



2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Presented by the TICA Bengal Breed Committee (2009-2012) for
the illustration and understanding of the Bengal Standard

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

General Description



1



2



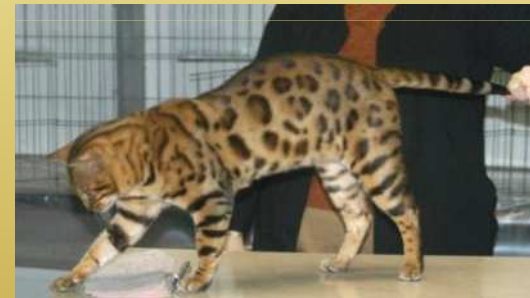
3

1. Asian Leopard Cat (Borneo camera trap)
2. Ocelot
3. Margay (Ecuador camera trap)

The goal of the Bengal breeding program is to create a domestic cat which has physical features distinctive to the small forest-dwelling wildcats, and with the loving, dependable temperament of the domestic cat.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

General Description



Keeping this goal in mind, judges shall give special merit to those characteristics in the appearance of the Bengal which are distinct from those found in other domestic cat breeds. A Bengal cat is an athletic animal, alert to its surroundings; a friendly, curious, confident cat with strength, agility, balance and grace.

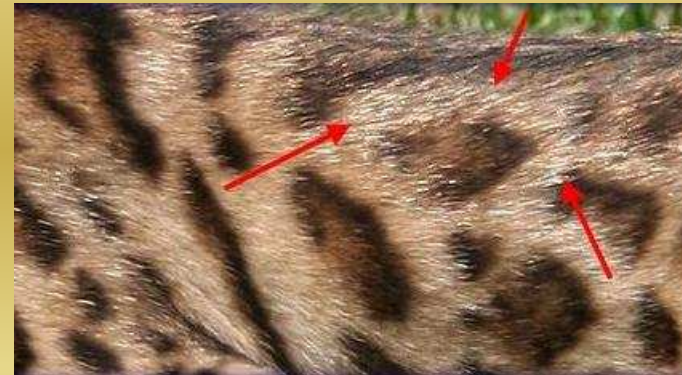
2010 Bengal Breed Seminar General Description



It is a medium to large cat which exhibits a very muscular and solid build. Its wide nose with prominent whisker pads and large oval, almost round eyes in a slightly small head enhance the wild appearance and expressive nocturnal look. Its very slight, to nearly straight, concave profile and relatively short ears with wide base and rounded tips add to the Bengal's distinctive and unique appearance.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

General Description

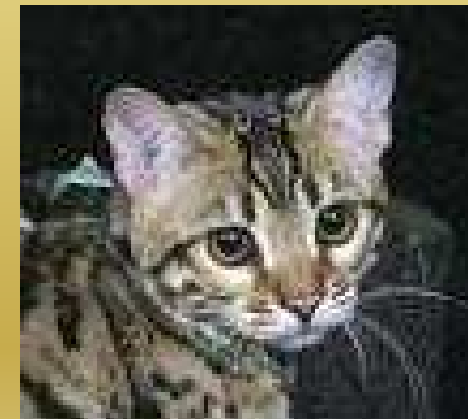
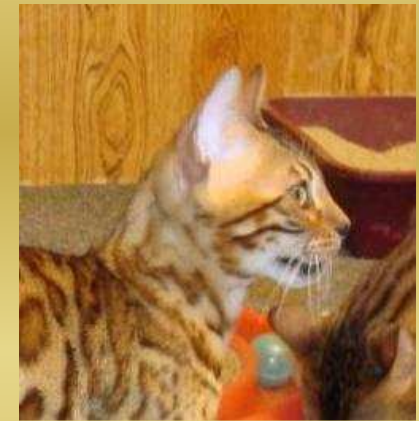


The short, dense coat has a uniquely soft and silky feel. The coat may be glittered or not glittered, with neither type to be given preference. A thick, low-set, medium-length tail adds balance to the cat.

