

BREED SPECIFIC BREEDING STRATEGY FOR SWEDISH LAPPHUND



Established by SKK 2022-2026

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Introduction

This RAS document describes the breed plan for the next five years and was developed by the SRSL (Svenska rasklubben för svensk lapphund) with input from breeders and dog owners. The document was developed during member meetings on December 19th, 2020 and May 30th, 2021. A timetable was developed for this work from the beginning through to the members' approval. This document was presented at the May meeting and published on SRSL's website during May 2021. In September 2021 two more meetings were held to review and develop this RAS document. The members then had the opportunity to comment until the final meeting October 21, 2021, when the document was approved by the members and forwarded to SLK for further evaluation and approval by SKK. This document follows the SKK's template for breed-specific breeding strategy. The majority of the breeders are members of the breed club.

General information about the breed

The breed originated from the Sami as a hunting, guard, and herding dog. It is a medium-sized, long-haired Nordic Spitz found in the FCI (International Canine Federation) group classification, group 5. (Breed Standard, SKK)

History, background, and development of the breed

The Swedish Lapphund is a hardy, healthy, persistent dog without exaggerations and who is well adapted to the Nordic climate. The breed originated in the northern area that is present-day Sápmi, which includes areas of modern day Norway, Sweden, Finland and northwestern Russia. The breed attracted early cynological interest, and the first Nordic Spitz type A (Lapp Spitz) was registered in the Swedish Kennel Club's (SKK) first studbook in 1889.

A Swedish-Finnish research project showed that the breed interbred with wolves around 500 to 3000 years ago. The researchers speculated that the dogs that cross bred with wolves acquired traits that were beneficial and allowed them to out-compete other dogs. For example, they may have become more efficient hunting dogs. The same crossbreeding is found in related breeds, including the Finnish Lapphund, the Lapponian Herder, Norwegian Elkhound, and the Swedish Elkhounds/Jämthund (Klütsch et al. 2010).

In terms of type, the breed has not changed much since it was first registered in the studbook about 140 years ago. Size, coat amount, and proportions are largely the same, in both written standards and overall appearance. The first studbooks described a large number of more or less imaginatively described colors, however as of the 1990s coloring is limited to solid black or bear brown. White markings on the tail, chest and/or paws may occur and are included as approved coloration in the SKK breed standard for the Swedish Lapphund.

Historically, the mentality of the Swedish Lapphund has been described as a vigilant, intelligent one-person dog. Today, the Swedish Lapphund is adapted to modern expectations for dog behavior. The breed is social, approachable, and loving to family members, yet still maintains many guarding, hunting and herding instincts. It is primarily an active companion dog whose owners exercise and compete in most modern dog sports. The breed's versatility is one of its hallmarks. Some individual dogs are still used for their traditional work as hunting and herding dogs.

Today, Swedish Lapphunds are found on three continents. The majority of the population is in Sweden and Norway where most of the breeders live. Since the last RAS, the interest in the breed has increased outside of these two countries, along with the addition of several new breeders. It is estimated that there are approximately 1,200 Swedish Lapphunds in total worldwide.

There were originally 75 founder individuals that helped create today's registered breed, but genetic analysis indicates that there is only the equivalent of 5.9 unrelated founder individuals in today's population (Jansson, 2008). It is difficult to accurately calculate the number of current founder individuals as Jansson's work is based on the dogs found in SKK's digitized studbook and there is the possibility that even these dogs, identified as founder individuals, are related as not all of them have complete pedigrees.

Overall breeding goals for the breed

The overall and most important breeding goal is to maintain genetic variation. This is done through a number of strategies described below:

- Low inbreeding rate in a single pairing

The inbreeding rate should be kept below 2.25% within five generations.

The degree of inbreeding for a breeding pair can be checked on SKK breeding data (for five generations) or Breed Archive for Swedish lapphund (for up to ten generations).

- Low average inbreeding rate in the breed

The increase in the average inbreeding rate calculated over five generations in the breed should be kept below 1.5%. The development can be followed on SKK breeding data under the heading *inbreeding trend*.

- The degree of kinship should be kept as low as possible

A dog with a higher degree of consanguinity (descended from the same ancestor) or “kinship” should be mated with a dog with a lower degree of kinship so that the offspring no more than 105 in degree of kinship.

The estimated value of the offspring is calculated by adding the value of the parents and dividing the sum by 2. The degree of kinship can be found in the Breeding section on the SRSL website.

By using degree of kinship or relatedness, individuals who are less related to the rest of the population than average can be identified. These individuals have a degree of kinship or relatedness with a value below 100. It is especially important to use these individuals in breeding.

- Use many different individuals in breeding

Strive to use as many different individuals as possible in breeding.

- Do not overuse individuals

There is a ban on registration of offspring from a breeding animal that has had 25 offspring. RAS recommends a maximum of 16 offspring from a breeding animal. This applies to both males and females. On SKK breeding data, it is possible to see how many offspring a breeding animal has.

