

Firstly I would like to thank my fellow judges for such a pleasant day. I would also like to thank the QCC for the judging invitation. I enjoyed my day and I certainly had a few laughs along the way. I will just be making general comments about each breed and will only mention individuals if warranted.

### **Self White PE**

It was very nice to see a whole class of white animals nice and clean and free from hay mite. Well done to you all. Overall a very strong class with most exhibit being of top quality. BOB and RBOB was very tight, with the reserve only losing on a slightly dirty grease glad. One thing to watch with these is the belly. Some, if not all of this class had issue with differing degrees of faults with the lie of the hair on the belly. There also seemed to be a tendency in the class for the heads to be a little bit golf ball in shape.

### **Self White DE**

General a poor class with most exhibits having either very pale dark eyes or darker eyes with more grey pigment in the ears. While I understand that the paler eyed animals have the better snow white pigment, they are meant to be dark eyed and in my opinion the eye colour should be similar to that of the DE cream.

### **Self Cream**

This breed was a total pleasure. I don't get to see many creams and it was a great joy to judge such a large class of animals and to have such quality. General the top shade was only a fraction darker than I would like to see and even though the under coats where some what paler, they where cream and where even. One exhibit seemed to have a yellow tinge to it, which was a shame as it ruined what was otherwise an excellent exhibit. All showed some degree of fading in the top coat towards the belly. Type was good overall.

### **Self Saffron**

A good class with all exhibits showing the desired sand colouring. The BOB was what over the years I have come to expect in both type and colour. Dear I say it but I think this was a saffron breed from saffron's!! Not something that just popped out of a litter of buff/white/cream. The RBOB sow was very nice but was a bit matronly around the waist.

### **Self Buff**

Most had fair colour and type with the BOB having the best. Not the greatest class of buffs, with nothing really standing out. Watch that you are selecting for a bright shade of buff and try and avoid the more washed out shades.

### **Self Golden PE**

Another very large and strong class. Most, if not all had some degree of scurf. I think that this maybe to do with the feed being to "hot". Overall the colour was good and the type was fair to good. BOB sow just has the best combined colour and type. While this class was good, it certainly wasn't up to the lofty heights it was a couple of years ago. More careful selection is needed if this breed is to challenge for the group.

### **Self Golden DE**

All comments apply to the DE as did to the PE excepting that the overall quality was a little weaker. Colour was what really let these guys down, in both shade and intensity. I felt that the colour of the whole class was a little "blacker" and lacked the bright top note of the PE.

### **Self Lilac**

Still my favourite colour! All had good type and conformation which is required in a lilac. Most were paler than my preferred shade but within my expectable range of colour. When judging these shaded breeds, one can have the shade that you find most applying but you must also be prepared to accept colours that maybe a bit darker or a bit lighter than what you as a judge like. One shouldn't bomb a whole class for being too dark or too light when they are otherwise very good quality. Opps sorry! I think that might be one of my hobby horses.

### **Self Beige**

Similar comments to those of the lilac apply here. Both boars were darker on the head, which isn't too uncommon. Overall not the best class of beige I have seen. Hopefully next year there will be some sows benched.

### **Self Red**

Firstly I take my hat off to the SRP here. I was one that voted against the change to the red standard and I'm glad that the rest of the country could see sense. What a different class now they can have black ears! Now all that needs to be done is improve the size, shade and overall conformation of the breed and try and get the good mahogany colour fixed! Good luck! A class to watch into the future.

### **Self Chocolate**

A fair class all having a good chocolate top coat and solid unders. Care needs to be taken with the presentation. All of the boars had nose stitching and all had rubbed some or all of the hair off their noses. This seriously detracts from the animal. The best chocolate on the day was the boar but he didn't receive the BOB because of the thinness of the hair on his nose. However I doubt this

guy cared because he went off the table and into the same cage as the BOB sow. I'd be watching that litter for a flier!

### **Self Slate.**

Perhaps the weakest colour with nether animal having the "blue" pigment in the nostrils. Both where too brown in colour. The pigment is incorrect and steps need to be taken to correct this.

### **Self Black**

I saved the best for last and what a line up. I think that every single sow in the breed line up would have been capable of winning any show around the country. They where just STUNNING! All had only very minor issues with a few random white hairs. All had stunning type and reasonable colour. The BOB sow just had the number of all of the rest. She was a perfect age. Old enough to have developed drop dead gorgeous type and young enough to still have retained excellent under colour. This is what clenched it for her, the strength of her under colour. Well done. A deserved winner of BOB, BIG and BIS! What a diva!

Once again thank you to the exhibitors for showing under me, I really enjoyed my day.

Cory Haugh