—————→ Identifies glitter

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head.....35 points



Broad modified wedge with rounded contours. Longer than it is wide.

◆ Denotes non-SBT foundation Bengals, to be explained upon later in the seminar

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Shape..... 6 points

Correct



Incorrect



Slightly small in proportion to body, but not to be taken to extreme.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Shape..... 6 points

Correct



Incorrect



The skull behind the ears makes a gentle curve and flows into the neck.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Shape..... 6 points

Correct



Incorrect



Allowance to be made for jowls in adult males. Overall look of the head should be as distinct from the domestic cat as possible.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Ears..... 6 points

Correct



Incorrect (top cat)



Correct (bottom cat)

Incorrect



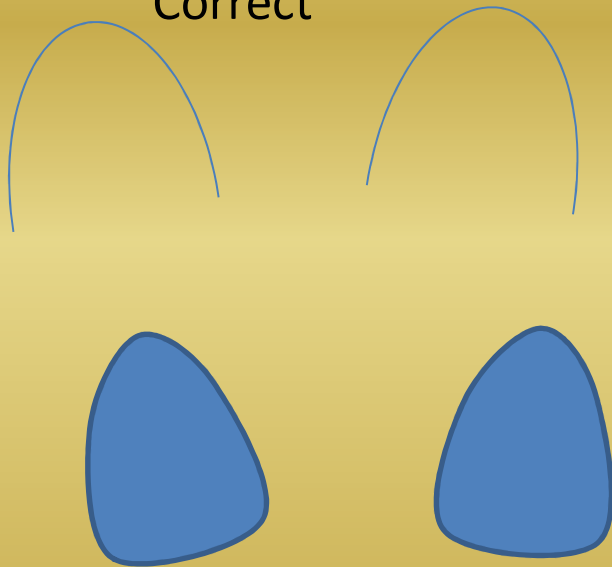
Medium to small, relatively short, with wide base and rounded tops. Set as much on side as top of head, following the contour of the face in the frontal view, and pointing forward in the profile view. Light horizontal furnishings acceptable; but lynx tipping undesirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

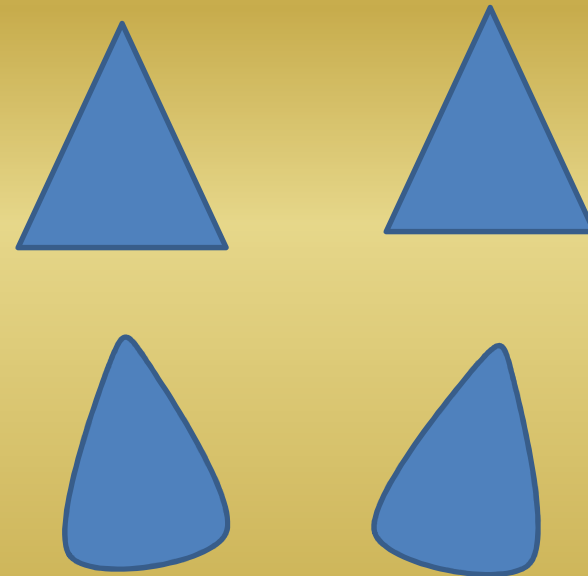
Head (continued)

Ears..... 6 points

Correct



Incorrect



Medium to small, relatively short, with wide base and rounded tops. Set as much on side as top of head, following the contour of the face in the frontal view, and pointing forward in the profile view. Light horizontal furnishings acceptable; but lynx tipping undesirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Eyes..... 5 points

Correct



Incorrect



Oval, almost round. Large, but not bugged. Set wide apart, back into face, and on slight bias toward base of ear. Eye color independent of coat color except in the lynx points. The more richness and depth of color the better.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Chin..... 3 points

Correct



Incorrect



Strong chin, aligns with tip of nose in profile.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Muzzle.....3 points

Correct



Incorrect



Full and broad, with large, prominent whisker pads and high, pronounced cheekbones. Slight muzzle break at the whisker pads.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Nose.....3 points

Correct



Incorrect



Large and wide; slightly puffed nose leather.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Profile.....6 points

Correct



Incorrect



Curve of the forehead should flow into the bridge of the nose with no break. Bridge of nose extends above the eyes; the line of the bridge extends to the nose tip, making a very slight, to nearly straight, concave curve.

