

WHAT THEY MEAN is part of a series I write to demystify the complexities and myths that cloud around otherwise very simple yet critical building blocks of successful breeding and breed selection tests.

WHAT THEY MEAN – GEKORT and KORUNG

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Of the many conversations I have with Rottweiler Fans and Enthusiasts one of the most commonly asked topics is the meaning of GEKORT and KORUNG. Some understand it as a higher level of Working Trails whilst others assign other interpretations to it.

It should be an important consideration in a breeding program and the selection of prospective breeding partners. A dog has to clear the KORUNG to attain the title of GEKORT. GEKORT dogs are classified as recommended for Breeding and their papers state it as Gek bis. Or Gek EZA. The title Gek bis implies that the dog has passed his KORUNG and is recommended for breeding for a period of 2 years. The title Gek EZA states that the dog has attained recommended for breeding status for his life time. It is tougher than the Gek bis certification and also involves scrutiny of a progeny group.

The KORUNG this is a form of an advanced breed suitability test. This typically encompasses measurement of height, weight, height – length proportion, length of muzzle, length of skull, chest width, chest circumference, eye color, lip color, nose color, teeth retention and number in all 46 areas where the dog is measured and scored on conformation. This is followed by a vigorous temperament test followed by a working test. The working test consists of 10 parts of which Gek bis requires only 9. To get the Gek EZA the dog must clear all 10. The temperament test is also much tougher in the Gek EZA certification. This test makes the “men stand out of the boys”, the true grit of the dog is measured and his mind is measured by parts. The dog undergoes pressure of various types and is tested for reliability, defense, friendliness, grip, calmness, readiness etc.

To attempt the KORUNG the dog has to pass the BH (behavioral test) and must have passed the ZTP(breed suitability) AD (endurance test involving 20 km). It should also have the minimum of at least 3 SG rating, the dog should also achieve the VPG III titles. The dog should be over 36 months and should have his hip and elbow scored. He should also be tattooed for purpose of identification. Females can have VPGI title and should be at least 30 Months of age.

The entire criterion is just to qualify many great champions and show dogs do not even qualify for the test let alone clear it. It is well accepted to be the most advanced breed suitability test in the world for Rottweilers that incorporates all aspects of the breed.

The Gek EZA title is in some sort an attainment of a state of NIRVANA for the breeder, it simply means that there he has a specimen of a “Complete Rottweiler”.

So what does this mean to breeders? It is through such selection that one hopes to lock on to the much desired traits of good looks, great anatomy, working ability, clear and sound mind that will be passed on through their genes to future generations such that the dog can adjust to the modern day lifestyles of man by proper behavior.

At closing let me just remind all readers that whilst Gek dogs are very desirable to have in a pedigree it in no way is a guarantee for successful litters or progeny. The female plays a very important part in the whole game of breeding and one should always look towards breeding complementary traits.