

# **Australian National Cavy Council**

## **Standards Review Panel**

### **Report**

**2003**

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## Australian National Cavy Council

### Standards Review Panel Report 2003

I think you will agree with me that it has been a most productive year for the Standards Review Panel (SRP). For that I would like to thank my colleagues that have served with me on this panel this year. All members of the group have carried out their duties in a professional and most amicable way. This has made the task much easier. We put to you the following recommendations.

#### **Argente Standard:**

The 2002 ADM requested that the recommended that the full standard for Argentes be accepted pending a clarification in the description of belly colour. This clarification was made and forwarded to the secretary on January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2003. The entire standard is outlined below.

#### **Argente Standard (2002)**

<b><u>Feature</u></b>	<b><u>Points</u></b>
<b>Ticking</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Colour</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Shape</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Coat &amp; Condition</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Size</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Eyes</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Ears</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>100</b>

#### **Feature Description**

- Ticking** Sharp, level ticking extending evenly over body chest and feet. Grooming is essential to produce an even effect on body and sides. Ticking on chest to be a continuation of that on the body and sides and to be carried well down between the front legs. Feet to match body and chest.
- Colour** Top colour to be bright and lustrous. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be the same colour as the body and chest but without ticking (to be tipped) with well defined demarcation line and to be as narrow as possible although not at the expense of condition.
- Shape** Solid body of good width with deep broad shoulders, short head of good width and muzzle.
- Coat & Condition** Firm flesh and clean coat are essential. Coat to be short and silky with glossy sheen. Coarse guard hairs to be removed by grooming.
- Size** Size to be very desirable, although not at the expense of quality.

**Eyes**            Large and bold

**Ears**            Well shaped, large and drooping

**DESCRIPTION OF ACCEPTED COLOURS:**

**GOLDEN/LILAC:** Deep lilac undercolour with golden ticking. Belly colour to be golden tips on a lilac undercolour.

Ears and pads to be pink/lilac. Eyes pink to dark pink.

**GOLDEN/BEIGE:** Deep beige undercolour with golden ticking. Belly colour to be golden tips on a beige undercolour.

Ears and pads to be pink/beige. Eyes pink to dark pink.

**WHITE/LILAC:** Deep lilac undercolour with white ticking. Belly colour to be white tips on a lilac undercolour.

Ears and pads to be pink lilac. Eyes pink.

**WHITE/BEIGE:** Deep beige undercolour with white ticking. Belly colour to be white tips on a beige undercolour.

Ears and pads to be pink/beige. Eyes pink.

**LEMON/LILAC:** Deep lilac undercolour with lemon ticking. Belly colour to be lemon tips on a lilac undercolour.

Ears and pads to be pink/lilac. Eyes pink.

**LEMON/BEIGE:** Deep beige undercolour with lemon ticking. Belly colour to be lemon tips on a beige undercolour.

Ears and pads to be pink/beige. Eyes pink.

**REMARKS:**

The colour description should state the ticking colour first, i.e. Golden/Lilac.

**FAULTS:**

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook and;

Large patches of unticked hairs to be severely penalized.

Indistinct colours in either ticking or undercolour to be severely penalized.

Long ticking.

Eye circles.

Light streaks or patches on chest, body or sides.

Lightness of jowls.

Light, dark or odd feet.

Excessively dark pigment.

White or other odd coloured hairs according to severity.

**Disqualifications**

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook.

**Not Entire:**

The Standards review panel recommend that **Not entire. (cavies that have been de-sexed)** be added to the list of disqualifications all breeds.

This was inadvertently omitted from the list of general faults and disqualifications that was presented to and passed by the 2002 ADM. We apologise for this omission and ask that the delegates make this correction.

**Ear Tags:**

The 2002 ADM requested that the Standards Review Panel develop a recommendation in the form of a rule regarding exhibition cavies with ear tags. (Other than paper ear tags for numbering purposes). In response the Standards Review Panel recommends that the following be added to the list of disqualifications all breeds.

**Identification of any form, other than paper ear tags for numbering purposes, attached to ANY part of an exhibition cavies anatomy.**

**Dutch:**

The 2002 ADM requested that the Standards Review Panel review the Dutch standard to determine whether there should be a reference to white body markings.

The Standards Review Panel finds no need to alter the wording to the Dutch standard. The present and past editions of the Standards Book have given diagrammatic and/or pictorial support to the standard. This clearly shows that a Dutch cavy has a required pattern of markings made up of white and one other Ticked or Self colour.

