



*Lykoi
& Cats*

2015

Breed History

- The Lykoi is a natural mutation from a domestic short hair cat
- The founding cats come from two unrelated litters found in Virginia (born July 2010) and Tennessee (born Sept 2010)
- Genetic and health testing was done to ensure no disease or disorder was the cause of the cats' hair loss, including testing for infectious disease; DNA testing for Sphynx and Devon Rex genes (negative); DNA panels for genetic disease, color and blood type; as well as skin biopsies and echocardiograms. They were found to be healthy and the hair pattern is not from any known disease or disorder
- On September 14th, 2011 we welcomed the first kitten from a Lykoi to Lykoi Cat breeding

Breed History

- It was determined the Lykoi were indeed a true natural mutation and the Lykoi breeding program could begin!
- The name “Lykoi Cat” roughly means “Wolf Cat” in Greek - a fitting name for these unique cats!
- Black colored Lykoi express the unique pattern of the cats more dramatically, so we are focusing on only producing solid black cats that carry the gene, by only outcrossing with black domestic shorthair cats.
- Since the original founding Lykoi were discovered, several other natural mutation Lykoi have been discovered in Texas, Missouri, South Carolina, and Vermont and many have been added to the gene pool.

Breed Standard

Lykoi (LY)

The Lykoi is a natural mutation from the wild domestic cat population. The breed has a unique color pattern which makes the hair coat roan. It is also partially hairless. The combination of the color pattern and partial hairlessness gives the Lykoi a werewolf-like appearance.

Head:	40 total
Muzzle/Chin/Nose:	12
Shape:	10
Ears:	8
Eyes:	6
Profile:	3
Neck:	1
Body:	30 total
Torso:	7
Musculature:	7
Legs/Feet:	6
Boning:	6
Tail:	4
Coat:	30 total
Texture (Density):	15
Color/Pattern:	10
Length:	5

Categories: Traditional

Divisions: Solid

Colors: Black only.

Other colors are allowed for breeding, but not showing.

Every cat will have the amelanistic (roan) pattern in the coat.

Permissible Outcrosses: Solid black Domestic Shorthair

Natural additions: Due to the limited gene pool available, any cat naturally born to have the sparse hairless and intermixed amelanistic hair(roan), regardless of show standard, can be used for breeding only. They can be used in showing if they meet the standard.

Breed Standard

Head - Shape

Modified wedge with rounded contours from nose to cheeks to ears. Slightly rounded forehead. Slightly longer than wide.



Breed Standard

Head - Ears

Large, wide at the base and pointed on the tips. Set high on the head, vertical and erect. Hairless with some sparse hair on outer surface allowed.



Too round.



Too small.

Breed Standard

Head - Eyes

Large, walnut shaped, slanting upward with an open expression. The rims are hairless giving the appearance of white eye liner. Gold color preferred.



Too round.

Breed Standard

Head - Muzzle

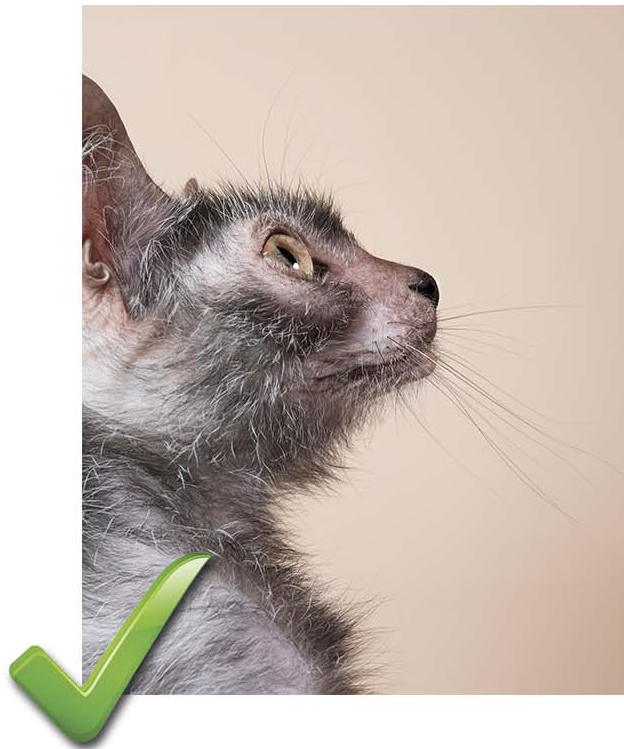
Muzzle is medium in length; fleshy with gently rounded hairless whisker pads and a definite whisker break.