- Delay breeding debut

By letting a breeding animal get a little older before it is used in breeding, the generation intervals increase. This is positive from the perspective that the breeding animal has time to be evaluated both in terms of health and mentality before it is used for breeding.

It is not always possible to fulfill all elements of this strategy in every pairing. However, it is important to think through and evaluate intended breeding animals based on the strategy when making your breeding selection.

Breed population/breeding structure (SKK/Breeding data)

Current status description

Population size, registration numbers

Sweden currently has an estimated population of around 800 individual Swedish Lapphunds (SKK Avelsdata, 2021). It is problematic for the breed that there are so few Swedish lapphunds born. The number of individuals in the population that are used for breeding are even smaller because as known prcd PRA (Progressive Retinal Atrophy) status and HD (hip dysplasia) status are required before the animal is used in breeding. However, not all individuals that meet the requirements go into breeding. It could be that the owner is not interested in breeding, that the dog is neutered/spayed, or that the dog does not have the appropriate health or mentality. Since the Swedish lapphund is a numerically small breed, more than 20% of individuals that are born need to be used for breeding.

For example, in 2011, 64 Swedish lapphunds were registered and born in Sweden. Those individuals are now over 10 years old and are past the age of breeding. Of these, 15 (23%) individuals have been bred, and of those at least one dog had gone on to breed in 73% of the litters.

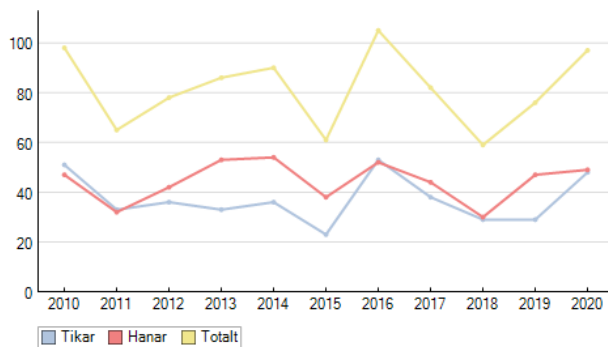


Fig. 1 Number registered in SKK 2010-2020, SKK avelsdata.

Average litter size

The average litter size has increased over time. 1990s: 4.06, 2000s: 3.87, 2010s: 5.53.

Several scientific studies have described a connection between reduced inbreeding and increased litter size. This connection is not seen only in the first generation, but can affect the litter size of bred offspring. That is, inbred parents can negatively affect litter size even if the combination has a lower inbreeding rate. Litter size partly results in fewer puppies being born, but also by more puppies being stillborn or dying at a young age (Schrack et al. 2017, Gresky, Hamann, Distl. 2005).

The litter size went down during the 2000s as an effect of the inbreeding rate rising sharply during the 80s and 90s. By reversing the inbreeding rate, there is a positive sign that the litter size is now increasing. It shows that the breed is on the right track with our breedings and breeding priorities.

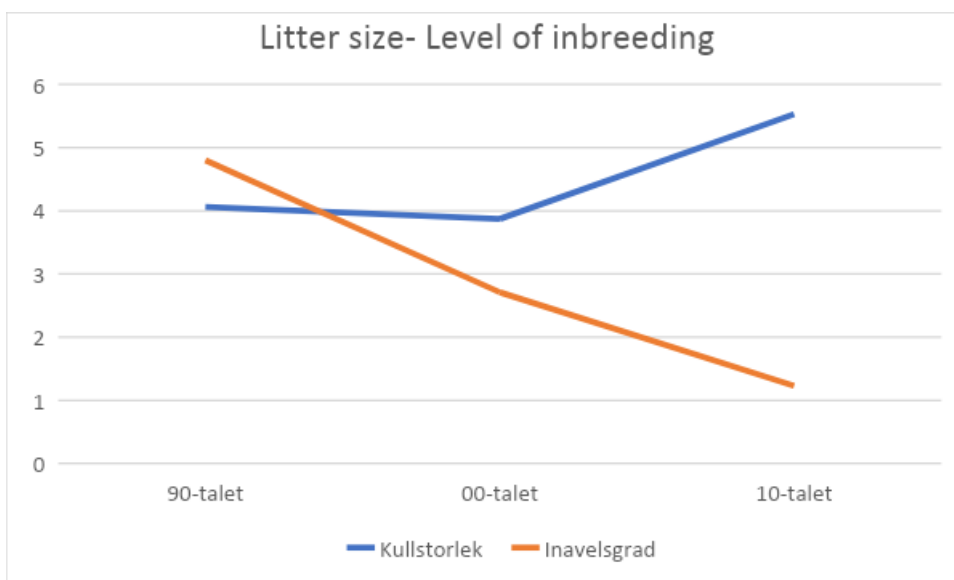
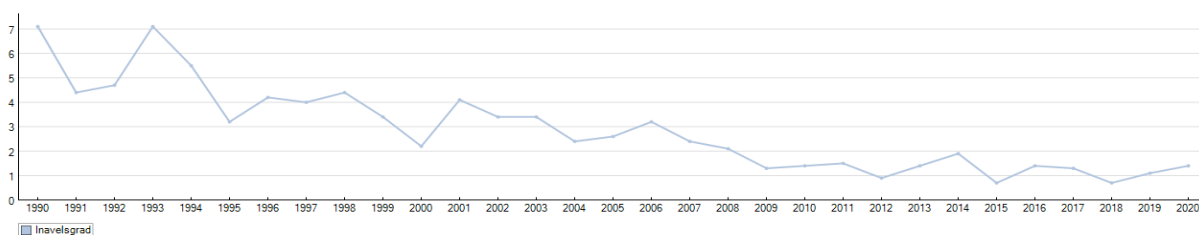