During the year the British Cavy Council changed the Dutch standard regarding disqualifications for foot stops. In a nutshell the change was that the minimum required for a footstop was for white hairs to cover the toes but also to add that all toenails were to be white. The SRP felt that this change would disqualify a number of Dutch cavies that are presently eligible for exhibition. Because of this impact the panel felt that breeders should have an opportunity to express their feelings before the SRP considers the matter.

The SRP is also aware that NSW will put a proposal to the meeting that also concerns disqualification and footstops in Dutch. Given this we feel that it would be prudent to consider both matters at the same time. This being the case the SRP has decided to defer consideration of changes to the Dutch standard in the UK until 2004.

### **Artificially enhancing a cavy:**

During the year the Standards Review panel discussed the issue of general disqualifications. It was noted that while exhibits can be disqualified for having artificial colour in the coat there was nothing to prevent substances being applied to a coat to artificially enhance the coat qualities of a cavy. To address this issue the Standards Review Panel recommend that:

**Cavies that have had substances added to their coat to enhance or alter their appearance and/or specific coat qualities, shall be deemed an alteration to the cavies natural appearance (other than standard grooming and presentation practices) and as such shall be a disqualification.”**

And to include the following note:

**NOTE: Standard grooming practices are treatments for vermin control, shampooing and conditioning prior to exhibition! This is done to present cavies in a clean and vermin free condition!**

### **Crested Himalayan and Agouti:**

The Standards Review Panel believe that there are anomalies in the crested Himalayan and Crested Agouti standards that need correcting. Other Crested standards have 20 points for crest and the other 80 points allocated pro-rata as per their smooth coated counterpart. The Crested Agouti and Himalayan standards are very different to their smooth counterparts. For the sake of consistency we feel that they should be the same as other Crested standards.

We recommend that the standards for Crested Himalayan and Crested Agouti be changed to make them more consistent with standards for other Smooth Cresteds, other than the American Crested. That is 20 points for the crest and 80 points allocated as 4/5ths of the points for the corresponding smooth haired variety. The new standards to read.

### **Crested Himalayan**

CREST	Crest To match body colour	20
SMUT	The ideal shape is pear-Shaped, colour carried well up between the eyes	20
FEET	Colour carried well up the legs	16
COLOUR	The body colour should be as white as possible	16
EARS	Colour dense to the base	8
COAT & SHAPE & TYPE	Smooth coated and free from body stain Short and cobby in appearance with a broad head to resemble the type of a self	8
CONDITION	Clean and firm in flesh	8
EYES	Large and bright red	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

### **Crested Agouti**

TICKING	Sharp level of ticking extending evenly over the body chest and feet. Grooming is essential to produce an even effect on body and sides. Ticking on chest to be a continuation of that on body and sides and to be well carried down between the front legs. Feet to match the body and chest.	24
CREST	To match body colour	20
COLOUR	Top colour to be bright and lustrous. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be the same colour as body and chest but without ticking (to be tipped) with well defined demarcation line and to be as narrow as possible; although not at the expense of condition.	16
SHAPE	Solid body of good width with deep broad shoulders. Short head of good width and muzzle.	16
COAT & CONDITION	Firm flesh and clean coat are essential. Coat to be short and silky with glossy sheen. Coarse guard hairs to be removed by grooming.	12
SIZE	To be very desirable although not at the expense of quality.	4
EYES	Large and bold.	4
EARS	Well shaped large and drooping.	4
	Total	100

### **Red**

We recommend an alteration to the Description of Standardised Colour for Self Red. To be changed from:

Ears: Dark red/brown, to **Ears: Black**  
and also

Pads: Dark red/brown, to **Pads: Black**

## **Changes to standards in UK**

A number of changes have been made to standards in the UK. The SRP have considered these changes and recommend that the following changes to the standards be accepted.

### **Coronet**

	POINTS
Coat – Texture and Density:	25
Coat – Chops, Shoulders, Sides and Sweep:	25
Head, Eyes and Ears:	15
Coronet:	15
Body:	10
Presentation:	<u>10</u>
	100

### **General Description:**

#### **Head, Eye and Ears:**

Head to be short and broad with good width to the muzzle and a gently curving profile with no hint of flatness. Eyes to be large, bold and bright and of any colour. Ears to be large, rose petal shaped, drooping and set with good width between. Hair on the head should lie pointing towards the rump.

#### **Body:**

To be firm, fit and of a good size appropriate to age.

