Mumbai (BOM)

Breeding programme 17/05/2025

Note: the most recent updates can be found at: Breeding Decision - Breeding Programmes Cats | Vlaanderen.be

Other names – permitted crossbreeds

Asian. In GCCF, Asian is also used for solid Burmese, not just for black Bombay.

Crossbreeding with **Burmese** is permitted. Only black offspring can be registered as Bombay.

Brown Burmese pointed cats are registered as XSH n 31 (BOM) and can only be used in the Bombay breeding programme. They cannot be used again in the Burmese breeding programme.

Any other variety is registered as **XSH <BOM>** and cannot be used back in a breeding programme.

Aim of the programme

The breeding programme aims to reduce the most common hereditary disorders without excluding too many cats, in order to maintain genetic diversity within the breed population.

Instead of systematically excluding animals, we have drawn up breeding recommendations based on carefully considered combinations. The physical health of the animals is of course taken into account, and cats suffering from one of these disorders are excluded from breeding.

Performance tests

CONDITION	RECOMMENDATION	SCREENING METHOD	AGE	FREQUENCY
Burmese hypokalemic periodic paralysis (BHP)	Mandatory	DNA test WNK4: c.2899C>T	From birth For the 1st coverage	One-time
Burmese Head Defect (BHD)	Mandatory	DNA test ALx1: c.497_508del	From birth Before the first mating	One-time
Gangliosidosis (BUR), GM2	Mandatory	DNA test HEXB: c.1244-8_1250del	From birth For the 1st coverage	One-time

*For DNA testing:

Free by descent: when both parents of a breeding animal have been tested free of an affected or abnormal allele by means of DNA and parentage verification has shown that they are the parents, the breeding animal does not need to be tested again, but it can be assumed that the breeding animal is also free of the affected or abnormal allele in question.

Breeding advice per performance test

Breeding advice is given here (schematically and in table form) for every possible parent combination.

- **Positive advice** or green means that this is a suitable mating based on this test.
- **Conditional positive advice** or orange means that this is not an ideal pairing based on this test, but that the pairing is permitted. Such combinations are permitted in order not to compromise the genetic diversity of a breed.
- **Breeding prohibition** or red means that this is not a suitable pairing based on this test. These animals may not be combined.

Animals with autosomal **recessive disorders** may only be used if the welfare of the animal and its offspring is assured.

CONDITION	POSSIBLE RESULT OF SCREENING	BREEDING ADVICE				
Burmese hypokalemic periodic paralysis (BHP)	This is an autosomal recessive inheritance: **1. Free** 2. **Carrier** (1 normal and 1 affected gene copy) 3. **Affected** (2 affected gene copies) 4. **No result**	Male / Female	Free	carrier	sufferer	No result
		free				
		carrier				
		sufferer				
		No result				
Burmese Head Defect (BHD)	This is an autosomal co-dominant inheritance Carriers have a mild form of brachycephaly (shortened skull) Kittens with BHD have severe facial abnormalities and are not viable (they are stillborn or die shortly after birth). For this reason, sufferers can never be used for breeding. **1. Free** 2. **Carrier** (1 normal and 1 affected gene copy - brachycephaly) 3. **Affected** (2 affected gene copies) 4. **No result**	Male / Female	Free	carrier	sufferer	No result
		free				
		carrier				
		sufferer				
		No result				
Gangliosidosis (BUR), GM2	This is an autosomal recessive inheritance: **1. Free** 2. **Carrier** (1 normal and 1 affected gene copy) 3. **Affected** (2 affected gene copies) 4. **No result**	Male / Female	Free	carrier	sufferer	No result
		free				
		carrier				
		sufferer				
		No result				

General breeding advice

The **mandatory tests** must be carried out in accordance with the specified conditions and frequency. If one or more of these results is a 'breeding ban', this combination may not be carried out.

Depending on the number of clinical examinations that may result in a **conditional positive breeding recommendation (orange)**, a maximum number of conditional positive results is permitted:

- 1-2 tests: max. 1 time conditionally positive
- 3-4 tests: max. 2 times conditionally positive
- 5 or more tests: max. 3 times conditionally positive

In such cases, **further follow-up** by the breeder is required before repeating such mating.

The **inbreeding coefficient** in the FBe database is calculated using Wright's formula **over 5 generations** (if known).
The inbreeding coefficient (COI) of an offspring may **be a maximum of 1% higher than the average COI of both parents**.

If **fewer than 3 generations** of the parents are known, the combination is only permitted if there are no common ancestors on both the father's and mother's side. All breeding recommendations for the mandatory tests must then be positive. A female cat may not be mated with her grandfather, her father, her brother, her half-brother, her son or her grandson.

To prevent disease-causing mutations from spreading too widely within the breed or population, it is essential not to allow a male cat to mate too often (popular sire effect). In this way, we limit the spread of harmful genetic variants and contribute to the long-term health of the breed.

Bombay is a mild brachycephalic breed that can be associated with **Boas**. Boas is a hereditary condition. It is important that Bombay breeders are aware of this problem (mainly stenosis) and take measures to ensure the health of their breeding animals. At present, there is no generally recognised scientific test available that can be performed by veterinarians. It is important to collect sufficient data so that the necessary measures can be taken after a few years.

Breeders participating in the breeding programme undertake to cooperate with the research being carried out as part of the Breeding Healthy Pets project.

In the meantime, cats with severe breathing problems, a shortened muzzle and narrow nostrils (**stenotic nostrils**), diagnosed by a veterinarian, will not be used for breeding in order to prevent this condition from being passed on to future generations.

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