Fig. 2 Litter size – Level of inbreeding 1990-2020, Source: SKK avelsdata.

Inbreeding trend and distribution of breed combinations

Swedish Lapphund breeders have deliberately worked to prioritize breeding combinations with a low coefficient of inbreeding. This has provided good results, and the average inbreeding rate has decreased over time. 1990s: 4.8, 2000s: 2.71, 2010s: 1.23. No breeding combination has had a higher inbreeding rate than a corresponding cousin mating pair (6.25%) in the last 10 years.



SVENSK LAPPHUND



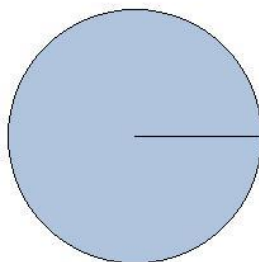
Visa fr.o.m.: 2010 t.o.m.: 2020 Typ: fördelning parningar Visa

Fördelning parningar i %	Kullar födda											
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
Upp t.o.m. 6,25%	19	17	17	21	21	12	23	13	13	17	17	
6,25% - 12,49%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
12,5% - 24,99%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
25% -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram diagram

År 2010

<< Föregående Nästa >>



Upp t.o.m. 6,25%

Fig. 4 Distribution of litters based on inbreeding number from 2010-2020, SKK avelsdata.

Use of breeding stock, age of first litter, offspring per breeding stock, grandchildren

A deliberate effort to increase the number of unique individuals used in breeding has yielded results. Every year just as many males as females are used in breeding. Between 2013 and 2020, 136 females and 126 males were used.

The age of the first litter varied. Even though the majority of individuals (63%) had their first litter between the ages of 2-3 years, there are many breeders who waited to breed their animals. About 19% were over 7 years, and 25% were between 4 to 6 years (Avelsdata, 2021)

During the period of 2013-2020, 56% of all used males had only one litter and 91% of all males have not had more than a maximum of 15 offspring. For females, the corresponding figures are: 51% of all used females have had a litter and 90% of all females have not had more than a maximum of 15 offspring. (SKK Avelsdata, 2021)

Breeding structure - grandchildren

The individuals in the table below were born in the 21st century and have been used in breeding over the past 20 years (SKK avelsdata, 2021). These dogs appear to a relatively large extent in the pedigree of today's population. Each dog on the list has 30 or more grandchildren. It is important that certain individuals do not become too common in the pedigrees, but on the other hand it is not feasible to exclude individuals from breeding because these individuals are in their pedigree. That would further reduce the breeding population and result in a genetic bottleneck with reduced genetic variation as a result.

Name	No of offsprings	No of grandchildren
Jambos Elaysa	26	99
Cahppes Vinter	26	84
Cahppes Biella	22	72
Cahppes Odin	21	70
Herding Instinct's Mr Q	16	69
Hoghems Ally	19	62
Härkes Åkkrå	15	57
Lappvillans Björne	13	57
Stråhles Hera	25	55
Cahppes Åike	22	54
Fazita	22	52
Norrviddens Cavek	17	49
Care Bears Sun Flamenco	11	47
Cahppes Qita	19	45

Charlie	7	40
Lillmusties Goliat	8	40
Cahppes Zelma	16	39
Hemakas Actra	7	39
Cahppes Uddo	18	38
Moscós Lyra	10	37
Jambos Wizzla	24	37
Cahppes Randi	20	37
A-bos OO-Moncan	17	36
Jambos Pelina	27	36
Renlundens Svarta Ullis	9	36
Herding Instinct's Friija Fantasia	6	36
Herding Instinct's Arko	16	35
Istappens Stina	9	35
Nordanlidens Rocky	13	34
Jambos Iloz	16	34
Lappbergets Nemo	19	34
Norrviddens Tjuorek	11	33
Stråhles Gizza	7	31
Lappbergets Blizza	15	30
Badjelii av Nordanbäck	12	30

Fig. 5 Breeding structure - grandchildren, SKK avelsdata (2021).

