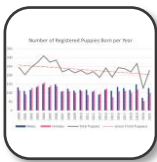


Health News



Can the breed be sustained into the future?

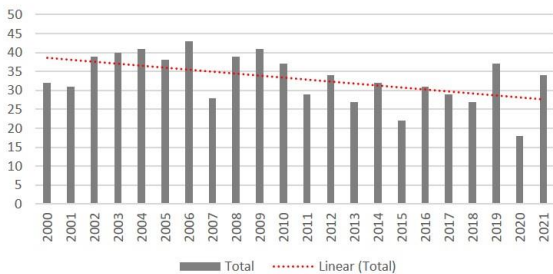
An updated breed analysis, from 2000 to the end of 2021, is available via the breed health website. The breed analysis shows a gradual downward trend in the number of litters over time, also

in the number of dogs used for breeding and therefore the effective population size. In addition, there is a gradual decline in the number of breeders. The effect of the pandemic can be seen with a significant fall in registered litters during 2020. The number of unregistered puppies during this time is not known, however such dogs are unable to contribute to the breeding gene pool.

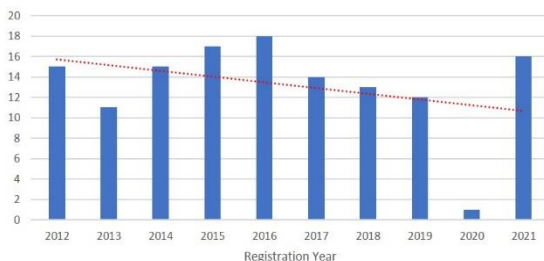
Since January 2012, following further relaxation of the pet passport rules, the number of registered imports suddenly increased, however more recently over the last 5 years, there is a

downward trend. Again, the effect of the pandemic can be seen with drastically reduced import registrations in 2020, probably due to a delay with the Kennel Club registering imports, which were then registered in 2021. It remains to be seen whether there will be any significant effect on the number of imports due to the Kennel Club banning applications to register dogs from Russia and Belarus after 5th March 2022, in support of Ukraine. Between 2012 and 2021, 16% of UK imports were from Russia second only to Germany (18%).

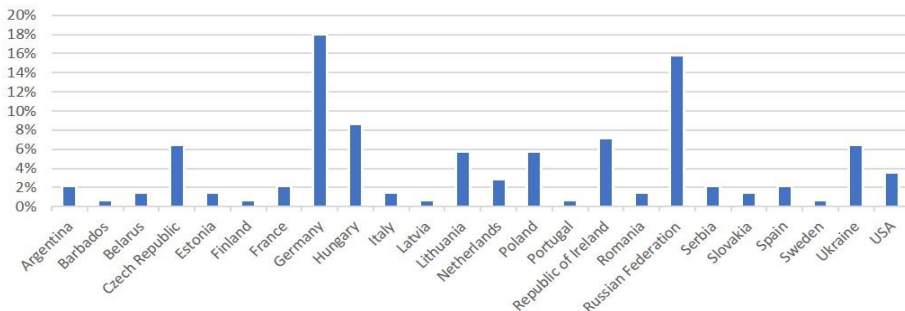
No of Litters Born per Year



Importations by Registration Year



Country of Origin 2012-2021



“Breed data is analysed and updated each year, however continued downward trends are highly undesirable. The future of the breed is in the hands of those today.”

Exhibitor numbers at shows are also declining, and could potentially lead to further reduction in litters from breeders who previously bred to maintain their hobby as breed enthusiasts and exhibitors. Interestingly the number of Giants attending working disciplines is reported to have increased over the last few years.

This is partially due to 3 working litters, from imported German working lines, bred in the UK during 2020 & 2021. Some of their progenies are participating in Search and Rescue, Competitive Obedience, IGP and also a few are training as personal protection dogs. In addition to a few other German imports training in IGP sports.

Health test statistics are also analysed each year, a summary of which can be seen on the health website. Whilst there were difficulties during the pandemic arranging eye testing, and also delays adding results to the KC database, the data shows that the majority of dogs continued to be eye tested. Although some were tested after mating, and also some stretching of the requirement to eye test 12 months prior to any mating. The Kennel Club allowed special concessions during this time, due to the delays. The uptake of hip and elbow scoring was reduced in 2020 due to the BVA closing, and a number of breeders turned to the alternative Australian scoring system due to its comparability with the BVA scheme. DNA testing was largely unaffected by the pandemic. Full health test summaries and the full breed analysis can be found on the health website. Hopefully everything should be improving regarding health testing accessibility, and BVA hip/elbow turnaround times are reported as being vastly improved.

www.giantschnauzerhealth.org.uk/breed-analysis



New Joint Schnauzer Breeds Health Survey

A new and upgraded Joint Schnauzer Breed Health Survey will open on 1st January 2023, which will provide us with much more detailed health information on all 3 Schnauzer breeds.

We need to hear from as many owners as possible, whether your Giant/Schnauzer/Miniature is completely healthy, has any ongoing health issues, or deceased within the last 10 years. If you have multiple Schnauzers, please send a separate survey for each dog. This is a new survey - please participate, even if you took part in any previous surveys.

****THE HEALTH SURVEY WILL BE ACCEPTING ENTRIES FROM 1ST JANUARY 2023****

To take part in the survey visit the health survey website:

www.schnauzerhealthsurvey.org.uk



New Kennel Club DNA Testing Services

The Kennel Club has updated their DNA testing facility, previously CombiBreed, and relaunched as Kennel Club DNA testing Services. The breed package now includes DNA profiling as standard, producing a ISAG 2020 SNP profile. The original DNA tests, DCM, PRA5, and prcd-PRA, are provided as before, and prcd-PRA is also available as a separate single test (N.B. single test packages do not come with profiling). Parentage verification is also available as an additional product. The price for the breed package is £140. A 10% discount is available for ABS and KCAL members. The new product will be carried out by Weatherbys Scientific in Ireland, with the aim to provide a more streamlined and efficient service. The data collated through this service will contribute towards further canine genetic research and aid the Kennel Club's future health initiatives, and all funds are to be reinvested into ongoing research. Order via the following link:
www.thekennelclub.org.uk/KCDNATestingGiantSchnauzer



Laboklin GSC DNA Test Breed Bundle

Laboklin are still offering a discounted DNA testing breed bundle, which includes x5 DNA tests for £138: prcd-PRA, PRA5, DCM, HUU and DM. Request a 'Giant Schnauzer Club UK' DNA bundle test kit via Laboklin and contact the breed health co-ordinator (bhc@giantschnauzerhealth.org.uk) for an individual discount code.

www.laboklin.co.uk/laboklin/dispatcher.jsp?section=Downloads&subID=RequestMaterials



Hyperuricosuria (HUU) Research

We are still waiting for returned samples for the study investigating HUU in the Giant Schnauzer. If you have received a testing kit, please return samples as soon as possible. We are also accepting samples from any other affected Giants, therefore if you have a Giant with persistent urinary issues, we would like to hear from you, please contact the breed health co-ordinator.



ANKC Hip/Elbow Scores

If anyone has hips and/or elbows scored with an organisation other than the BVA i.e. ANKC or OFA please forward the results to bhc@giantschnauzerhealth.org.uk in order that scores can be recorded and continue to be monitored.

Lesley Parker – Breed Health Co-ordinator: bhc@giantschnauzerhealth.org.uk