

Irish Softcoated Wheaten Terrier in Denmark

Nordic Wheaten Terrier Breeders Conference, Stockholm 2019

History

- ▶ The first Wheaten used for breeding came to Denmark in 1978
 - ▶ Soon after 2 more joined from Ireland
 - ▶ These 3 dogs are still to be found far behind in many bloodlines
- ▶ In 1980's some Wheatens were imported from UK and USA
 - ▶ None of these bloodlines can be found in bloodlines in Denmark

Breed Club, tasks and activities

- ▶ Irish Softcoated Wheaten terriers are part of the Danish Terrier Club (DTK)
- ▶ DTK is the club for 32 different terrier breeds.
 - ▶ Each breed has its own breed group, headed by an elected breed representative
- ▶ The Wheaten group has 72 members (medio November), the number of members has been very stabil around 65-80 during the past 15 years
- ▶ The Wheaten group arranges grooming seminars, Wheaten-walks, nosework training (for Wheatens only)
- ▶ DTK has a magazine, in which it is mandatory to announce all arrangements, besides the magazine we use the Wheaten web-site and Facebook.

Registrations

- ▶ Since 1990 40-50 Wheaten puppies have been registred every year in DK
- ▶ A few imports are registred in DKK every year, but the number of imported Wheatens is much higher
- ▶ Imported Wheatens come mainly from Sweden and Germany
- ▶ The number of registred Wheatens is very steady

Who are the breeders?

- ▶ We are 7 active breeders with Kennel pre-fix (breeders who have had at least one litter since 2016)
- ▶ Almost every year 1-2 private bred Wheaten-litter (no kennel pre-fix and no breeder education) is registred
- ▶ All breeders are members of DTK
- ▶ We are a few very experienced breeders (+25 years experience) and a handful of breeders who have had 3-5 litters and one who only have had 1 litter until now
- ▶ Since 2010 it has been mandatory to complete the DKK Breeder education to obtain a kennel pre-fix. 5 breeders have taken the breeder education

Health

- ▶ A health survey for Wheatens has never been conducted in Denmark
- ▶ We have RAS (breed specific breeding strategy) describing the health of the breed based on input from veterinarians and Wheaten owners
- ▶ The breed group recommends via RAS:
 - ▶ PLN
 - ▶ DM (Degenerative Myelopathy)
 - ▶ Locus B, Ay, E etc. if there is a risk
 - ▶ HD (2019 only 3 Wheatens are x-rayed)
 - ▶ RBP4 will be added to the recommendations at next update

DKK has changed approach: 'Responsibility back to the breeders'

It is not possible to have the results registered in the DKK database 'hundeweb', but the breed group has asked for it, so hopefully it will be possible in the future

Mentality & Utilization of Wheatens

- ▶ Danish Wheatens are participating in:
 - ▶ Nose-work
 - ▶ Man trailing
 - ▶ Blood trails
 - ▶ Agility
 - ▶ Rally obedience
 - ▶ Obedience
 - ▶ Lure cursing
 - ▶ Shows

It is not possible to take a mentality test with Wheatens, as we are too few to get a profile for the breed

Breeding requirements and recommendations

- ▶ DTK recommends that the recommendations for breeding Wheatens given in RAS are followed
 - ▶ DKK has 2 kinds of pedigrees:
 - ▶ A-pedigree: The parents have been showed and awarded at least 'Very Good'
 - ▶ All recommendations given by the breed club are fulfilled
 - ▶ B-pedigree: One or more of the above mentioned conditions are not fulfilled
- ▶ DKK has a set of Ethical Recommendations:
 - ▶ Maximum of 5 litters for a bitch
 - ▶ The bitch must not be older than 8 years when having her last litter
 - ▶ Carriers of recessive inherited diseases must only be mated with free partners
 - ▶ General recommendations for the conditions for the bitch and the puppies

Economical Aspects

- ▶ The average puppy prize in Denmark is:
 - ▶ 12.000 DKr ~ 1600 €
- ▶ DKK and DTK have webpages where puppies for sale can be announced
- ▶ The average stud dog fee: ??????
 - ▶ DTK does not support a list of stud dogs, but it is possible for the breed group to make a list available if needed
 - ▶ Most of the Wheaten puppies born in Denmark have a foreign stud dog as sire