Breed Standard

Head - Chin

Muzzle ends with a well-developed chin aligned vertically with the nose, having a rounded appearance; full but neither projecting nor receding.



Breed Standard

Head - Nose

Nose is hairless and leathery to the touch, slightly rounded down at the end. The hairlessness gives the appearance of wearing a mask when connected to the hairless areas of the eyes.

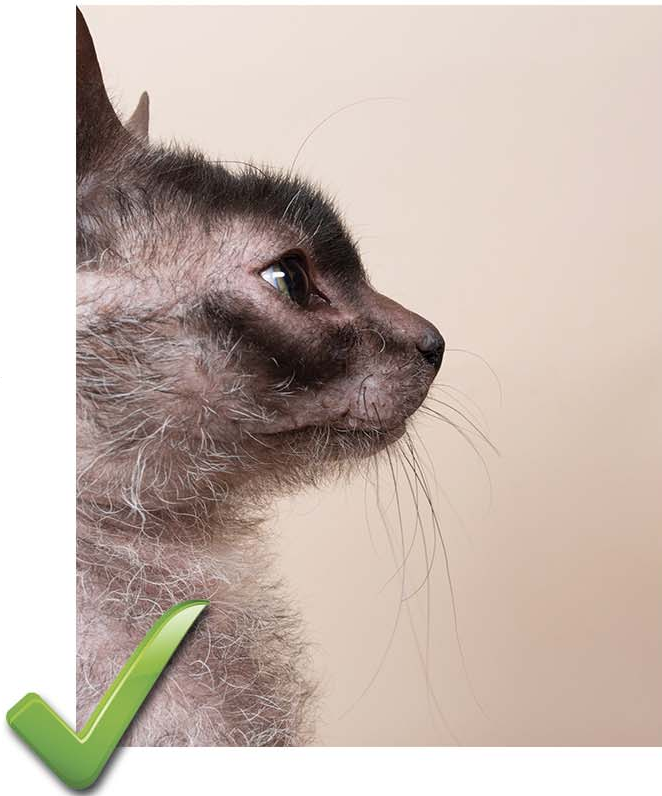


Breed Standard

Head - Profile

A concave curve from brow to bridge.

Neck:
Medium length. Neither thin nor overly muscular.



Breed Standard

Body

Torso: Foreign type.

Musculature: Lithe, slender. Having solid weight, not excessive bulk.

Boning: Medium

Legs/Feet: Legs and feet are sparsely haired. Medium boning; medium length. Feet are medium in size and oval shaped. Toes are long in appearance.

Tail: Tail is shorter than body and tapers to a point.



Breed Standard

Coat

Length: Short to medium length.

Texture: Partially hairless; NOT dense. Undercoat is minimal; longer guard hairs cover body. Amount of coat will vary depending on cycle of hair. Coat resembles the look of an opossum coat. Soft to the touch.

Color/Pattern: 30% to 70% range of dark black from root to tip hair intermixed with white amelanistic from root to tip hair wit 50/50 being ideal. White hair is dispersed over the body and not focalized. Legs and feet are sparsely haired and can be hairless.



Breed Standard

General Description

Lykoi is an ancient Greek word that means wolf. Lykoi come in many colors, but only solid black roan is allowed to show. When one looks straight into the face, the cat has the appearance of the mythical werewolf. The Lykoi cat is a partially hairless cat that can be almost entirely hairless to almost completely coated, depending on the cycle of hair. The hair coat is unique in appearance that it resembles the coat of an opossum when mostly coated. The Lykoi cat is a natural mutation that has been reported intermittently over the past few years. The Breed has been started from two separate sibling litters in 2011. The Lykoi cat is very friendly and demands attention from people. Most people consider them unattractive when they first see them, but then want to do nothing but hold them when they recover from the first impressions. Some people, after seeing them, want a little wolf.

Lockets: Allow

Allowances:

- Hairlessness varies from almost completely hairless to almost completely coated during phases of hair growth.
- Eyes to be smaller in proportion to head in cats less than 8 months old.
- Allow for stud jowls in males.
- Males may be substantially larger than females
- Pigmentation spots to full tanning can occur when exposed to sunlight.

