

January 4, 2010

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Dear CFA Board Member:

I am writing to you to voice my concerns regarding the proposed pointed color class for Oriental Shorthairs. I hope that you will consider the following points when evaluating whether or not to give this color class to the Oriental breed.

1. CFA is the only registering association that still recognizes Siamese as a breed, and does not allow cats created from hybrid breeds to be shown as Siamese. This has kept a large and loyal breeder base that strongly supports CFA.
2. TICA registered only 181 Siamese last year, and this included pointed Orientals and Colorpoints. CFA recorded 2469 Siamese kittens and 509 Colorpoint kittens, far surpassing the TICA numbers.
3. Although the current proposals do not include the four Siamese colors, these are the only colors not included, and therefore this is not an honest proposal. It is rather just a stepping stone to get the pointed color class recognized, after which it will be easier to ask for the four Siamese colors.
4. The colors currently requested for the pointed color class mimic Siamese colors. These are the seal, blue, chocolate and lilac colors requested for the shaded and silver divisions. It is impossible to identify the difference between a sealpoint Siamese and a shaded Sealpoint without physical means. This is true when silver is added to the color also.
5. Oriental breeders are allowed to outcross to the Siamese cat with no restrictions. If they are given a pointed color class, this must change. The outcross should be eliminated immediately. Oriental breeders must not be allowed to use Siamese cats to create showable cats that mimic the Siamese breed.
6. Oriental breeders do not currently strive for breeding that produce pointed Orientals. Once they have a place to show them, however, they will breed for them. Even though the current proposals do not allow pointed to pointed breeding, when an Oriental cat is bred to a Siamese it can produce 50% pointed kittens. If these kittens are showable Oriental breeders will not avoid breedings that will produce pointed Orientals, and the number of these cats will grow and grow.

I hope that you will consider these points when evaluating whether or not to create a new pointed color class for the Oriental breed. I am strongly opposed to any pointed Oriental color class and feel it decidedly affects my Siamese breed.

Respectfully,

Debbi Stevenson