Import of dogs from other countries

During the last 10 years, a total of 29 Swedish lapphunds have been imported into Sweden. Of these, 24 come from Norway, four from Finland and one from France.

Goals

Short and long term goals

A short-term goal is to increase the number of Swedish lapphunds that are born. To meet this goal, the breed numbers need to steadily climb above 100 per year. A long-term goal is to increase the registration numbers to 150 per year. In order to be able to make well-founded decisions in breeding work, the breed club needs to investigate the genetic variation in the breed primarily at the population level. SRSL will map the genetic variation of the breed. Inbreeding and crossbreeding could affect the breed's genetic variation in a positive direction.

Strategies to reach goal

Priorities and strategies in order to reach the goals

- Reduce breeding obstacles to increase the number of individual Swedish Lapphund dogs available for breeding.

This can be done by re-evaluating health programs and encouraging fewer dog owners to neuter their dogs, and getting more of the average dog owner to breed a litter from their dog.

SRSL must regularly inform and educate male dog owners and breeders about the breed so that non-medically justified neuter is avoided. To help with this, when the registration certificate is sent out from SKK, a letter from the breed club is included with information that should support the dog owner in their decision not to neuter the male dogs.

Another task for SRSL is to increase the interest in breeding by regularly holding RAS meetings and trainings that promote breeding and maintain a high level of knowledge among breeders.

SRSL's breeding council supports both old and new breeders. A "starter kit" with relevant information for brand new breeders is available.

- Identify genetically important individuals

The kinship list shows which dogs have more common and uncommon ancestry compared to the rest of the population. The list is updated and published annually on the SRSL website. With the help of the list, breeders can select individuals in breeding that have more rare lineage.

SRSL has started a pilot study in 2021 to map the genetic variation of the breed. The individuals that have been selected represent a cross-section of the breed today. Selection criteria included dogs' individual family relationships, age and the lines that they belong to. It is possible for pet owners to test gene variation in their own dogs to find out, at the individual level, what the genetic variation in each individual is.

- Add genetic variation

There are two ways to introduce genetic variation into the breed. It is possible to recruit individuals outside of the breed, and a project group is working on a strategy to carry out crossbreeding of other breeds under controlled conditions.

Sampling individuals and/or crossbreeding, can add genetic variation to the breed if the offspring of these individuals are then bred.

The project group for the outcross project

The project group is developing a strategy for outcrossing with another breed, or breeds, to increase the genetic variation in the Swedish Lapphund population. As a first step, the project group has conducted gene variation tests on about 50 Swedish lapphunds in order to get more information about what the genetic variation looks like in the breed today. The result of the molecular genetic examination will serve both as a current control and a baseline to then compare the genetic variation in the breed after crossbreeding. The degree of genetic variation will determine the further inbreeding strategy. The creation of the project group was decided at the 2018 annual meeting and at which the SRS� board appointed the project group. The project group will produce data for decisions that will then be made by SRS� and sent on for further decision making via SLK to SKK.

Health

In the work for developing the RAS, SRS� has obtained statistics from SKK avelsdata, insurance companies, health surveys and disease reporting.

Description current status

General description of the overall situation in the breed

The breed is a healthy breed with few breed-related defects.

Occurance of health issues, diseases

Hip dysplasia (HD)

HD results	2010-2015	2016-2020	2010-2020
HD A	115	99	214
HD B	86	75	161
HD C	55	65	120
HD D	20	12	32
HD E	5	2	7
Total:	281	253	534

Fig. 6 Hip dysplasia (HD) 2010-2010 ,SKK Avelsdata.

Hip dysplasia is a growth disorder that poses an increased risk of disability. It is graded based on the appearance of the ball and socket in the hip joint and how they fit together.

During the years between 2010-2020 SKK registered 535 HD results. The majority (92,3%) of these had HD A, B and C. (Fig. 6; SKK Avelsdata)

Results from earlier health surveys (SLK 2012-2013) and present insurance statistics (Agria Breed Profile) show that clinical problems from hips are very unusual in Swedish Lapphunds. The breed is connected to the SKK health program for hips and a known status is required before breeding and in order for the offspring to be registered. The status should be evaluated no later than the next revision if the health program is to remain.