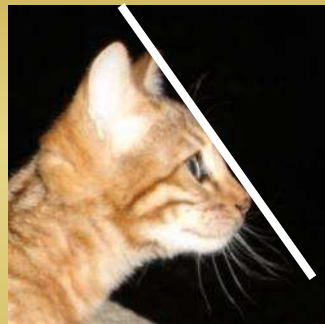


2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Profile.....6 points

Correct



Convex



Incorrect



THE LINE OF THE BRIDGE
EXTENDS TO THE NOSE TIP,
MAKING A VERY SLIGHT,
TO NEARLY STRAIGHT,
CONCAVE CURVE



THE LINE OF THE BRIDGE EXTENDS TO THE
NOSE TIP, MAKING A VERY SLIGHT, TO NEARLY
STRAIGHT, CONCAVE CURVE
THIS IS FAR MORE OF A DIP THAN NEARLY STRAIGHT



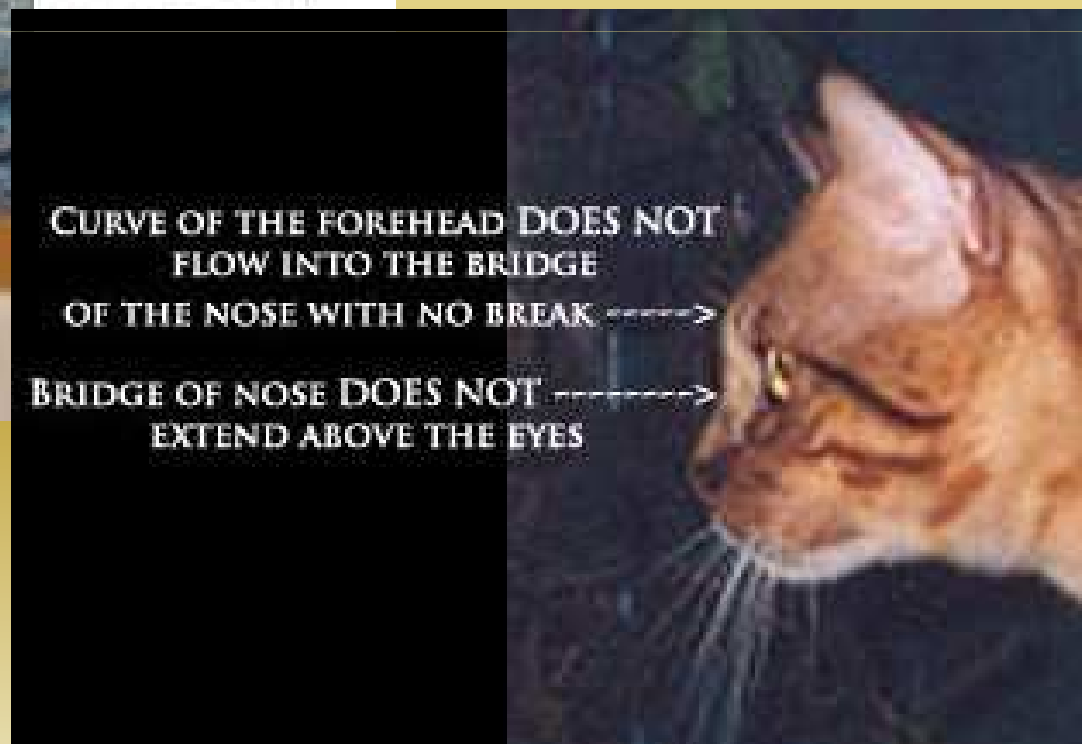
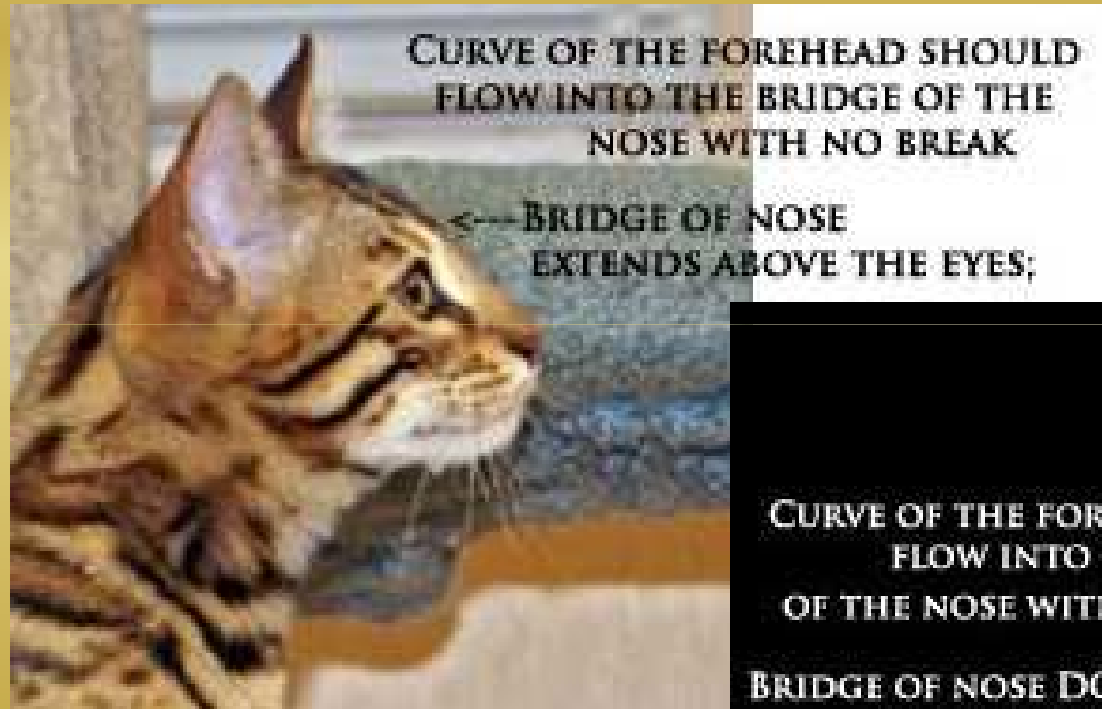
2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head (continued)

