Spinal Transitional Vertebra-3

Cushings-1

Kidney failure-1 (age 6)

OCD-1

Cataracts & diabetic-2

Bloat-1

Cancer-10

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“Preserving the purebred Ultimate Hunting Companion”

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By this application you agree to the club objectives