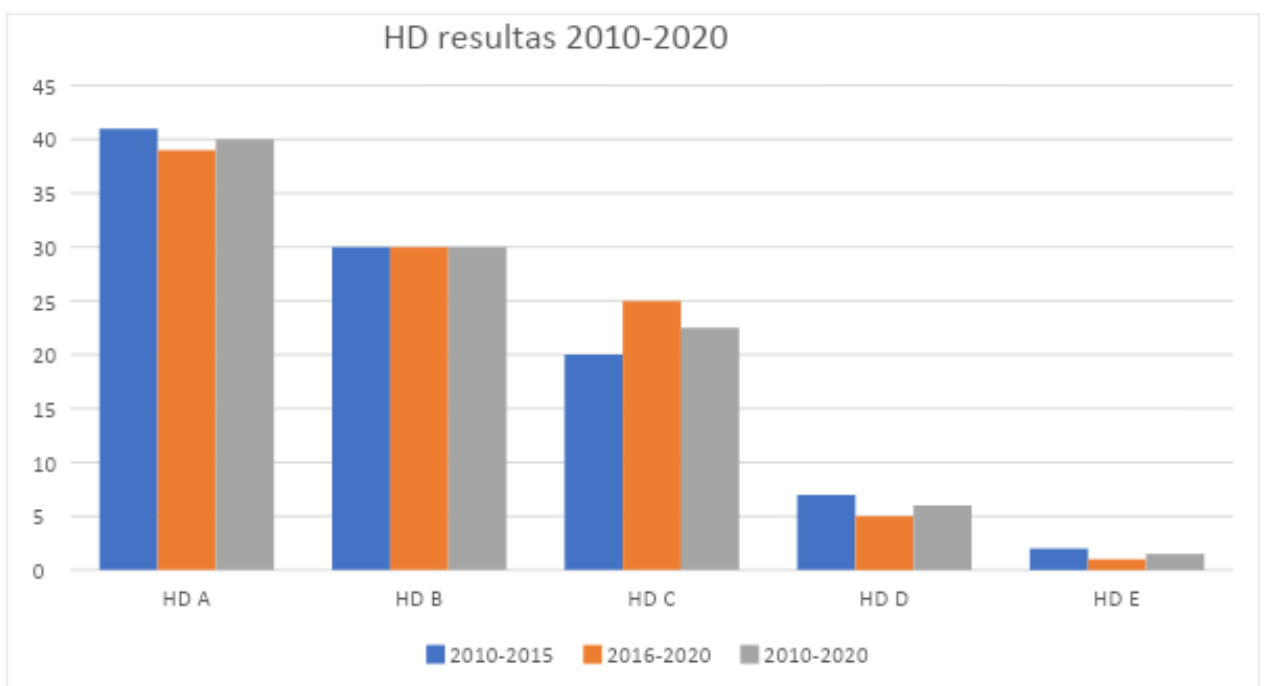


Fig. 7 HD results 2010-2020, SKK avelsdata.

Prcd PRA

Prcd PRA, which stands for Progressive Retinal Atrophy, is an eye disease that can lead to blindness when the retina breaks down. It is a hereditary disease for which there are genetic tests. There are no longer any dogs born with prcd PRA in the breed. Since 2008, there has been a health program which stipulates that the parent animals must have a known genetic status (clear, carrier, or at risk) before breeding.

Juvenile Neuronal Muscle Atrophy (JNM)

In autumn 2021, SRSL applied via SLK to SKK to be allowed to leave the health program for JNM. No sick individuals have been born in 30 years and the need for the health program is thus eliminated.

Cancer

Cancer is a collective name for many different diseases that are all caused by abnormal cell division. Malignant cancer is characterized by cancer cells that spread to other tissues and organs. According to insurance statistics, there is a certain over-representation of various types of tumors and neoplasms compared to the average breed (Agris Breed Profile). Familial occurrence has been seen in the breed, so heredity cannot be ruled out. (Health surveys and reporting to SLK/SRSL).

Less common health issues

The health problems/diseases below are not common in the breed, but isolated cases have been reported in the last 10 years with familial occurrence. In a numerically small breed like the Swedish Lapphund, it is especially important to keep an eye on hereditary diseases/conditions and ensure that they do not start to increase which is why we choose to list them below. It is important that SRSL becomes aware if these diagnoses affect any of our Swedish Lapphunds

Addison's disease

The most common cause of Addison's disease in dogs is immune-mediated: the dog's own immune system attacks and breaks down the dog's adrenal glands, where cortisol production takes place. The illness can be life-threatening and the disease requires lifelong medical treatment.

In the last 10 years, two cases of Addison's disease have been reported. It is a disease where symptoms can be non-specific and therefore there is a risk of the disease being underdiagnosed. The disease is not common but has occurred sporadically over the years. A certain familial occurrence has been seen, which means that a hereditary condition in the Swedish Lapphund cannot be ruled out.

Dysplasia of the elbow (ED)

Elbow dysplasia is a collective name for various growth disorders in the dog's elbows that cause deposits in the dog's elbow joint. Grading takes place according to the size of the deposits.

There is currently no requirement before breeding to have the elbows x-rayed. Historically, few Swedish lapphunds have had their elbows x-rayed. However, the

number of elbow x-rays has increased over the last five years. The majority of the Swedish Lapphunds that have been x-rayed did not show any health deviation. Four of the x-rays from the last five years were judged to have grade 3 elbows, which could be seen as a break in the trend. However, the evidence is too small to draw any conclusions.