#### **Coat - Texture and Density:**

The coat should be of a soft, silky texture and be free flowing, shown clean and unmatted. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat a slight wave should not be unduly penalised. The coat should be full and dense, especially near the body where the undercoat is more evident.

#### **Coat – Chops, Shoulders, Sides and Sweep:**

The chops should be even, dense and well furnished, and of a length in keeping with the age of the cavy and the length of the shoulders. The shoulders should be broad with hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around the sides. The sweep should fall evenly over the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length, being generally a little longer than the sides. When viewed from above, no gaps, thin areas or uneven length should be evident. Allowance should be made for the fact that the coat will appear thinner at the ends in older exhibits, because the undercoat will not be as long.

#### **Coronet:**

The coronet is on the front of the head, being a rosette that should radiate from a small pinpoint centre. It is to be well formed and symmetrical, and should be in keeping with the head, eyes and ears of the cavy to give an overall balanced appearance.

#### **Presentation:**

The cavy should be shown in good condition, with plenty of firm flesh, and be clean and tidily groomed. It should be presented on an appropriately sized board and must be shown with a central parting.

#### **Faults and Disqualifications:**

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook.

**Note:** Coronets may be shown in any colour.

## **Sheltie**

	POINTS
COAT – TEXTURE & DENSITY:	25
COAT – CHOPS, SHOULDERS, SIDES & SWEEP:	25
HEAD, EYE & EARS:	20
BODY:	10
MANE:	10
PRESENTATION:	<u>10</u>
	100

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

#### **Head, Eye & Ears:**

Head to be short and broad with good width to the muzzle and a gently curving profile having no hint of flatness. Eyes to be large, bold and bright and of any colour. Ears to be large, rose petal shaped, drooping and set with good width between. Hair on the head should lie pointing towards the rump.

#### **Body:**

To be firm, fit and of a good size appropriate to age.

#### **Coat - Texture and Density:**

The coat should be of a soft, silky texture and be free flowing, shown clean and unmatted. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, a slight wave should not be unduly penalised. The coat should be full and dense, especially near the body where the undercoat is more evident.

#### **Coat – Chops, Shoulders, Sides and Sweep:**

The chops should be even, dense and well furnished and of a good length in keeping with the age of the cavy and the length of the shoulders. The shoulders should be broad with hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around the sides. The sweep should fall over the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length, being generally a little longer than the sides. When viewed from above, no gaps, thin areas or uneven length should be evident. Allowance should be made for the fact that the coat will appear thinner at the ends in older exhibits, because the undercoat will not be as long.

#### **Mane:**

To be un-parted, full and of a length in keeping with the age of the cavy. It should be swept back to join the sweep ~~in~~.

#### **Presentation:**

The cavy should be shown in good condition with plenty of firm flesh, and be clean and tidily groomed. It should be presented on an appropriately sized board and must be shown without a central parting.

#### **Faults and Disqualifications:**

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook.

**Note:** Shelties may be shown in any colour.

## **Roan**

		<b>POINTS</b>
<b>BODY:</b>	Roaning to be even throughout the body.	30
<b>HEAD:</b>	To be of solid colour with clean cut demarcation line.	20
<b>TYPE/SHAPE</b>	To be of large size with cobby body and deep broad shoulders. The head to have a well rounded profile with broad muzzle and good width between the eyes.	15
<b>FEET:</b>	Solid colour.	10
<b>EYES</b>	Bold eye.	5
<b>EARS</b>	Ears to be large and drooping.	5
<b>COAT</b>	Coat silky and short. :	5
<b>COLOUR:</b>	Colour to conform to the relevant breed standard.	5
<b>CONDITION:</b>	Should be fit, clean and firm to handle.	5
		<b>100</b>

### **DISQUALIFICATIONS:**

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook and a vestige of a blaze (solid group(s) of white hairs above the mouth). Nails &/or foot pads deviating from the appropriate standard.

### **FAULTS:**

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook and the following faults to be penalised according to the extent: uneven roaning, spinal bar, dappled belly, head drags, solid patches.

