

Standard Breeds

IN AUSTRALIA



KATHRYN MCKAY (WILLOWMIST CAVIES)

Cavy Breeds

There are many cavy breeds recognised in Australia. Standard cavy breeds are divided into seven groups. These groups contain cavies of various colours, markings and hair types and they are shown to a written standard just like dogs or horses.

Self

These are cavies that are only one colour and have short, smooth coats. Currently Selves are recognised in the following colours in Australia: Black, Pink & Dark Eyed White, Chocolate, Pink & Dark Eyed Buff, Pink & Dark Eyed Cream, Lilac, Slate, Pink & Dark Eyed Golden.

Satin

Satin cavies have a hair shaft that is highly reflective. This produces an extreme sheen to the coat of a Satin. They come in all colours, markings and coat types.

Crested

Crested cavies are recognised by a circular shaped hair pattern that forms a crown on their heads. They come in several varieties including English Crested (Self Colours), Ticked Crested, Dutch Crested, Dalmatian Crested, Roan Crested, Himalayan Crested, Tortoise & White Crested, Rare Variety Crested and American Crested. American Crested are recognised in all Self colours and the crest is in a contrasting colour, usually white.

Ticked

The Ticked Group consists of two varieties, Agouti and Argente. Ticked cavies are recognised by a belly band and the individual hair shafts having two colours, ie they are "ticked". Agoutis come in Golden, Silver, Cinnamon, Lemon, Chocolate, Cream and Gold/Slate. Argentes are the dilute form. They come in Golden/Lilac, Golden/Beige, White/Lilac, White/Beige, Lemon/Lilac and Lemon/Beige.

Marked

Cavies in the Marked group are some of the most appealing, and the most difficult to breed and show. Marked cavies are recognised in several varieties. These are the Dutch, the Dalmatian, the Himalayan, Bi-Colour, Brindle, Tri-Colour, Roan, Sable, Magpie and Harlequin. They are cavies that come in various colour combinations.

Coarse Coat

There are currently two varieties the Abyssinian, which is a cavy that has numerous rosettes and ridges arranged in a specific way on its body; and the Rex, which features a crimped, short coat that is thick and springy with a coarser texture on top.

Longhair

This group contains some of the most glamorous and challenging of the breeds. There are several different breeds of Longhairs, each with their own coat requirements. The Longhair breeds are Alpaca, Coronet, Merino, Peruvian, Sheltie, Texel and Sheba Mini Yak. Longhairs may be



SELF DE WHITE



REX



EC BLACK



TEXEL