Grade	2010-2015	2016-2020	2010-2020
Ua	58	101	159
1	2	3	5
2			
3		4	4
Total X-ray	60	108	164

Fig. 8 Elbow dysplasia (ED) 2010-2020, SKK avelsdata.

Epilepsy

Epilepsy is characterized by various types of recurrent seizures where no other primary disease has been diagnosed and that could have caused the seizures. In the last 10 years, three cases of epilepsy have been reported. Epilepsy is a disease that occurs infrequently in the breed. Familial occurrence has been seen, so heredity cannot be ruled out. (Health surveys and reporting to SLK/SRSL)

Health Goals

Description of short and long-term goals

The long-term health goal for the Swedish Lapphund is to continue to be a healthy breed that suffers from few diseases.

None of the described diseases/defects are currently major problems in the breed, but they still need to be taken into account in continued breeding. It is important to map the illnesses that occur in the breed so that we can learn more about the frequency, possible inheritance, and prevention so that fewer Swedish Lapphunds suffer from health complications. SRSL urges dog owners to report illnesses.

Health Strategies

Prcd PRA

As a result of following SKK's registration regulations, which require known genetic prcd PRA status before breeding, and ensuring that predisposed carriers can only be mated with partners who do not carry the disease predisposition (normal/hereditarily free), Swedish Lapphunds are no longer born with prcd PRA. The majority of Swedish-bred dogs are genetically tested as small puppies for prcd PRA via the breeder. This means that the requirement for knowing the genetic prcd PRA status before breeding does not necessarily reduce the number of available dogs for breeding. Breeders are encouraged to genetically test puppies before delivery to new owners. If feasible, combinations where both individuals are prcd PRA free should not be prioritized.

The term "hereditary free" means that a dog's ancestors have been DNA tested and declared free of the disease, and therefore they can themselves be considered free of the disease in question. Following a decision by SKK's breeding committee, the number of generations in which a dog can be labeled "hereditary free" has been limited to three. In practice, this means that if any relatives on the mother's or father's side were tested more than three generations back in the pedigree, then the relevant breeding animal and/or litter of puppies must be DNA tested again to ensure that they do not carry the condition for the disease in question. (SKK)

Other diseases

For other low occurring diseases, there is no knowledge of which genes are involved. This makes breeding strategies more complex and disease considerations must be weighed against the most important breeding goal in our breed: genetic variation. By maintaining genetic variation in the breed, the risk is reduced for certain defects & diseases to occur in higher frequencies.

Hips and elbows

Do not use animals for breeding if they have moderate to severe dysplasia/imposition (Hips: Grade D, E. Elbows: Grade II, III). Breeding animals that have mild dysplasia (Hips: C. Elbows: I) can be used in breeding if the partner is Ua (Hips: A, B. Elbows: Ua). Dogs with clinical problems, regardless of grading, should not be used in breeding.

Addison's disease

Do not breed animals that have Addison's disease. Breed siblings, parents or offspring of dogs diagnosed with Addison's disease with caution. This means that it is beneficial to delay the breeding debut of these dogs until they are older, avoid using the dog repeatedly in breeding without evaluation of the offspring, and to be extra careful when choosing a partner so that no cases of Addison's are found in close proximity to

that intended partner. Close proximity means: parents, siblings, offspring, and grandparents.

Epilepsy

Do not use breeding animals that have epilepsy. Use siblings, parents or offspring of dogs with epilepsy with caution. This means that it is beneficial to delay the breeding debut of these dogs until they are older, to not use the dog repeatedly in breeding without evaluation of the offspring, and to be extra careful when choosing a partner so that no cases of epilepsy are found in close proximity with the intended partner. Close proximity means: parents, siblings, offspring, and grandparents.

Cancer

The breed club needs to map which types of cancer occur, if there is a family history of several different types of cancer, and at what age the disease debuts.

Do not use breeding animals that have cancer. Use siblings, parents or offspring of dogs with malignant cancer with caution. This means that it is beneficial to wait to debut breeding until the dog is older, to not use the dog repeatedly in breeding without evaluating the offspring, and to be extra careful when choosing a partner so that no cases of malignant cancer are found in close proximity to the intended partner. Close proximity means: parents, siblings, offspring, and grandparents.

Mentality and function

The Swedish Lapphund is described in the breed standard as follows:

"The Lapp dog is an old Nordic breed originally used by the Sami as a farm, hunting and herding dog. It is an extremely approachable and willing to work dog. Its properties make it very useful in reindeer husbandry. Nowadays, the breed is primarily a versatile companion dog that is suitable for many types of dog sports and activities"

and

"The Lapp dog is docile, persistent and hardy, and it has a coat that provides good protection against the elements. The breed must be lively, alert, friendly and affectionate."