### **GUIDANCE TO JUDGES AND BREEDERS:**

The roan is basically a coloured cavy with white hairs evenly mixed throughout the body. Solid colour should be confined to the head and feet which should contrast sharply with the evenly roaned body. Within the roaned area an even mix of white and coloured hairs is desirable. However evenness of roaning to be of more importance than the exact ratio of white and coloured hairs. A spinal bar is a definite white line running the length of the spine from head to rump (usually found on the more heavily marked exhibits). A dappled belly has the appearance of spots intermingled with the roaning, solid patches of any colour, anywhere in the roaned area are undesirable. The head should be of solid colour with clean cut demarcation following the line of the head behind the ears. Intermittent white hairs anywhere on the face/head do not constitute roaning or a vestige of a blaze. A head drag is solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body. White whiskers are not a fault. The eye colour to conform to the relevant breed standard, however dark eyes with a ruby tint should not be penalised.

## Dalmation

		POINTS
BODY :	Coloured spotting on a white body; clear, distinct and well distributed.	30
HEAD:	White blaze with solid colour on either side, giving a well balanced appearance.	20
TYPE/SHAPE:	To be of large size with cobby body and deep broad shoulders. The head to have a well rounded profile with broad muzzle and good width between the eyes.	15
FEET:	Solid colour.	10
EYES	Bold eye.	5
EARS	Ears large and drooping.	5
COAT	Coat silky and short.	5
COLOUR:	Colour to conform to the relevant breed standard.	5
CONDITION:	Should be fit, clean and firm to handle.	5
		100

### DISQUALIFICATIONS:

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook and solid head. Incomplete blaze (blaze to appear complete without disturbance of the coat). Nails &/or foot pads deviating from the appropriate standard.

### FAULTS:

As listed under Faults & Disqualifications at start of Handbook and the following faults to be penalised according to the extent: uneven spotting, roaning, spinal bar, head drag, uneven/offset blaze.

### GUIDANCE TO JUDGES AND BREEDERS:

The Dalmation in appearance is a white cavy with coloured markings. The colour should be confined to feet, head (with a central white blaze) and spotting (evenly distributed throughout the body). The distribution and clarity of spotting to be of more importance than the size, shape and quantity. The spotting should be clear and distinct with good demarcation between the spots. Large solid patches/areas of colour are undesirable.

Roaned areas (patches of intermingled white and coloured hairs) anywhere on the body are undesirable, intermittent white hairs on the head &/or feet do not constitute roaning. A spinal bar is a definite white line lacking any form of spotting running the length of the spine from head to rump (usually found on more heavily marked exhibits). The blaze should begin at the nostrils and end at a point between the ears with no break in between. A blaze that runs through the mouth or through the demarcation line should be penalised. The width of the blaze is immaterial as long as it is central between the eyes and ears and has a balanced shape. White whiskers are not a fault. The head demarcation should follow the line of the head behind the ears and be clean cut. A head drag is solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body. The eye colour to conform to the relevant breed standard, however dark eyes with a ruby tint should not be penalised. Some Dalmations with large eyes may have a blue/grey ring around the outer edge of the eye, this is not a fault.

**Glossary**

The SRP Feel that understanding of the standards book will be enhanced by the inclusion of a glossary. See appendix 1.

**We recommend that the attached glossary should be included in the standards book**

**New Breeds:**

The Standards Review Panel felt that while the procedure for the development of new varieties had been distributed to affiliated clubs and councils in an efficient manner, the clubs and councils had not distributed this information to their members. To address this problem the SRP have produced an article that was forwarded to the secretary requesting that the article be published by all affiliated clubs and councils. See appendix 2.

