

Candidate: Teresa Guldager, Dushara Somali, Denmark.

I have bred Somalis for more than 30 years. My first Somali female was bought in Norway and was out of Foxtails Big Sky and Millcreek Marianna, so going back to the “foundation” Somali – i.e. the Abys that carried Longhair. I have imported cats from many countries – Norway, Germany, UK, USA, South Africa, Australia, Switzerland, Russia and I have exported cats to even more countries. Although Ruddy is my favourite colour I also work with Cinnamon and Dilutes and I have a small Silver program. I have used Abys in my Somali program the last appr. 20 years with good results and I have also a very small pure Aby program. I have visited with a lot of Somali breeders and been to a lot of shows all over the world so can say that I know the Somali through and through – also in most of its varied types and colours.

To me it has always been a good thing that breeders don’t want the exact same Somali. Yes, we all have our favorites – I also. However, the fact that we do not all have the SAME favorites is a benefit to our breed – this will mean that more different Somalis and lines are going into breeding and this will increase our genepool and definitely not decrease it. The Somali Standard Is wide enough to make place for a variation in Somalis that will be healthy for our breed.