Profile.....6 points

Correct

Incorrect

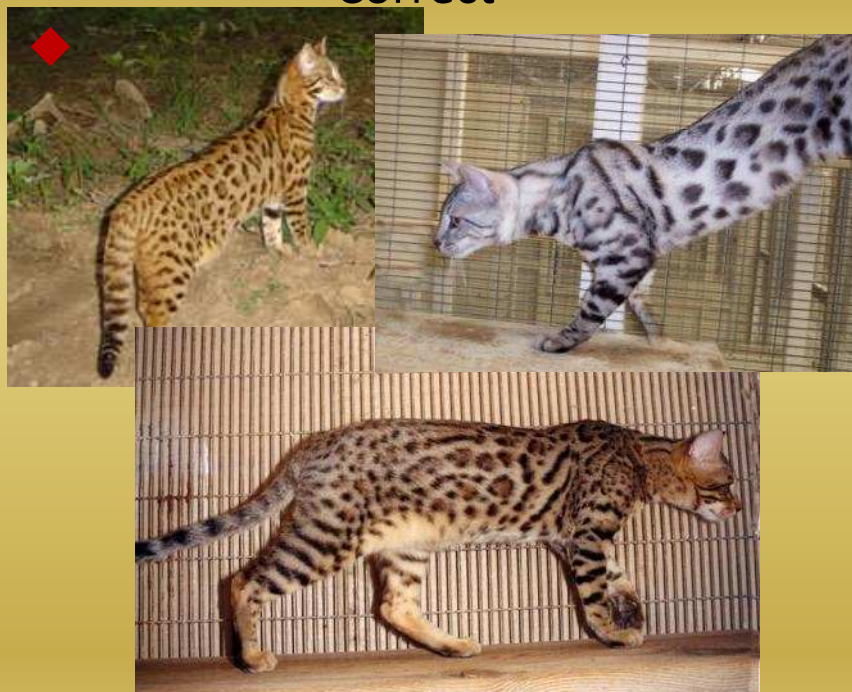


2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Head

Neck.....3 points

Correct



Incorrect



Neck: Long, substantial, muscular; in proportion to the head and body.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Body

Body.....30 points



2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Body (continued)

Torso.....5 points

Correct



Incorrect



Long and substantial, not oriental or foreign. Medium to large (but not quite as large as the largest domestic breed).

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Body (continued)

Legs.....4 points

Correct



Incorrect



Medium length, slightly longer in the back than in the front.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

BODY (continued)

Feet.....4 points

Correct



Incorrect



Too small

Large, round, with prominent knuckles

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

BODY (continued)

Tail.....5 points

Correct



Incorrect



Too long
and thin



Medium length, thick, tapered at end with rounded tip.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

BODY (continued)

Boning.....5 points

Correct



Incorrect



Legs thin compared to body



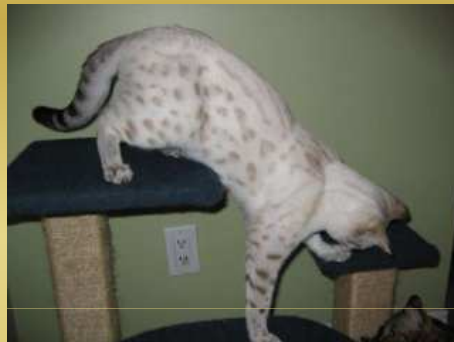
Sturdy, firm; never delicate.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

BODY (continued)

Musculature.....5 points

Correct



Incorrect



Very muscular, especially in the males, one of the most distinguishing features.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points
Brown Tabby



All variations of brown are allowed. Markings various shades of brown to black. Light spectacles encircling the eyes and a virtually white ground color on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly and inner legs is desirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

Brown Tabby



All variations of brown are allowed. Markings various shades of brown to black. Light spectacles encircling the eyes and a virtually white ground color on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly and inner legs is desirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

Black Silver Tabby



Silver Spotted/Marble Tabby

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

The 'Snow' Leopard colors



Here we have a group of the various albino series colors, the Seal Lynx Points at 6 o'clock and 8 o'clock. Seal mink at 12 o'clock , 10 o'clock and 1 o'clock. Seal Sepia at 3 o'clock.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

Seal Sepia Tabby

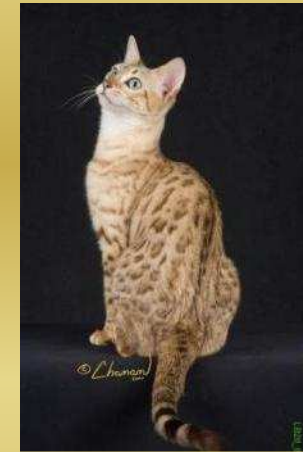


Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points
Seal Mink Tabby



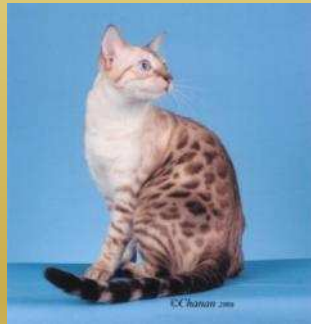
Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

Seal Lynx Point



Incorrect



Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

Silver 'Snows'



