

**Vereniging de
IJslandse Hond in Nederland
VIJHN**



**Annual report for the year
2013**

**The 19th International seminar for
the Icelandic Sheepdog
Väddö (Sweden) 24th-26th October 2014**



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Committees

Breeding committee:

Mrs. Wilma Roem (chairman), Mrs. Natasja Hagemeier, Mrs. Helma van Rijswijk, Mrs. Louwke Mandema

Behavioural committee:

Mrs. Natasja Hagemeier (chairman), Mrs. Roja Stoppelenburg

Pup information / dog replacement information:

Mrs. Natasja Hagemeier

The above is true for the year 2014, beginning of 2014 several shifts and changes have taken place.

Club members

	2013 31 th December	2012 31 th December	2011 31 th December	2010 31 th December	2009 31 th December
Members	200 (inc. 35 family members)	213 (+ 34 family members)	221 (+ 28 family members)	251 (inc. 12 family members)	247 (inc. 12 family members)
New members this year	12				

Others

Breed registration & representation:

Mrs. Helma van Rijswijk
Email: t.rijswijk@chello.nl

Editor club magazine:

Mrs. Martine Jaspers-Versluijs

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Summary

This report shows that the year 2013 has been relatively quiet in The Netherlands, in that sense that no special problems or deviations of former reports have occurred. The health of the breed and the numbers of Icelandic Sheepdogs stayed stable and okay as before. The average litter size 5,6 is high this year, though not exceptionally high, see the litter table at the end of the report. In general the board of VIJHN is satisfied about the breed in The Netherlands.

Unfortunately we have again not been able to provide the inbreeding coefficient numbers for our population. This is due to our Lathunden problems, which seem impossible to overcome.

The board of the VIJHN has concerns with regards to the amount of members. Since the second breed club in The Netherlands is established, the number of members of VIJHN diminished. Some years ago we had around 250 members and currently we have only 200 members left. On the one hand this is a challenge for the board, to organise nice events to attract new members... but on the other hand a smaller financial base to realise these events. Luckily in 2014 we managed to improve the club magazine with a more attractive design and colour photos without a raise in costs. Let us hope that this will bring us more new members.

Litters

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Litters	10	9	12	10	12
Puppies registered	56	46	65	55	54
Average size of litters	5,6	5,1	5,5	5,5	4,5
Average inbreeding %					

Imports

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Germany		1	2	4	1
Denmark			1	1	1
Iceland			1		1
Finland		3			
United States		1	2		
Norway	1				
Switzerland	1				
Sweden	1				

Exports:

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Germany					2
Belgium	3	3		1	
Finland	1				1
United States				1	
Norway		1			
Switzerland	1	1			

Stud dogs

Who have reached – or are close – to the “ISIC breeding limit”

Breeding rules VIJHN

The breeding rules in VIJHN allow a bitch to produce 4 litters during her lifetime. For a male dog the number of litters is the same: he is allowed to produce 4 litters in The Netherlands only. These rules are strictly taken into account and governed by our club. This means that there are no dogs that come close to the ISIC breeding limits ever, and we therefore have no data regarding this.

Further comments:

All ten litters in 2013 had different fathers and mothers. These ten litters were bred by five different breeders. One breeder produced four litters in one year, one breeder produced three litters and the other breeders produced one litter. One out of ten litters was bred by a member of the other Icelandic sheepdog club (IJHC) in The Netherlands.

Hip Dysplasia (HD)

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
A	17	19	14	19	14
B		1	2		
A+B	17	20	16	19	14
C				3	
D	1	1		1	1
E					1
C+D+E	1	1		4	2
In total	18	21	16	23	16

Further comments:

The hip dysplasia results for The Netherlands are consistent with former years.

Elbow dysplasia (ED)

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Level 0					
Level 1					
Level 2					
Level 3					
In total					

Further comments: No requirement in The Netherlands (VIJHN). No data available.

Patella luxation:

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Level 0					
Level 1					
Level 2					
Level 3					
In total					

Further comments: No requirement in The Netherlands (VIJHN). No data available

Eye examinations

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Unaffected signifies (free)	20	28	6	33	37
Hereditary Cataract					
Cornea Distrophe					
Distichiatis		4	2	1	1
Others (see below)	6	5	5		2
In total	26	37	13	34	40

Other hereditary eye diseases:

Gonioscopy is recommended for the breeding stock in The Netherlands. This is because we discovered some Icelandic sheepdogs with glaucoma in 2009. (There is supposed to be a relation between closure of the corner of the eye in the front chamber and the development of glaucoma. Under normal circumstances a circular ligament called lig. Pectineum exists in that corner. The structure of this ligament is plaiting in such a way that it permits outlet transport of the fluid of the eye. If this ligament is dysplastic, fibers are becoming thick.)

In 2013 seven dogs have had this gonioscopy research. Only two dogs were free of deformities. The other 5 were not free of fibrae latea, though two of them had 'undecided' on their certificates. They were all listed as 'others'.

The 6th dog from the list of others was diagnosed with lens luxation.

The result of the examination of the eyes is valid for one year only. This does not count for gonioscopy. Gonioscopy research is a one time research, the result counts for a lifetime. It is only a recommendation though, and not all dogs used in breeding are researched this way.

Further comments:

In the Netherlands it is still forbidden to breed with dogs with distichiasis, but we do have an update regarding genetic research into this field that might lead to us re-thinking our approach and regulations regarding this.

See below the status report that Bernard Vortman compiled in September 2014:

Statistics overview and comments, health

Distichiasis is hereditary disorder that involves an abnormal growth of hair(s) at the eyelids. These hairs have an ectopic position in relation to the normal hairs on the eyelid, and are growing with their tips towards the surface of the eye (cornea). These hair tips can sting the cornea, resulting in an eye that becomes irritated, inflamed and even damaged.

