

The Kennel.

THE RUSSIAN BARZOI.

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This most handsome breed of dogs is one of the oldest and purest in existence. It has been cultivated from time immemorial by all the old Russian nobility, who used it for coursing and wolf-hunting. Formerly, when these noblemen kept serfs, it was not a rare thing for them to exchange a Barzoi against a family composed of a man and wife and several children. The noblemen kept large kennels of these dogs, and the greatest care was taken in breeding them. A good kennelman being a personage of some importance in those times, he was one of the fortunate ones that never got the knout, and although a common serf, the Boyar would often have him in his room, and have long conversations with him concerning their great favorites. I will not try to give you the origin of this breed, as during the last twelve years I have not been able to come across a book or a person that could give me any positive information on this point, although I have met with a lot of men willing to part with information regarding this breed of dog. But each breeder had a different story to tell, so I have come to the conclusion that no one knows the real origin of the breed. This breed is divided into four classes, viz. :—

The rough hair and long-tail Barzoi,
The smooth-hair and long-tail Barzoi,
The rough-hair and short-tail Barzoi, and
The smooth-hair and short-tail Barzoi.

Certainly the most handsome is the rough-coated long-tailed dog.

In a litter of long-tailed animals it happens at times that there are more short-tailed ones, and vice versa.

This breed is getting very scarce, even in Russia—the number of good kennels can now be counted on one's fingers. His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaevitch, jun., on being appointed to the command of the Hussar regiment last year, gave up his kennel, which contained some of the best specimens alive. I have every reason to believe that such a sportsman as His Imperial Highness will not let this breed of dogs get extinct. There are certain signs that leads one to think that he will have this kennel again before long.

The Barzoi depends only on his sight; he has no nose whatever. He is generally about 28 inches high, although some reach to 32 inches. They have a greater depth of chest than either the Scotch Deerhound or the English Greyhound. Lofky, although 27½ inches high had 33½ inches girth around the chest, whilst the celebrated Deerhound Colonsay, belonging to Captain M'Neill, 28 inches high, measured only 32 inches girth of chest. These Barzoi are very powerful, have a tremendous speed for a short distance, say 200 yards. I think they will beat any English Greyhound to catch a hare at any distance under 200 yards. Above that distance they lose their speed altogether, as they have no stamina. Generally two dogs are required to settle a large sized wolf, but there are records of one dog killing a wolf single-handed. All colors are met in this breed from pure white to fawns, blacks, brindles, reds, greys, and these colors mixed with white. Black and black-and-white are not so much prized, as they show a cross with the Persian Greyhound. The dash of the Barzoi in making a cast is most beautiful. The coat of the Barzoi is very silky; indeed it is astonishing how they stand the cold climate so well with it.

The brain should be well developed. This gives them the courage they require to attack the wolf. The ears should be small and half pricked, hanging back. The jaw must be lean.

The Roman nose is considered the proper thing, although I have seen some very highly bred dogs with the stop well cut out. The teeth is an important point; they should be white, very strong, and regular, showing strength of constitution, and I suppose no other dog has such long teeth. One ought never to breed from a dog underhung or pig-jawed. The eye should be very bright and full, the color varying with that of the coat. The neck should be as drake-like as possible, and be half an inch longer than the head. The back is a very important point; it should have the square form of a beam. That is one of the points most failing in these dogs, and that is the reason that they are deficient for a distance over 200 yards. They have generally good depth of back from above downwards, which gives them quickness and power. The tail hangs nearly between the legs with a slight turr-up at the end. It is very heavily feathered. Cat-like feet are an absolute necessity in the breed, and a good pad underneath must be insisted upon. The hind-quarters should have strong bony stifle joints and hocks, with great length between them, and from the stifle to the hip, united with a short leg, they must be covered with powerful muscles. The shoulder should have good muscles moving freely on the ribs, good shoulder-blade, and good long arm; the elbow must be placed on the same plane as the body, and must not appear to be what is known as "tied at the elbow;" the arm should be straight, long, and covered with muscle; the knee should be bony, and not too much bent back; the leg, or bones below the knee, should be of good size, the stopper well united to it, and be well feathered.

I am opinion that a cross of this dog with the Scotch Deerhound bitch would produce a larger and stronger dog than their parents. Another cross, which I would very strongly recommend, is that of my Ovtcharka dog Polkhan (first prize at the last Birmingham Dog Show in class for Non-sporting Dogs) with a Scotch Deerhound bitch—this ought to produce a very large, powerful, and most handsome animal. Polkhan, single-handed, has killed many wolves.