Silver Seal Lynx Point



Silver Seal Mink



Silver Seal Sepia

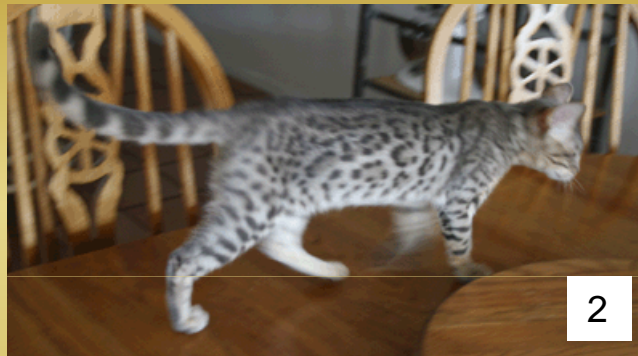
Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Color..... 10 points

Incorrect Colors



Some examples of Incorrect colors that are in the gene pool.

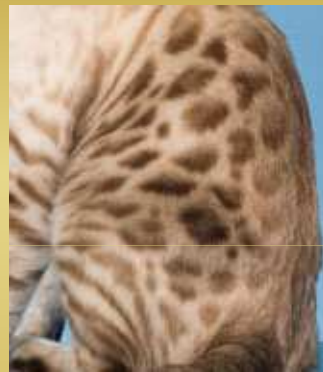
1. Solid 2. Dilute (Blue) 3. Cinnamon 4. Chocolate 5. O1 Red

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Coat/Color/Pattern

Texture..... 10 points

Correct



Incorrect



Dense and luxurious, close-lying, unusually soft and silky to the touch.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Pattern (Spotted).....15



Spots shall be random, or aligned horizontally.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Spotted).....15



Rosettes showing two distinct colors or shades, such as pawprint shaped, arrowhead shaped, doughnut or half-doughnut shaped or clustered are preferred to single spotting but not required

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Spotted).....15



Contrast with ground color must be extreme, giving distinct pattern and sharp edges.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Spotted).....15



Strong, bold chin strap and mascara markings desirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Spotted).....15



Virtually white undersides and belly desirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Spotted).....15



Blotchy horizontal shoulder streaks, spotted legs and spotted or rosetted tail are desirable. Belly must be spotted.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Marbled).....15



Markings, while derived from the classic tabby gene, should be uniquely different with as little "bull's-eye" similarity as possible. Belly must be patterned.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Pattern (Marbled).....15



Pattern should, instead, be random, giving the impression of marble, preferably with a horizontal flow when the cat is stretched. Vertical striped mackerel influence is undesirable.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Marbled).....15



Preference should be given to cats with three or more shades; i.e., ground color, markings, and dark outlining of those markings.

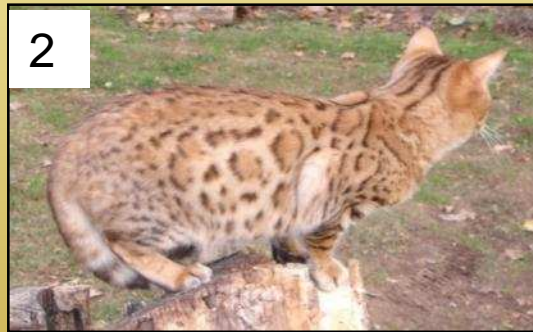
2010 Bengal Breed Seminar Pattern (Marbled).....15



Contrast must be extreme, with distinct shapes and sharp edges. Belly must be patterned

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

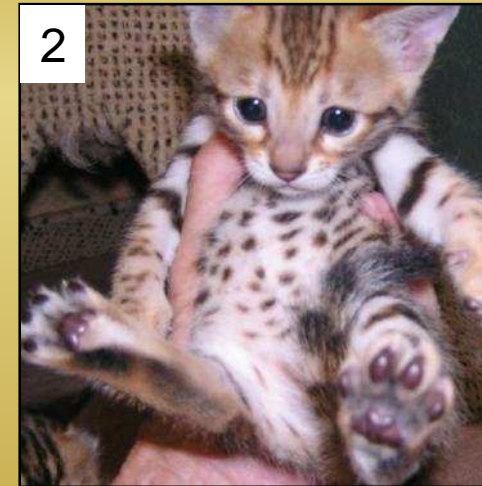
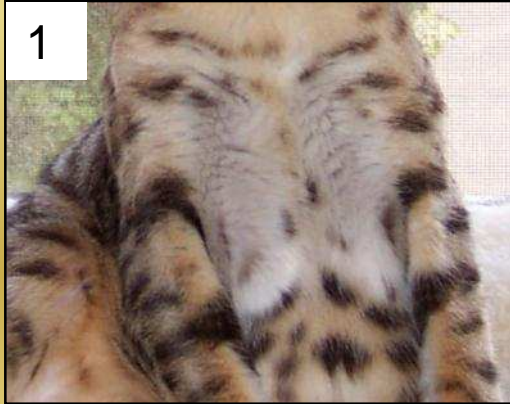
Allowances



