Balinese & Siamese (BAL – SIA)
Oriental Longhair & Shorthair (OLH – OSH)

Breeding programme 17/05/2025

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

Other names

Oriental Shorthair, Oriental Longhair, Siamese and **Balinese** are sister breeds that share the same standard, except for colour and coat length. Balinese is a longhair. Siamese is a shorthair. Both are colourpoint. Orientals are never colourpoint.

Mandarin: another name for Oriental Longhair

Javanese: In some organisations, only sealpoint, bluepoint, chocolate point and lilac point are registered as Balinese. The other pointed varieties of the Balinese are then called Javanese.

Colourpoint Oriental: In some organisations, only seal point, blue point, chocolate point and lilac point are registered as Siamese. The other pointed and tabby pointed varieties of the Siamese are then called colourpoint Oriental.

Havana: An Oriental Shorthair or Longhair in the chocolate colour variety. Not to be confused with the Havana Brown (another breed).

Ebony: An Oriental Shorthair or Longhair in the black colour variety.

Lavender: An Oriental Shorthair or Longhair in the colour variety Lilac.

Foreign White: A Siamese cat that also carries the dominant white gene and is therefore completely white with Siamese eye colour.

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. Naturally, the physical health of the animals is taken into account, and cats suffering from any of these disorders are excluded from breeding.

Performance tests

CONDITION	RECOMMENDATION	SCREENING METHOD	AGE	FREQUENCY
Deafness	Mandatory for completely white cats (W-locus gene)	BAER test	From 6 weeks Before the first mating	One-time
Progressive Retinal Atrophy **(PRA rdAc)**	Mandatory	DNA test *CEP290*: c.7584+9T>G	For the 1st coverage	One-off
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM)	Recommended	Echocardiography	From 12 months	Valid for 2 years
Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD)	Recommended	Ultrasound	From 12 months	One-time
Multidrug resistance (MDR 1)	Recommended	DNA test ABCB1: c.1930_1931del	For the 1st coverage	One-off
Gangliosidosis, GM1	Recommended	DNA test GLB1: c.1448G>C	From birth For the 1st coverage	One-time
Patella Luxation (PL)	Recommended	Palpation of the kneecap	From 12 months For the 1st mating	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 suffering from autosomal **recessive disorders** may only be used if the welfare of the animal and its offspring is assured.

CONDITION	POSSIBLE SCREENING RESULT	BREEDING ADVICE				
Deafness	BEAR test results: 1. **normal**: normal hearing in both ears 2. **unilateral**: completely deaf in one ear and normal hearing in the other ear 3. **bilateral**: completely deaf in both ears 4. **No result**: no BAER test was performed	Male / Female cat	Normal hearing	Unilateral deafness	Bilateral deafness	No result
		Normal hearing				
		Unilateral deafness				
		Bilateral deafness				
		No result				
Progressive Retinal Atrophy **(PRA rdAc)**	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				
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM)	1. **Normal**: no signs of HCM are visible on echocardiography. 2. **suspicious**: signs visible on echocardiography that may indicate HCM. The cat must be retested after 1 year. 3. **Affected**: clear signs of HCM are visible on echocardiography. 4. **No result**: no echocardiography was performed.	Male cat / Female	Normal	Suspicious	Affected	No result
		Normal				
		Suspicious				
		Affected				
		No result				

CONDITION	POSSIBLE SCREENING RESULT	BREEDING ADVICE				
Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD)	1. **Normal**: no signs of PKD are visible on the ultrasound. 2. **Suspicious**: very minor abnormalities are visible on ultrasound that may be consistent with PKD. However, these are not sufficiently specific. 3. **Affected**: signs of PKD are visible on the ultrasound scan. 4. **No result**: no ultrasound scan of the kidneys was performed.	Male cat / Female cat	Normal	Suspicious	Affected	No result
		Normal				
		Suspicious				
		Affected				
		No result				
Multidrug sensitivity (MDR 1)	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				
Gangliosidosis, GM1	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				

CONDITION	POSSIBLE RESULT OF SCREENING	BREEDING ADVICE						
Patella Luxation (PL)	The degree of the most severely affected knee is considered the final degree for the animal 1. Grade 0: Normal. 2. Grade 1: Patella can be luxated manually, but returns to normal position when released. 3. Grade 2: The patella luxates during knee flexion or manual manipulation and only returns to its normal position after knee extension or manual reduction. 4. Grade 3: Patella is continuously luxated and can be manually replaced, but will spontaneously luxate again when manual pressure is removed. 5. Grade 4: Patella is constantly dislocated and cannot be manually repositioned. 6. No result: no examination was performed	Male cat Female cat	Grade 0	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	No result.
		Grade 0						
		Grade 1						
		Grade 2						
		Grade 3						
		Grade 4						
		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 examinations: max. 1 conditional positive
- 3-4 examinations: max. 2 conditional positives
- 5 or more examinations: max. 3 conditional positive results

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 five 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.

Our website:

http://www.felisbelgica.be/

Our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/Felis-Belgica-255959984470978/

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