### Australian National Cavy Council

#### Glossary:

Band	T-W, Tri Colours, Patch of one colour that completely encircles the body.
Belt	T-W, Tri Colours, Patch of one colour that partly encircles the body.
Bonnet strings	Ticked – Band of ticking colour under the chin.
Brassy	Lighter shade of Red/Golden.
Breached	T-W, Tri Colours, Patch of one colour that covers the hindquarters.
Break in coat	Patch of missing or thin coat.
Break in skin	An open wound or area on the skin where a scab has formed.
Brindling	Intermixture of two different colours of hair. (See also Roaning).
Condition	Fitness/body condition.
Demarcation	Marked, Ticked – Line between two different areas of the coat.
Density	Coat – number of hair fibres per square centimetre.
Double centred	Abyssinian & Crested– A rosette or crest with two centres.
Eye circles	Ticked – Circles/part circles of the ticking colour around the eye.
Fanning	Smooth hairs – Hair which fans out over the hips of a cavy against the normal lie of the coat. (See also skirting).
Fatty eye	Fatty tissue protruding from between the eyelid and the eye. A disqualification if it is visible with out disturbing the eyelid.
Flakiness	A condition apparent when poor under colour shows through the top colour giving a two toned peppery effect.
Flesh ear	Dutch – Patches of white skin on the ear.
Folded ear	A fold in the ear that often affects the carriage of the ear.
Fringe	Sheba Mini-Yak – The hair that falls from between the ears forward towards the nose.
Frontal	Peruvian, English Merino – A fringe of hair originating at the shoulders that lays forward over the face.
Guard hair	The longer coarser hairs that show through the finer silkier undercoat.
Gutter	Abyssinian – Elongated centre of a rosette. Most commonly found on rump rosettes.
Gutter	Non Rosetted Varieties – a parting of the coat anywhere on the body of the cavy causing the coat to grow away from the gutter – generally found on the belly of afflicted cavies
Head Furnishings	The facial coat of rosetted breeds.
Hems in ears	A fold of skin on the outer edge of the ear.
Hocks	Where the heel joins the leg. A critical area with regard to foot stops on Dutch.
In pig	Pregnant.
Lifter	Abyssinian – A rosette fault where a second rosette has started to form beneath another.
Light chest	Ticked – Where the chest colour is lighter than the rest of the body, due to longer ticking and/or poor under colour in that region.
Long ticking	Where ticking is too long, giving the coat a lighter appearance than is desirable.
Mane - Abyssinian	Hair growing from the collar ridge forward between the ears to

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	above the eyes. Must be erect.
Mane - Sheltie	Hair from the neck to the shoulder that is swept back over the body.
Muzzle	The region including the mouth, nostrils and fore face.
Open centre	Abyssinian & Crested – A rosette or crest that has an open rather than pin point centre.
Patchy	Colour – Top colour appears to be several different shades over the body.
Quiff	Smooth hairs - Where an area of the coat grows in a different direction to the desirable lie of the coat.
Red Eye	Growths of red flesh that protrude from the inner surface of the eyelid against the eyeball. A disqualification if it is visible with out disturbing the eyelid.
Roaning	An intermixture of white and coloured hair that is caused by a specific gene. (See also brindling).
Running lice	A small coat parasite that can be seen moving through the coat.
Runs to collar	Abyssinian – A fault where the coat between the saddle and the collar is flat.
Saddle - Abyssinian	Formed by four rosettes across the back.
Saddle - Dutch	Formed by the demarcation between white and coloured part of the coat across the back.
Side Whiskers	A protruding tuft of hair growing out just below the ear.
Shoulder - Longhair	The Coat emanating from the shoulder region of the cavy.
Shoulder – Shorthair	A good shoulder is well fleshed and muscular.
Skirting	Hair which fans out over the hips of a cavy against the normal lie of the coat. (See also fanning).
Smellers	Nostrils.
Smut	Himalayan – Patch of colour that forms the nose marking.
Split rosette	Abyssinian – Where two rosettes are so close they run into each other so neither is formed.
Springiness / Springy	Springiness – Coat (Rex) – When smoothed with the hand the coat should immediately spring back as it was.
Springiness / Springy	Springy – Coat (Texel) – When the coat is squeezed in hands it should rebound back to original area filled.
Static mite	Coat parasite – Very small and appear stationary when they can be seen clinging to a hair shaft.
Stops	Dutch – Foot stops, the white markings on the hind feet.
Sweep	Longhairs – the coat emanating from the rump of the cavy.
Swirl	Coat fault – An almost rosette like patch of hair in an otherwise smooth coat.
Ticking	Ticked – The patch of colour between the base and the tip of a ticked hair. nb. Guard hairs are solid (not ticked) in ticked cavies.
Topcoat	Longhair – the region of coat that continues to grow in length throughout the life of the cavy. Is usually the coat growing from the spine, to 2/3 of the way down the body towards the feet. (Also see undercoat )
Undercut	Dutch – The continuation of the saddle, on the abdomen, which should be straight and without deviation.
Undercoat	Longhair – The shorter hairs on a longhaired cavy, growing from the lower one third of the body. (See also Topcoat).

## **New Varieties in Australia – how do they become recognised.**

**By Ken Hart, Robert Brown, Peter Wright and Karen Nichols**

**Members of the ANCC Standards review Panel**

Many fanciers ask, “How does a new breed become recognised?” It surprises most who ask that the Australian National Cavy Council (ANCC) has a process for this to occur. This process has been in place since the Standards Review Panel (SRP) was established in 2001. While the ANCC distributed the information about the SRP and its role to all affiliated clubs and councils, that information was not distributed to all cavy fanciers very well. The purpose of this article is to try to correct this situation.

