



THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

World's Largest Registry of Pedigreed Cats

The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. 2012 BREED COUNCIL POLL

BURMESE

Breed Council Secretary: Karen Thomas – Locust Grove, GA

Total Members: 56

Ballots Received: 41

- 1. PROPOSED:** Amend the reference information at the end of the Burmese standard and rules for registration as follows:

Burmese allowable outcross breeds:

Tonkinese through December 31, 2021;

imported Southeast Asian Cats;

sable Bombay through December 31, 2021

RATIONALE: The genetic health of the Burmese breed is currently at risk. Dr. Leslie Lyons reported in “The Ascent of Cat Breeds,” published in Genomics in 2008:

“The Burmese and Singapura breeds have the lowest heterozygosity [genetic diversity] and the highest FIS [inbreeding coefficient] of any breed, reflecting the most intense inbreeding. ... Given these results, Burmese and Singapura breeders should be concerned about genetic diversity.”

In addition to Dr. Lyons’ genetic study, CFA statistics point towards a marked decline in registered Burmese. The number of Burmese kittens reported dropped from 810 in 2008 to 453 in 2011 (the most recent year for which data was available). This represents a 44% drop in the last 3 years. Additionally, on an individual level, breeders are reporting less hearty litters, smaller adults, smaller litters, and immune system problems, all of which point towards inbreeding depression becoming more common.

The Bombay breed was developed using the Burmese breed. This breed, therefore, shares common characteristics in both type and origin. It is believed that allowing the Burmese breed to outcross to this breed, along with native Thai cats and Tonkinese (both of which have already been approved), will significantly increase our ability to restore the health and vigor of the Burmese breed with little to no impact on type.

The Bombay breed consists of cats whose coat colors are either homozygous black (CC),

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black carrying sable (sepia) (Cc^b) or sable ($c^b c^b$). Working exclusively with sable Bombay cats would eliminate the possibility of producing kittens that do not conform to the allowed Burmese colors. If a sable Bombay is not available, a Burmese breeder could work with a black Bombay and a sable Burmese to produce a sable Bombay. In this way, all kittens produced will fall into one of the CFA breeds and will be register able under the normal CFA registry. It is possible for a sable Bombay to carry the double recessive cinnamon gene, therefore it should be genetically color tested to not carry cinnamon (negative for b^1).

REGISTRATION ISSUE (passes)

Votes: 40

50% of Voting: 20

YES: 29

NO: 11

ABSTAIN: 1

CFA Burmese Breed Council Out-Cross To Bombay Policy Adopted January 1, 2013

The Burmese breed may out-cross to the sable Bombay for the time period beginning January 1, 2013 and extending through December 31, 2022. Offspring of these breedings whose coat color is one of the approved Burmese colors may be registered as Burmese.

General Requirements:

1. The Bombay parent must be registered in CFA. A Bombay cat registered in a foreign registry may be used once it has been registered in CFA.
2. The Bombay parent must have a sable coat color ($c^b c^b$).
3. The Bombay parent must be color tested to not carry cinnamon (negative for b^1).

Checklist:

- A CFA litter application is provided.
- A CFA registration number is provided for the Burmese parent.
- A CFA registration number is provided for the Bombay parent.
- A genetic test is provided indicating the Bombay parent tests as sable in color and is negative for cinnamon.

For CFA Central office use only – Do not write below this line.

- This litter has been found to comply with the requirements for registration as Burmese. Please issue a Burmese litter registration slip and register any requested kittens from this litter

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- 2. PROPOSED:** Change the wording of the “Rules For Recording Imported Southeast Asian Cats and Registering their Offspring Kittens Resulting From Burmese Out-Cross Breedings” as follows:

BURMESE BRED TO AN IMPORTED SOUTHEAST ASIAN CAT:

A Burmese cat may be bred to an imported Southeast Asian cat provided it has a coat color of one of the four allowed Burmese colors or black and has a solid, mink or pointed (non-agouti)-coat pattern. This Cat must have originated from and been imported from one of the following countries in Southeast Asia: Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos or Malaysia and must be genetically tested for the following conditions with the stated results:

- Gangliosidosis 2 – Burmese – Test Negative
- Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency – Test Negative
- Hypokalemia – Test Negative
- Longhair – Test Negative for all 4 variants
- Blood Type – Test as type A
- Agouti – Test as non-agouti (aa)
- Cinnamon coat color – Test Negative for cinnamon (b¹)

Any cat that meets these requirements may be recorded in the CATS database as a Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese.

Also change the wording of the “Out-Cross To Imported Southeast Asian Cats And Foundation Burmese Policy Adopted January 1, 2011” as follows:

1. The imported cat must have one of the allowed Burmese coat colors (Sable, Champagne, Blue or Platinum) or Black and have a solid, mink or pointed pattern (non-agouti).

RATIONALE: The original proposal allows for mink and pointed pattern cats to be used, but due to CFA’s history of including the terms solid, mink and pointed as part of their color description the current wording may be misinterpreted. The requirement to be non-agouti (as listed in the testing requirements) establishes the cat as having a solid coat pattern (no tabby markings etc.). There is no testing requirement for the color restriction gene that produces the solid, mink and pointed variants therefore this change only serves to clarify the original intent of these rules and policy.