The standard describes the breed's function well. It is an active companion dog and many compete in most modern dog sports from the lowest to the highest class. There are no breed-specific official herding tests, nor any hunting tests in which the breed is allowed to participate with the exception of game tracking. The breed's main function is as an active companion dog.

About 13% of the population born between 2001 and 2011 underwent the "Mentalbeskrivning Hund" test, a mental evaluation of working dogs. In the RAS from 2013, based on info from the MH test, the Swedish Lapphund is described as social, curious and brave with little aggressiveness.

Description current status

Of the Swedish Lapphunds born in Sweden 2010-2020, 26 have started and 25 have completed MH (2.9%). Furthermore, 98 dogs have started and 93 completed Behavior and Personality Assessment, also known as BPH (10.8%). A total of 13.8% of dogs have been mentally evaluated during this time period. A clear transition from using the MH to BPH can be seen. This is in accordance with SKK's recommendations when non-working breeds should use BPH as a form of description instead of MH. Detailed information about the MH and BPH results can be found on SKK's avelsdata.

The overall picture of the breed, based on the dogs described by BPH, shows a fairly safe dog without significant fear reactions. They are relatively happy with strangers and relatively playful. The breed is quite curious and does not show much insecurity or aggression/threat. It can also be said that the dogs who participated in BPH testing largely played by themselves and did not ask handlers or test leaders for help. Variation in fear behavior is low in the breed, but there is greater variation when it comes to sociality/greetings, interest in play, and curiosity & exploration. With few exceptions, the breed is described as a dog with a positive attitude and good energy.

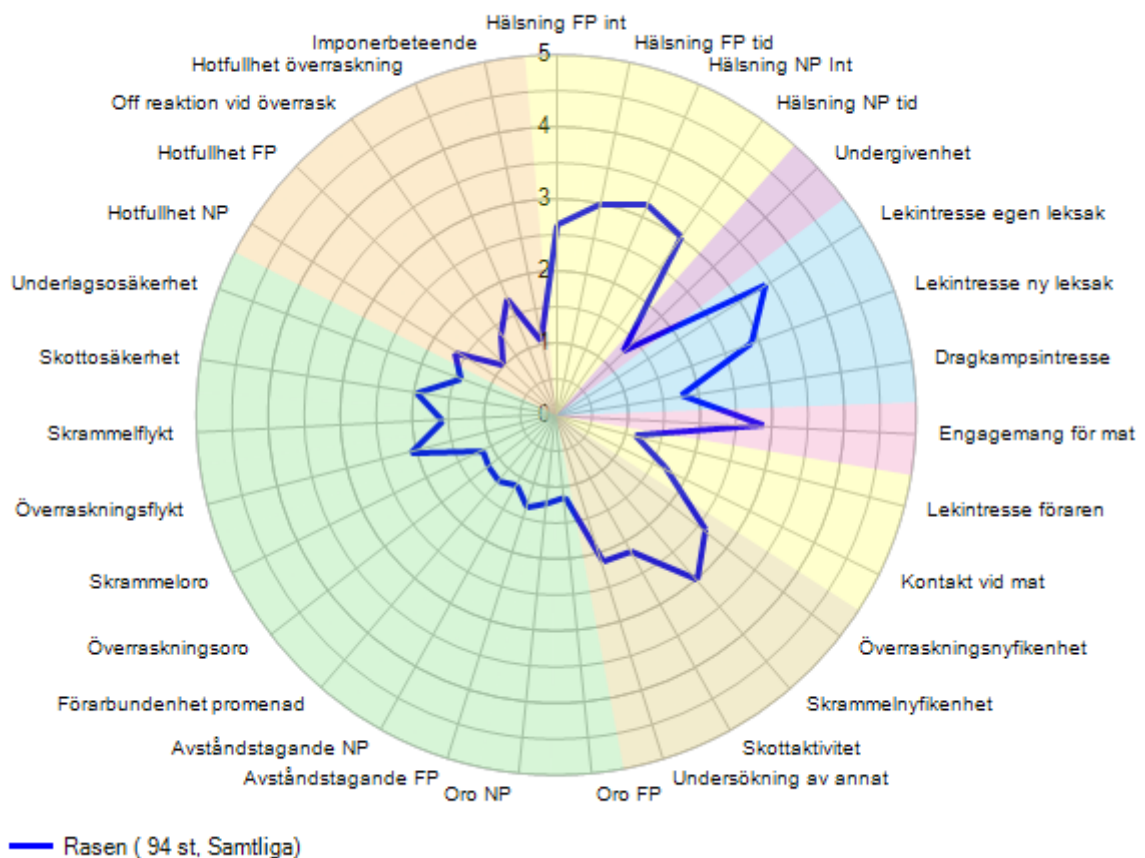


Fig. 9 Spider diagram describing the mentality of the breed, SKK avelsdata.

