

FCI standard Nr. 257

ORIGIN: Japan

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE VALID ORIGINAL STANDARD: 15.06.1992

UTILIZATION: Hunting dog for birds and small animals

Companion dog FCI'S CLASSIFICATION: Group 5 (Spitz and primitive types) Section 5 (Asian Spitz and related breeds) Without working trial.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY: The Shiba has been a native breed to Japan since the primitive ages. The word "Shiba" originally refers to something "small", a "small dog". The Shiba's habitat was in the mountainous area facing the Sea of Japan and was used as a hunting dog for small animals and birds. There were slight differences in the breeds according to the areas where they were raised. As dogs like English Setters and English Pointers were imported from England during the period of 1868-1912, hunting became a sport in Japan and cross breeding of the Shiba with those English dogs became prevalent and a pure Shiba became rare so that by 1912-1926 pure Shibas confined to these areas became exceedingly scarce. Hunters and other educated persons became concerned with the preservation of the pure Shibas from around 1928 and the preservation of the limited number of pure strains began seriously, and the breed standard was finally unified in 1934. In 1934 the Shiba was designated as a natural monument after which the breed was bred and improved to become the superior breed known today.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Small-sized dog, well balanced, well boned with well developed muscles. Constitution strong. Action quick, free and beautiful.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: The ratio of height at withers to length of body is 10 : 11.

BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT: The temperament is faithful, with keenness is sense and high alertness.

HEAD: Forehead broad, cheeks well developed and stop defined with slight furrow. Nasal bridge straight and nose black in color desirable. Muzzle moderately thick and tapering. Lips tight, and teeth strong with scissor bite.

EYES: Relatively small, triangular and dark brown in color; the corners of the eyes are upturned.

EARS: Relatively small, triangular, slightly inclining forward and firmly pricked.

NECK: Thick, strong, and well balanced with the head and the body.

BODY: Back straight and strong; loin broad and muscular. Chest deep, ribs moderately sprung, belly well drawn up.

TAIL: Set on high, thick, carried vigorously curled or curved as a sickle, the tip nearly reaching hocks when let down.

FOREQUARTERS: Shoulders moderately sloping, elbows tight; seen from the front, forelegs straight.

HINDQUARTERS: Upper thighs long, lower thighs short, but well developed. Hocks thick and tough.

FEET: Digits tightly closed and well arched. Pads hard and elastic. Nails hard and dark in color

desirable.

GAIT: Light and brisk.

COAT:

Hair: Outer coat harsh and straight, undercoat soft and dense; hair in tail slightly long and standing off.

Color: Red, black and tan, sesame, black sesame, red sesame.

"Definition of the color sesame"

Sesame: Equal mixture of white and black hairs.

Black sesame: More black than white hairs.

Red sesame: Ground color of hair red, mixture whit black hairs.

All the above mentioned colors must have "Urajiro".

"Urajiro"

Whitish coat on the sides of the muzzle and on the cheeks, on the underside of the jaw and neck, on the chest and stomach and the underside of the tail, and on the inside of the legs.

SIZE: Height at withers Dogs 40 cm

Bitches 37 cm

There is a tolerance of 1.5 cm smaller or taller.

FAULTS: Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered as a fault and the seriousness with the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion ti its degree.

- 1) Shyness.
- 2) Bitchy dogs, doggy bitches.
- 3) Malocclusion (overshot or undershot mouth).
- 4) Numerous teeth missing.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

- 1) Ears not pricked.
- 2) Hanging or short tail.

N.B.:

Male animals shoud have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.