New breeds will essentially come from two sources; 1) they will be genuine mutations, or 2) they will be recombinations of existing genes to form new varieties. Examples from the past of mutations that have come to be recognised breeds include, Crested, Satins, Rex and Self Slate. Examples of breeds that have become recognised after genetic recombinations include, Argente’s, Texel and Self Saffron. Because of the two different ways that new breeds can occur, the SRP has two pathways in which new breeds can be developed. One for genuine mutations and another for genetic recombinations.

### **Genuine mutations**

Genuine mutations need to be a distinct variety with no possibility of confusing it with another breed, particularly poor examples of other breeds. The genotype of the new breed must be understood and the gene(s) responsible for the new breed explained. For example a mutation at a previously unknown locus, such as occurred with Crested, Satin and Rex, or it may be a new mutation at a known locus, such as Black and Tan at the Agouti locus or Self Slate at the Pink eye locus. The information should identify through breeding records if the gene is dominant or recessive or if it is co-dominant, such as Self Cream, Dalmation or Roan. It also needs to provide information such as whether it is lethal if it is co-dominant. A most important consideration to the fancy is that it must be developed to a level where it is consistent with the expectation of exhibition quality breeds.

### **Recombining existing genes**

New breeds can be developed by recombining existing genes. Often after mutations are established there are a number of new breeds developed in this way. An example is where the Rex mutation was applied to Longhaired breeds. From these recombinations we now have Texels, Alpacas and English Merino’s. Because we already understand the genes involved in recombinations the process is a little more straight forward for these types of new breeds. In the past these types of new breeds have been quite readily adopted in Australia and it is likely that this will continue to the case in the future. While adoption of such breeds is more straightforward there is an onus on judges to ensure that breeds that become recognised in this way are consistent with the expectations of exhibition quality breeds.

### **The road to recognition**

There are four steps involved in the development of a new breed; 1) Working Title, 2) Developing Breed, 3) Guide standard, and 4) Full Standard. In the first two steps they

are unstandardised, in that there is no formal standard by which the breed is judged. The latter two steps are standardised, in that there is an accepted standard by which the breed is judged.

### **Unstandardised**

*Working Title:* To gain a working title a breed must meet three criteria:

1. The phenotype of the breed must be distinct from all other recognised breeds;
2. The breeders that are promoting the breed must outline the objectives for the breed and the basis used to form those objectives. They must also present a working standard to reflect those objectives;
3. Demonstrate through breeding records and physical evidence that the breed, breeds true to type, or is co-dominant.

**Developing Breed:** When a breed is recognised with a Working Title the next step that breeders face is to work toward being recognised as a Developing Breed. There are also three criteria that need to be met to satisfy this level of recognition:

1. The breeders must present a set of guidelines to judge the cavies by, which are accepted by the SRP;
2. Demonstrate that the objectives set for the working title have been met;
3. Identify the gene(s) that determine the breed. Or demonstrate that the breed is produced in a predictable Mendelian manner.

### **Standardised**

**Guide Standard:** If and when the SRP is convinced that the breed is worthy it will be awarded a Guide Standard. This will be achieved by the breed demonstrating its credentials in the unstandardised classes and by improving in both quality and quantity. As the name implies there will be a standard by which the cavies are judged, although no points will be allocated to the criteria at this stage. It is at this stage that the breed goes into competition against other breeds within its group and must demonstrate that it can compete with them. Breeders and judges need to fine-tune the standard to prepare for a full standard to be awarded.

**Full Standard:** To gain a Full Standard a breed must meet the following criteria:

1. Has been a guide standard for a minimum period of three years;
2. Have an identified genotype(s);
3. Demonstrate that the breed is of a standard to compete successfully with other fully standardised breeds.

Each progression in the process toward becoming a recognised breed must be recommended by the SRP to the Annual Delegates meeting of the ANCC. The delegates will vote at the meeting to either accept or reject the recommendation. The recommendation, with the reasons outlining it, must be distributed to the states for consideration, 60 days prior to the Annual Delegates Meeting. Any questions or points of confusion must be directed to the SRP through a State Council or its equivalent.

### **Unstandardised Classes**

To enable breeds that are recognised as having a Working Title or Developing Breed the 2001 Annual Delegates Meeting established an Unstandardised Class at the

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National Show. If the number of entries permit this may be split into separate classes. To support this move by the ANCC to provide this pathway it is hoped that all affiliated clubs and councils will also provide an Unstandardised Class so that the progress of worthy new breeds is not stifled within your state.