Penalize:

More than sparse undercoat.

Withhold all Awards(WW):

- Absence of hairless face mask Any base color other than black.
- No amelanistic hair (roan).
- Fully coated.



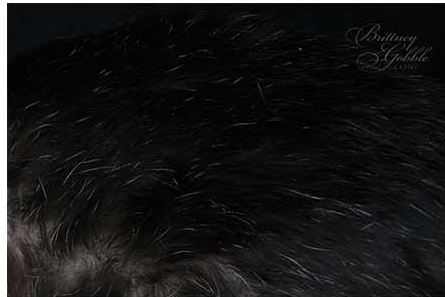
Roan

Definition:

Roan: A unique coloration in which solid white hairs are thickly interspersed with normal pigmented hairs throughout a cat's coat. The color in the pigmented hairs defines the description for roan (i.e. black roan, blue roan, red roan, etc.).

The amount of roan on a black show standard Lykoi can vary between individual cats, as well as each time they molt!

All of these photos are show standard black Lykoi. The white hairs can comprise 30-70% of the coat.



Mask

Definition:

Mask refers to frontal facial features that differ from the normal markings of a cat. Mask can refer to the darker color around the eyes, nose, muzzle and chin of a pointed cat which may be connected to the ears by tracings. Mask can also refer to areas of the face that are hairless or sparsely haired around the eyes, nose, muzzle, and chin tip giving a ghostly appearance to the face. The sparsely haired or hairless areas are connected to each other.



Coat Development

Day 1



Day 3



Day 4



Day 7



Day 8



Lykoi kittens are born fully coated like a "normal" domestic kitten. They are also born solid colored, without the roan pattern.

Hair loss begins around one week with light hair loss around the eyes and nose. Although, depending on the blood line and individual kitten, the balding can begin earlier or later.

Day 10



Day 16



Day 25



6 Weeks



By 6 weeks, the kitten "birth coat" has fallen out and the new roan coat is coming in.



This is "Gobsgoblins Malice in Wonderland" at 6 months of Age!

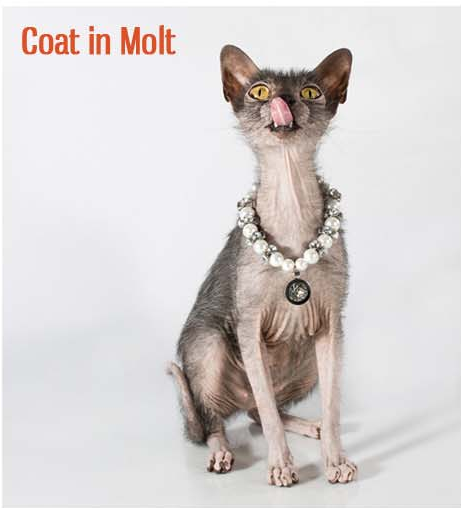
Lykoi Coat in Molt

Lykoi rarely keep the same coat all year. There are different stages based on weather, hormones, etc.

The coat also varies based on the bloodline, and the individual cat. Some Lykoi do tend to spend most of the year with the same amount of coat.

Due to the nature of the Lykoi gene, they are unable to grow a full undercoat at any time. Lykoi do shed, and while some families with allergies have no issues with the breed, Lykoi are not hypoallergenic.