Lofky is considered to be one of the best Barzoi living. He is three years of age, but has never been shown. The proprietor, H.I. H. the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaevitch, jun., would never show him, this dog being a great favorite of his. Lofky is a match for a wolf single-handed.

SCALE OF POINTS FOR JUDGING "BARZOI."

Head—skull	5
Neck	5
Jaws, eyes, and ears	10
Chest, depth and width	10
Body	10
Legs and feet	5
General appearance	5
	50

Live Stock & Kindred Markets.

OFFICE OF THE CANADIAN BREEDER
AND AGRICULTURAL REVIEW,
TORONTO, June 18th, 1885.

The more unfavorable tone in the British cattle market reported in cable despatches of a week ago has developed into an actual decline

on values, which amounts to about half a cent per pound, but a steady trade has been done at the lower range. Receipts from Canada, and the United States have continued heavy, while the supplies from nearer sources have been moderate. The decline started a better demand for Canadians, and on Monday the feeling in the trade was steady, a fairly satisfactory clearance being effected in the afternoon. A special from Liverpool on Monday reported the market steady under a fairly active enquiry at a decline of half a cent as compared with a week ago.

Quotations at Liverpool on Monday, being calculated at \$4.80 in the £, were :—

Cattle—	\$ c.	\$ c.
Prime Canadian steers.....	0 13½	to 0 00 per lb.
Fair to choice.....	0 13	to 0 00 "
Poor to medium.....	0 12	to 0 00 "
Inferior and bulls.....	0 9	to 0 10½ "

TORONTO.

There is much more activity in the live stock market this week. The offerings yesterday were much larger than for the same time last week, being about 35 loads. Most of the receipts were shipping cattle. Prices have been well maintained. Butchers' cattle and sheep show an easier tendency.

CATTLE.—Shipping cattle continue in good demand. The supplies this week have been pretty liberal. Among them were a number of very fine cattle. Over 200 head were sold at a shade under 6c. per lb.; they averaged between 1,200 and 1,300 lbs. each and were fed in the counties of Waterloo, Wellington, and further west. The market may be called steady. All good to choice cattle sell readily at 5½ to 5¾c. per lb. Among the offerings of butchers' cattle this week are a good many grass-fed animals. This has caused an easier feeling to prevail. Choice stall-fed, however, are in good demand, and prices are firm; of these there were sold yesterday 40 head extra choice, averaging 1,000 lbs., at 5¾c. per lb.; 20 do. 1,000 lbs., \$50 each; 14 good, 1,050 lbs., at \$39 each; 6 choice, 800 lbs., \$37.50; 21 do. 1,000 lbs., at \$45. Grass-fed sold at 3¼ to 4¼c. per lb. according to quality, one load of 15 head, 950 lbs. each, sold at \$30; another similar load was held at 4c. About 30 milk cows were offered; there was not much of a demand, and not more than one-half of them were sold; prices ruled at \$35 to \$45 each.

CALVES.—Continue in good supply, and are selling at unchanged prices; \$8.50 is the top figure but is not very often paid, \$6 being the prevailing price for choice.

SHEEP.—Are easier. Better supplies may be expected for some time hence. Nearly all offering now are clipped. One very fine bunch of 60, averaging 140 lbs., sold yesterday at \$5.50 each.

LAMBS.—Are in pretty fair supply, and are selling well; \$3.50 each for lambs weighing 55 to 60 lbs. each is the prevailing figure.

HOGS.—Are in pretty good supply. Prices are about the same. A large bunch of fat hogs was sold yesterday at \$4.32½ per 100 lbs.

The following are the receipts of live stock at the cattle market here for last week and to date, with comparisons :—

	Cattle.	Sheep and Lambs.	Hogs.
Week ending June 13.....	1,266	350	187
Week ending June 6.....	1,630	259	157
Cor. week, 1884.....	436	245	28
Cor. week, 1883.....	525	37	24
Total to date	21,598	3,758	4,553
To same date 1884.....	14,559	5,228	2,769
To same date 1883.....	13,849	4,705	2,031

Quotations are as follows :—

Cattle, export choice.....	5½	to 5¾	per lb.
" " mixed.....	5	to 5½	"
" bulls	4	to 4½	"
" butchers', choice.....	4¾	to 5½	"
" good	4½	to 4¾	"
" common.....	3½	to 4¾	"
Milch cows	\$35	to 45	
" stockers	3¾	to 4½	"
" butchers', grass fed	3¾	to 4¾	"