1. Smaller size, in balanced proportion, of females.
2. Slightly longer coat in kittens.
3. Jowls in adult males.
4. Eyes slightly almond shaped.

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Allowances



1. Mousy undercoat.
 2. Paw pads not consistent with color group description.
- ◆ Asian Leopard Cat

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Penalize



1. Spots on body running together vertically forming a mackerel tabby pattern on spotted cats;
2. circular bulls-eye pattern on marbled cats;

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Penalize and Withhold All Awards



1. Substantially darker point color (as compared to color of body markings) in Seal Sepia, Seal Mink, or Seal Lynx Point cats.
2. Any distinct locket on the neck, chest, abdomen or any other area.

WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS: Belly Not Patterned

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

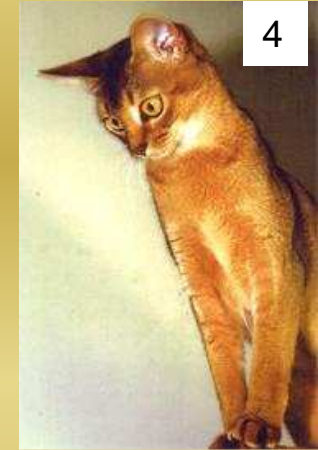
Bengal Heritage - The Asian Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*)



- Small wild cat species, from 5-15 lbs. living in Asia from the Amur region south to Indonesia, from Philippines west to Pakistan.
- Highly adaptable feline, living in tropical to temperate climates
- Noted and named for the striking, high contrast spotted coat of most subspecies that makes the cat resemble a smaller version of the Leopard (*Panthera pardus*)
- One subspecies is endangered though, this feline is among the most common of all Asian wild cats
- The Asian Leopard Cat is noted for being shy, easily frightened and retiring though it frequently lives near human settlements

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Bengal Cat Heritage – Domestic Cats



Domestic Cats of many breeds were used as outcrosses throughout the breed's history for temperament and special attributes.

1. Indian Mau – Imported by Jean Mill from India added glitter, green eyes and bloodline
2. Egyptian Mau – reinforced spotting, green eyes
3. Ocicat – brought robust size, genetic background , classic tabby pattern & lynx point
4. Abyssinian – added rufousing polygenes
5. Burmese – added sepia (and mink)
6. American Shorthair – added silver, heavy boning and musculature
7. Domestic Shorthair – added good temperament, genetic diversity and ??

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Foundations



- The Bengal Cat is derived from hybrids between the Asian Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*) and domestic cats. These cats are considered “Foundation Bengals” and are not eligible showing.
- First generation (F1 or A1S), Second generation domestic backcrosses (F2 or B2S) and third generation domestic backcrosses (F3 or C3S) males are generally sterile and only females may be used in breeding programs.
- Foundation Bengals may require more specialized care
- Above cats are all Foundation Bengals. Photos denoted with a ♦ throughout this seminar are foundation Bengals
- **Bengal Cat** refers to SBT (studbook) registered Bengals at least three generations removed from the F1 hybrid