Coat in Molt



Typical Coat

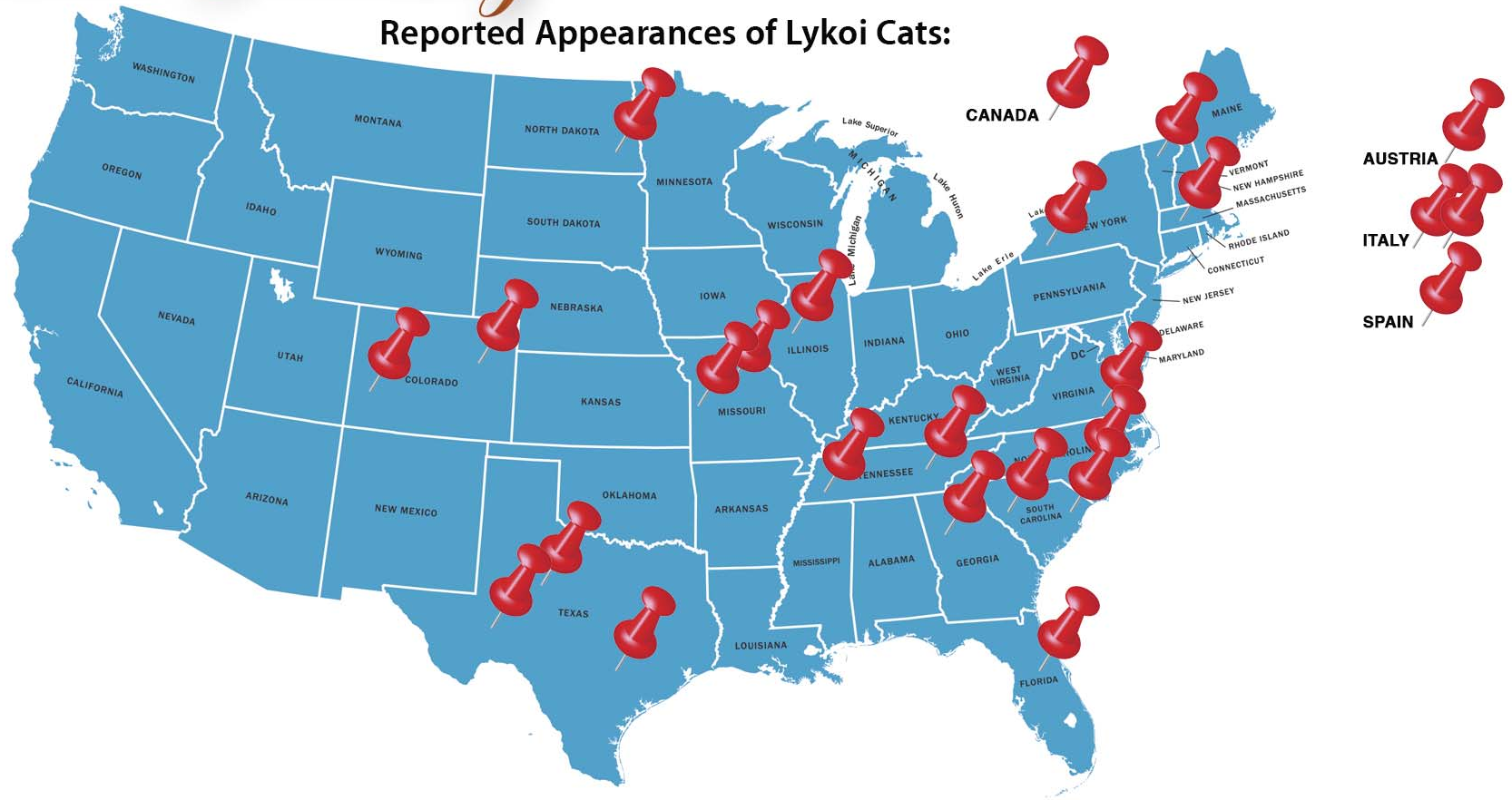


Extreme Coat



Genetic Diversity

Reported Appearances of Lykoi Cats:



Genetic Diversity

Lykoi Cats Added to Breeding Program



Genetic Diversity



**25 Domestic Cats
have been used
to broaden the
gene pool.**

Genetic Diversity

**There have been
9 litters born
where both parents
were Lykoi
(both parents expressed
partial hairlessness and
roan pattern).**



Scientific Research

Summary of Scientific Research on the Lykoi Coat

Dr. Leslie Lyons, Feline & Comparative Genetics, University of Missouri

- A. Lykoi cats have fewer hair follicles than a normal coated cat.**
- B. Lykoi cats have fewer in a hair follicle unit than a normal coated cat.**
- C. Secondary Hair follicles where fewer in number with Lykoi cats.**
- D. Hair follicles and hair shafts are normal**
- E. Higher number of sebaceous glands in the Lykoi over the normal coat.**
- F. Apocrine sweat glands are more dilated in the Lykoi.**
- G. There is a higher number of Lymphocytes(a white blood cell) in the hair follicles of the Lykoi cats.**
- H. The gene is localized to a chromosome, but the exact gene has not been located for the Lykoi Cat.**

