



# Cats With Folded Ears

(Scottish mutation followed by a German occurrence)

Rosemarie Wolff

A new mutation of the "cat with folded ears" was found in Germany (Bavaria) in spring 1971. Ten years after the first lop-eared cat cropped up at a farm in Scotland (later they were made officially known as "Scottish cats with folded ears" or "Scottish folds" for short) the second mutation turned up in Dachau near Munich/Bavaria (Hangeohren)

What exactly is a cat with folded ears?

Roy Robinson, M.I. Biol., describes them in his excellent new book "Genetics for Cat Breeders" (Pergamon Press) as follows:

"The ears of the cat are normally carried in an upright or "pricked" condition. The ears of the folded-eared animals, however, are bent forward in a characteristic manner. At birth, and until about four weeks of age, the ears appear to be normal. From this age, the tip of the ears tend to turn inwards and the fold is fully formed by about three months. When fully developed, the apexes of both ears are folded forward and downwards. The condition is inherited as a simple dominant and the responsible gene is designated by the symbol F."

The very first known folded-ears cat was born in 1971 to Mr. and Mrs. William Ross in Clackmannanshire in the smallest county in Scotland. It was a white male. Miss Patricia Turner (Prefix: Scintilla), breeder of Foreign Whites and Geneticist in England, visited the Ross family and



Dr. Wolff



Andy and Anda von Didima, "Scottish Folds". Litter sired by Scintilla Tommi'ops. Breeders Rosemarie Wolff and Lisalotte Schwartz. Munich.

their cats. She was fascinated with this new mutation, and brought home with her a male of the third generation which from then on helped to establish this new breed. In 1969 Miss Turner and Mr. Dyte published a first summary of the Genetics of the "Folded-ears" in "Carnivore Newsletter" (No. 6).

Miss Turner also helped us to import the first "Folded-ears-cat" to Germany, a very sweet tempered brown Tabby male "Scintilla Tommilop" (litter brother of "Scintilla Topsylop," whose portrait accompanies this report, and looks exactly like his sister.) When we saw Tommi for the first time after his arrival in January 1971, we were utterly delighted — we had never thought he would look so beautiful, resembling a little Teddy-bear. After he had settled down a little, we took him to a vet for inspection and on the way home he gave us a terrible fright.

As my friend Liselotte Schwarz brought him to her house, a car door was slammed at her side, and Tommi panicked so much that he broke out of his basket and disappeared! It was a drab rainy day and we spent a terrible afternoon and evening looking for him everywhere — there are lots of hiding places in the court and in the back gardens. We gave "lost-advertisements" in three newspapers, and informed the police and the animals protection union. At three o'clock in the night he turned up, a grey shadow, but hid in a small space between the cathouse and the wall of the house. My friend telephoned for help to the firebrigade — three strong men helped her to move the cathouse so she could grasp Tommi at his neck.

Now we have from him the first litter of "Scottish folds" on the European continent, all of them brown tabbies, three folded-eared, one prickeared.

But the real sensation brought an article in a Munich Boulevard paper "Die Abendzeitung" with Tommi's picture. Several people telephoned to tell us of a stray cat in Dachau, about 30 miles from Munich, with exactly the same ears as Tommilops. Though at first we doubted the truth of this information, L. Schwarz and I drove at once to this little town, equipped with a big photograph of Tommi. With the trial-and-error method we actually succeeded in finding this stray male cat, called "Sepp", who seemed to be a sort of well-known cat-character and a shy personality



Sepp, a German Mutant "folded ears" found in 1971 in Dachau Germany near Munich, living in a wild state.

roaming in the vast riverside and big wild orchards of Dachau. He was living free and on his own kept alive by eating mice and rats and occasional scraps of food from some catloving people; however he was often chased and threatened by others.

We found a family living there in a big house and garden, owning two female cats occasionally courted by "Sepp," who agreed to feed him regularly from now on. By and by he became tamer and we succeeded in taking a photo, still from afar, but at least proving his existence. We now hope soon to capture him for good and to integrate him into the cattery of L. Schwarz. With such an old experienced chap this will not be an easy task. But perhaps we will succeed and then also be able to establish a Bavarian line of "Folded-ears."

### As Others See Us

**CFA YEAR BOOK 1970.** Christine Streetman, Editor, 4803 Yoakum Blvd., Houston, Texas. 494 pages numerous illustrations. \$4.00.

Most of us, when some enthusiastic member hands us an organization's yearbook pre-opened to one page, accept it gingerly, glance at the page, and then hand it back with a pro forma compliment. The book's not meant for reading, or even for examination — once the members have located their own names and photos.

Somehow, CFA has seen to it that its yearbooks don't follow the pattern. They have their statistics, it's true, their pages and pages of advertisements, and, of course, plenty of names and photographs. But Editor Streetman has not stopped there — in a 98-page article section she presents some of the most pertinent cat material being published today.

This year, Bess Higuchi gives a detailed account of imported and native cats in Japan; Brita Remborg tells of her work as Secretary of the Federation International Feline D'Europe (FIFE) and sends photos of a show

June Davis recounts an unfinished investigation into the "rhino" family of diseases, and Ellen Dickie tells of her visit to an English cat show. The CFA Judges Association is "judged" by Marion Hall.

Two breeds as yet unrecognized for championship showing by CFA — the Maine Coon and the Angora — are put on display by Dr. Earl Eminhizer and Liesa Grant.

Roberta Billig tells us of an important but little-known project of the

Jewel City Cat Club in Glendale, California — the Cat Genetics Library which is housed in the Tropico Branch of the Glendale Public Library. Its hundred of catalogs, cat magazines, stud books, and other cat books represent a most valuable contribution to the serious study of the cat and the cat fancy.

Some aspects of leukemia in cats are examined by Duane Chellevoid, and there are several other interesting medical items.

David Bandy explains factors involved in breeding cats of different colors, and Dorothy Mason has provided excerpts from cat publications of fifty years ago.

In a philosophical recap of the history of CFA, Bob Winn finds that just as the association can extrapolate its future growth in registrations, shows, entries, and income from the rapidly climbing pattern of recent years, so can it expect political and organizational progress to continue at just about the same pace as today.

Jean Rose, Director of CFAs Central Office is profiled and in well-illustrated articles. Blanche Smith discusses Blue-Eyed White Persians; Marge Naples the Bluepoint Siamese, and Doris Weston and Martha Wise the Silver Persians.

There's much other material but the Year Book, which is by far the largest per-issue publishing venture in the fancy, will be of interest and value to anyone who is part of the show world.

—R.D.S.

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