Besides in dogs, distichiasis can be found in several other species. In humans and mice the disorder is present, and has an autosome dominant heredity.

In dogs, the prevalence of distichiasis in different breeds varies. There are breeds with a high prevalence up to 74%. However, the nature of heredity (dominant, recessive or polygene) is obscure. In Icelandic Sheepdogs the appearance of distichiasis is unpredictable. Even though parents and grandparents are tested free of distichiasis, a descendant may develop the disorder.

In humans and mice the genetic cause of the disorder is the same. It is a mutation of the FOXC2 gene. It is self-evident to propose that in dogs the same mutation is a factor.

Research was undertaken at the Veterinary Faculty of the Utrecht University in The Netherlands.

Eight dogs with distichiasis were compared with 8 dogs free of the disorder.

The goal was to find the FOXC2 gene and compare between the groups.

Unfortunately, differences of the FOXC2 gene within the two groups of dogs could not be detected.

The researchers advised to follow-up with a research of the total genome, with 2 x 24 dogs.

At this point (September 2014) a calculation of costs is being made.

Health, optional testing

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
BEAR (Hearing diseases)					
Heart diseases					
Kidney diseases					

Further comments: In 2013 no special diseases were reported.

Mentality descriptions

Further comments: No mentality descriptions available from The Netherlands

Working abilities (herding) descriptions

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Descripted					

Statistics overview and comments, health

dogs					
In total					

Further comments: No herding descriptions done in The Netherlands in 2013. Recently (in 2014) the Raad van Beheer (Dutch Kennel club) has initiated a new herding committee for all herding breeds that are no Border collies or Working Kelpies. The idea of this committee is to start organising and regulating the work trials and testing for work ability for these herding breeds. The VIJHN will follow this committee and take part in the events. The first activities are expected in 2015.

Shows

Breed Specialty

The **Dutch breed specialty** show was organised by VIJHN on June 9 2013 in Hoenderlo.

The judge was Klaus Strack (Germany) and the entry was 37 Icelandic Sheepdogs.

Best male with CAC and Best of Breed was Surtsey's A-Ásti (From DK).

Best bitch with CAC and Best Opposite Sex was Skippa Frá Blautur Faetur.

Res. CAC males was for Gísli Pálsson frá Olafsfjörður.

Res. CAC female was for Leira frá Isafold.

Events

Walking tours

Four times a year walking tours with our dogs are organized on different locations in the country (forest or beach). Oftentimes 30 up to 40 dogs and their owners are present.

Young Dog Day (family day)

In August 2013 the Young Dog Day was organised for the second time.

From the eight litters born within the VIJHN in 2012, seven litters were present on this Young dog day. Judge Elly Weijenborg has evaluated 33 puppies with most of their parents present.

'Aankeuring'

Somewhat comparable with the 'Zuchtzulassung' in Germany: before getting permission for breeding with your dog, you have to present your dog for inspection for breed worthiness. A judge assesses the dog.

In the Netherlands, the goal of the 'aankeuring' is broader. If an owner is interested in the exterior assessment of his dog, and perhaps wants to plan a litter, he may present his dog for judging. The same is the case for breeders: if they want to get an idea about the pups they have bred, they can also present them for judging.

On August 25 the third aankeuring took place. 15 dogs were evaluated and judged by Jos Dekker.

Note: because the 'aankeuring' as we organised it wasn't a requirement for breeding and on the other hand didn't attract many owners or breeders that normally wouldn't go to shows, in 2014 we decided to cancel the 'aankeuring' in this form. What we have done now, is introduce the opportunity to show your dog to a judge and have a report during our annual Club Activity Day. In that way we hope to see dogs that normally don't go to shows and get a better overview of our population and the quality thereof.

Club Activity Day

On September 2013 the yearly club activity day took place in Apeldoorn (Apeldoornse Kynologenclub). Many enthusiastic owners and dogs were present and participated in loads of fun activities.

For the baby dogs there was a puppy fun obstacle course, the mature dogs (and their bosses) enjoyed the agility course and seven fun games.

Appendix

Litters

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Litters	8	12	16	15	12	12	16	8	14	15	14	13	12	10	12	9	10
Puppies	40	66	94	75	57	63	83	31	77	67	71	61	54	55	65	46	56
Average size of litters	5,25	5,5	5,9	5	4,75	5,25	5,2	3,8	5,5	4,5	5	4,7	4,5	5,5	5,5	5,1	5,6
Average inbreeding %																	

Hip Dysplasia (HD)

Total number of x-rayed dogs	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
A			1	2	1	11	17	23	15	13	10	16	14	19	14	19	17
B	7	10	20	17	9	4		2		1	1	1			2	1	
A+B	7	10	21	19	10	15	17	25	15	14	11	17	14	19	16	20	17
C	2	1	1			2	2	2	1	1	1	2		3			
D		2	1	2			1	1		1	2	2	1	1		1	1
E													1				
C+D+E	2	3	2	2	0	2	3	3	1	2	3	4	2	4	0	1	1
In total	9	13	23	21	10	17	20	28	16	16	14	21	16	23	16	21	18

Appendix

Eye examinations

Total number of x-rayed dogs	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Unaffected signifies (free)	17	11	33	17	17	17	63	31	37	24	37	30	37	33	6	28	20
Hereditary Cataract																	
Cornea Distrophe																	
Distichiatis	1	1	4		1	1	7	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	4	
Others				1									2		5	5	6
In total	18	12	38	18	18	18	70	32	38	25	40	32	40	34	13	37	26

Appendix