Mentality in relation to the breed standard

The number of mentally evaluated dogs in the breed is still too small to give a reliable picture of the breed. About 85% of the currently living dogs in the breed are not mentally evaluated. However, the summary picture of the described dogs matches relatively well with the text in the breed standard. As the breed is numerically small, breeding work to maintain a good mentality becomes extra important. By increasing the percentage of mentally described dogs, an objective tool is developed to help breeders in their work and in breeding pair evaluations.

Goals for Mentality

- Mentally evaluate at least 15% of the number of dogs born annually
- The breed must be bold, curious and quickly resolve reactions to fears.
- It is desirable that at least one of the parent animals in each mating combination should be mentally evaluated before mating.

Strategies to reach the goals

- Encourage members to mentally describe their dogs via the breed club's communication channels such as website, newspaper and social media.
- Provide positive attention to the dogs described on the breed club's Facebook page.
- Make known when the parents are mentally described in the puppy ad on the website.
- Individuals who have difficulties in resolving fear reactions, or individuals who show fear reactions to sounds should be used with caution in breeding, and then always paired with an individual who does not show the same type of reaction pattern.
- Through member meetings, show how the BPH results in the breeding data can be interpreted, as well as how the functions of the breeding data can give the breeders an opportunity to obtain information about breeding animals and producing litter charts.
- Make it easier for members and breeders to have their dogs described by, as far as possible, booking their own "BPH days" with various BPH organizers in Sweden.

Exterior / Appearance

The Swedish Lapphund originated as a dog well adapted to a harsh climate and hard work - as required for its primary work as a reindeer herder. It is important to maintain the breed's functional exterior without exaggerations. Fur must be neither too long nor too soft, the chest must be long to protect the internal organs, and the dog must have normal angles giving the dog a well-measured, efficient step. It is built like a trotter with longer lines (rectangular in shape) and moves with a ground covering stride.

Description of current status

Exterior assessment

The Swedish lapphund generally has a good rating for exterior standard. The majority of the exhibited or shown dogs of the breed receive a quality assessment of excellent or very good. There are few individuals who have more serious external abnormalities. (SKK dog data, critic from official dog shows in Sweden)

Exterior exaggerations

Swedish Lapphund is a breed without external exaggerations.

Exterior / Appearance Goals

Description of short and long-term goals

Both in terms of short-term and long-term goals, it is important that the original, functional exterior of the breed is maintained. This means that the fur must not be too abundant and that the right rectangular proportions and a ground covering, effective step must be taken into account.

Exterior / Appearance Preservation Strategies

Priorities and strategies to reach the goals

The Swedish Lapphund is exhibited in conformation shows to a large extent. The breed club can generate interest in the breed during exhibitions or shows by arranging activities such as ring training, exhibitions and annual awards. The breed club also trains members in the breed standard and judging.

Overall Summary

Prioritization of important short-term and long-term goals

For the Swedish Lapphund, the primary breeding goal is to maintain genetic variation along with breed-typical mentality and health. All our breeding work is based on these three important points where maintaining genetic variation is the most important and most prioritized breeding goal. This RAS summarizes how that goal is achieved both in the short and in the long term.

Plan for continued work in the breed club

SRSL has appointed breeding councils that support current breeders and future breeders in their breeding work, both theoretically and practically. Regularly updated information is published on the website and the breed club's Facebook page. This information is directed toward breeders and male dog owners. Club members are invited at least once a year to a RAS meeting where various aspects of the breeding work are discussed. Puppy ads on the homepage follow SKK's registration regulations, with the addition that each litter's calculated kinship value and degree of inbreeding are reported in the ad. In addition, puppy ads include the parents' official health results and whether they are BPH-/MH-described. A project group is working on developing a proposal for a crossbreeding plan to promote genetic variation in the breed. RAS is updated every five years. The state of health is continuously monitored through reporting and health surveys. Evaluation of breedings based on RAS takes place annually. Before the RAS is updated, SRSL's members are involved in the work.

Links that facilitate the work for the breeders

Svenska rasklubben för Svensk lapphund www.srsl.se

Svenska kennelklubben. www.skk.se

SKK hunddata <http://hundar.skk.se/hunddata>

NKK Dogweb www.dogweb.no

FKK Koiranet <https://jalostus.kennelliitto.fi>

SKK avelsdata <http://hundar.skk.se/avelldata>

Svenska jordbruksverket www.sjv.se

Breedarchive Svensk lapphund www.swedishlapphund.breedarchive.com

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SKK Avelsdata, hämtat maj-aug 2021

Rasstandard för Svensk lapphund, Svenska kennelklubben (SKK), 2011

Agria breedprofile

Reporting illness

To make a report of illness, send an email to the secretary of the breed club (sekr@srs1.se) and mention the dog and diagnosis of concern. Only the dog owner or the breeder can submit a report of illness.