REGISTRATION ISSUE (passes)

Votes: 41

50% of Voting: 21

YES: 35

NO: 6

ABSTAIN: 0

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CFA Burmese Breed Council
Out-Cross To Imported Southeast Asian Cats And Foundation Burmese Policy
Adopted January 1, 2011

The Burmese breed may out-cross to qualified imported cats from Southeast Asia for the time period beginning January 1, 2011 until rescinded by the CFA Board of Directors. Imported cats that meet the requirements may be recorded in the CATS database as a Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese. Solid patterned offspring of these breedings that comply with the required genetic testing for color may be registered as Burmese. Offspring that do not comply with the required color testing may be recorded in the CATS database as Foundation Burmese.

General Requirements For Imported Southeast Asian Cats:

1. The imported cat must have one of the allowed Burmese coat colors (Sable, Champagne, Blue or Platinum) or Black and have a solid, mink or pointed pattern (non-agouti).
2. The imported cat must have a microchip and the microchip number must be present on all paperwork and photographs. The microchip should be implanted prior to importation if possible, but must be completed prior to submitting a request for recording in the CATS database.
3. Genetic test results marked with the cat's micro-chip number must be included demonstrating the cat complies with the following results:
 - Gangliosidosis 2 – Burmese – Test Negative
 - Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency – Test Negative
 - Hypokalemia – Test Negative
 - Longhair – Test Negative for all 4 variants
 - Blood Type – Test as type A
 - Agouti – Test as non-agouti (aa)
 - Cinnamon coat color – Test Negative for (b¹)
4. High-resolution photographs (1800 x 1200 pixels minimum or 4 x 6 inch printed photos showing good detail of the cat) must be provided showing the front (head and chest), left and right (full body) and the underside (full body) of the cat. Electronic photographs must have the cat's name and microchip number included in the file name. Example: "Mod Darn MC 900 0 12345678901.jpg". Physical photographs must have the cat's name and microchip number clearly written on the back.
5. The imported cat must originate from one of the following countries: Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos or Malaysia.
6. Paperwork to provide proof of country of origin should include as available: An airbill, an airline ticket or government travel papers, veterinary records from the country of origin referencing the microchip number, etc. Any breeder provided paperwork should also be included. Copies of these documents shall be acceptable rather than originals.
7. An international health certificate must be provided.

Checklist For Imported Southeast Asian Cats:

- The required genetic test report with the required results has been provided.
- High-resolution photographs (physical or electronic) have been provided.
- The cat meets the coat pattern and color requirements (no white spotting or gloves etc).
- A microchip number has been provided.
- Adequate paperwork marked with the cat's microchip number has been provided to support the country of origin requirement.
- An international health certificate has been provided including the microchip number.

For CFA Central office use only – Do not write below this line.

- The imported cat/kitten has been found to comply with the requirements for being recorded in the CATS database as a Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese. Please issue a CATS database record slip.

General Requirements For Registering/Recording Offspring From Burmese to Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese Or Foundation Burmese Breedings:

1. The Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese or Foundation Burmese parent must be recorded in the CATS database. The record number must be provided.
2. A kitten resulting from a Burmese to Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese or Foundation Burmese breeding must be genetically tested to have a solid sepia coat pattern (cbcb) in order to be registered as a Burmese. A copy of the genetic test report must be provided.
3. A kitten resulting from a Burmese to Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese or Foundation Burmese breeding that does not comply with requirements to be registered as a Burmese (item 2 above) may be recorded in the CATS database as a Foundation Burmese.

Checklist For Registering/Recording Burmese to Imported Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese or Foundation Burmese Offspring:

- The required genetic test for color has been provided.
- The cat/kitten's genetic test for color indicates a solid sepia coat color ($c^b c^b$). This cat is eligible for registration as a Burmese
- The cat/kitten's genetic test for color does not indicate a solid sepia coat color (CC or Cc^b or Cc^s). This cat is eligible for recording in the CATS database.
- The Burmese parent's registration number has been provided.
- The Southeast Asian Foundation Burmese or Foundation Burmese parent's registration number has been provided.
- A hard copy litter application has been provided.

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The cat/kitten has been found to comply with the requirements for being recorded in the CATS database or the CFA registry database as follows (only one should be checked):

- This kitten may be registered as a Burmese. Please issue a Burmese registration slip for this kitten.
- This kitten may be recorded in the CATS database as a Foundation Burmese. Please issue a CATS database record slip.

3. PROPOSED: Revise the Burmese breed Pedigree Requirements DO NOT ACCEPT section as follows:

DO NOT ACCEPT (cat to be registered or cats in background): Longhair, ~~Red or Cream,~~
~~Tortie or Blue Cream, Chocolate or Lilac,~~ Any non-CFA colors.

RATIONALE: The individual colors listed, Red or Cream, Tortie or blue-cream, are not allowed in CFA Burmese and therefore are covered by the “Any non-CFA colors” statement. Chocolate or Lilac (aka Champagne or Platinum in CFA) are allowed colors in CFA Burmese and therefore should be allowed on the pedigree.

REGISTRATION ISSUE (passes)

Votes: 40

50% of Voting: 20

YES: 36

NO: 4

ABSTAIN: 1