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

A Brief History

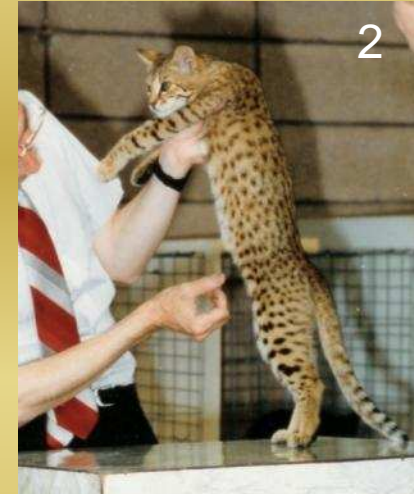
- Jean Mill was the first to cross a domestic cat with an Asian Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*) in the US, 1963.
- Asian Leopard Cat X Domestic Cat hybrids were shown in CFA and ACFA during the 1970s
- First Bengal registered in TICA in 1980
- Jean Mill registered 14 “Leopardettes” in 1986 as Bengals.
- Bengal became one of the most popular pets and show cats throughout the 1990s and 2000s
- Bengals show in Championship in TICA, GCCF, FIFE, ACFA as well as Australian & South African Cat Fancy Organizations



2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

The Bengal in TICA

- First Bengal registered with TICA , shortly after TICA's inception in 1980
- 1986 Jean Mill and others registered 33 "Leopardettes" with TICA – changing the name of breed to Bengal Cat
- Bengals showed in NBC for four years
- 1991 Brown Spotted Bengals become championship
- 1993 Marble pattern and Seal Lynx Point, Seal Mink & Seal Sepia colors were granted Championship
- 1995 More than 10,000 Bengals registered with TICA
- 2000's Bengals become one of the most popular pet & show cats
- 2005 Silver color added to championship



1. Jean Mill, PACE Show 1988
2. John Burch and Millwood Jungle Echo, 1988
3. Alice Rhea & Brown Marble BG
4. Odette Lamoureux & Silver Spotted BG

2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Bengals for Fun, Show and More!



2010 Bengal Breed Seminar

Seminar was created by the TICA Bengal Breed Committee(2009 – 2012): Jay Bangle, Canie Brooks, Pam Knowles, Karen Sausman, Wendy Symmes, Donna Syverson & Anthony Hutcherson, Chair

No portion of this seminar may be reproduced without written permission from the TICA Bengal Breed Committee.

Abundadots Bengals

Akerrs Bengals

Alshar Bengals

Aluren Bengals

Amantra Bengals

Amerikatz Bengals

Azana Bengals

Bangles Bengals

Bengaland Bengals

Calcatta Bengals

Cheetahsden Bengals

Coolspots Bengals

Cozycountry Bengals

Dicaprio Bengals

Eeyaa Toygers

Enchantedtails Bengals

Eriador Bengals

Exoticrose Bengals

Fianna Bengals

Gogees Bengals

Goldcharm Bengals

Junglebook Bengals

JungleJem Bengals

Slide Photos Credits

Junglemist Bengals

Jungletime Bengals

Jungletrax Bengals

Junglewhisper Bengals

Kalanikats Bengals

Katznjamr Bengals

Kimburu Bengals

Kingsmark Bengals

Klassik Bengals

Koppiekatz Bengals

Korshki Bengals

Legacie Bengals

Mainstreet Bengals

Majesticpride Bengals

Maracaja Bengals

Medoz Bengals

Millwood Bengals

Moulinrouge Bengals

My Jade Bengals

Nitewinds Bengals

Pinyon Pride Bengals

PocketLeopards Bengals

Raganwood Bengals

Rainforest Bengals

Rosettea Bengals

Sakura Bengals

Sierragold Bengals

SimplySimes Bengals

Snopride Bengals

Speakeasy Bengals

Spotoluck Bengals

Starbengal Bengals

Stonehenge Bengals

Sutera Bengals

Texasstar Bengals

TheRealms Bengals

Uniqueprints Bengals

Volare Bengals

VonSatara Bengals

Wilddiamond Bengals

Wildfire Bengals

Wildgold Bengals

Wildlove Bengals

Willowfrost Bengals

Zazen Bengals