

He emphasised that initially the breeders concentrated on 'bantamising' – reducing the Pom to 2 and 1/2 lbs or less with a top weight of 5lbs. Colour was 'out of their calculation'.

Marples observed that initially two blacks produced some brown puppies, a chocolate or brown bitch mated to a black dog produced shaded sables. He noted the blues came from the blacks originally.

Mr Marples advised in 1907 that an orange sire and a black or chocolate bitch 'will likely produce chocolate puppies without light shading'. A chocolate sire and an orange or sable bitch will produce pure orange puppies. Orange sable and blue parents seldom produced blue, with the exception of a blue ancestry, and wolf sable & blue parents usually produce orange puppies.

The overall trend was white then black followed by brown and then blue. The appearance of sables & shaded sables, started with Prince of Orange born in 1890 a 'bright sable, with even white collie markings', Ch Ruffle born Nov. 1892 a

'light sable, black shaded saddle' but identified by Miss Ives as the first wolf sable champion and also Marco a red sable, this inevitably started a new colour craze. Prince of Orange, described by Mr Lee in 1894 as an orange and white dog weighing 5 1/2lbs, helps illustrate the difficulty of interpreting colour in the early Stud Books.

1891 to 1893- 305 Poms are recorded in the Stud Books. Colours are not always recorded but black and white account for most of the entries. Here are some exceptions. In 1891 The Queen exhibited Gena a lemon and white originating in Florence. In 1892/93 Prince of Orange, previously described, and three 'golden browns' were shown – Baton D'Or, Pretty Boy and Prince Ginger. Alfio the 'red' son of Marco, Vixen a brown and Brown Boy a chocolate added to the list of developing colours. Mismarked Poms now appeared, of which more will be said later.

1894 saw the debut of 5 blues (first since Blue Boy), Ruffle the wolf sable and a couple of fawns such as Aigburth Chance. A Pom named Sweetheart was registered as 'dove' in colour.

1895 – Prairie King (*right photo*) a 'sable' and Puck a 'chocolate' were the only new colours. However, Miss Ives noted that Ch Prairie King was a small brown dog! He was advertised at stud as 'red brown' and he weighed less than 6lbs. The use of the term 'sable' is intriguing as the dog Ch Brilliant was recorded in this year as 'sable and white' but in Mr Lane's book (he was a show judge in this era) this dog is called fawn. There are a few others recorded as fawn, blue & brown.

A very small chocolate, Manel of Rozelle only 3lb 2oz in weight was bred by Miss Hamilton, she advertised him at stud in 1896. Another of her under 6lb studs, the black Herr Graf of Rozelle was also born in 1895.

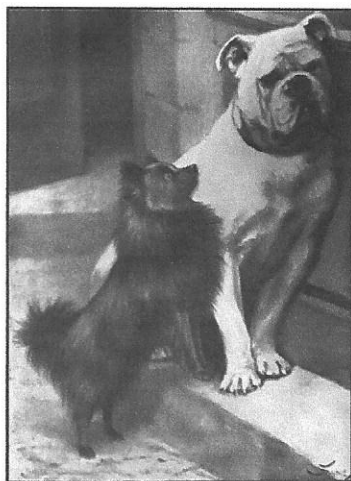
1896 – Dainty Boy the second wolf sable champion began his show career but he was actually registered as 'fawn and black'. The 'jet black' import Junger Meisel of Rozelle was available for stud (under 6lb in weight). Perhaps of greater importance was the arrival of Mister T a 'red' by Prince of Orange and Trappola. The Italian Volpino now influenced colour development, although usually white some were fawn others were shades of gold. Miss Ives reported she exported her two brilliant red Volpinos to America. She noted some were a bright rich orange with black pigment.



In Mr Bendelow's book (1990) is an article written in 1911 by Mrs Hall-Walker (Lady Wavertree) of Gateacre Poms, she wrote of her acquisition of the wolf sable Ch Dainty Boy and her trip to Italy to find 'a little shaded wife for him'. She continued to go to Italy looking for 'little yellow and white lupetties' to breed with her black or white Poms. In this manner (ref. KC Stud Book) she acquired her orange, Gateacre Lupino, born August 1897 and bred by Mr Spoletti.

1897 - marks the beginning of the definition 'orange sable' - the first being Coniston Fop born in 1895 by Major x Floss and the other was Rozelle Thelma born in 1895 and bred by Herr Felkel (by Jolly x Butz), she may have been an imported bitch.

left - a Bulldog and black Pomeranian feature in this charming 1898 engraving by Fannie Moody called Beauty and the Beast



1899 – The first brindles, Halliford Bob and his litter sister Halliford Ivis were shown. They were bred by Mrs E J Thomas and born in 1898 (by Elthorne Dick x Pansy Girl). Elthorne Dick's pedigree is not known but Pansy Girl was by Ch King Pippin and her dam Vera was of black ancestry.

It may be appropriate at this point to include a couple of general observations about the state of colour development at the turn of the 20th century. The first is Mr William Drury writing in 1903 – 'Colour is a matter of taste. Pomeranians may be procured pure white, black, brown, blue, sable, red, orange, and shades and combinations of most of these colours. Just now shades of brown and blue are most popular'. Next is Theo Marples (1907) describing the evolution of 'almost perfect Toy Pomeranians with all the features of the breed, foxy heads, small ears, short backs, enormous coats and plumes, and with all the vivacity, beauty, and activity of the breed – weighing as little as 1 1/2 lbs full grown, and averaging 4lb in weight in the following colours – black, blue, beaver, white, sable (various

shades), black and tan, chocolate, racoon (various shades), black and white, brown (several shades), orange, tricolour etc'.

The candid observations of the eagle-eyed May Bird, show reviewer for the Ladies Kennel Journal in the late 1890s, deserve a mention. She was the only person to bluntly comment on 'blue failing' CDA in blue Poms. Here is a selection of her other comments. Moorland Brownie 'not looking well, and the white spot on the end of his nose is painfully visible', Ch Konig of Rozelle 'looking out of coat and old', the black Clayton Duchess' grey in the muzzle and flat in coat', Ch King Pippin (black) 'in splendid coat and form but his eyes are looking very bad and we fear he will lose the sight of one'. On browns and sables – many 'are long in back, badly shaped, lacking the lively manner of the Pomeranian'. Shaded sables – 'are not some really Brindles?' On quality, '9/10 th of imported Pomeranians die or turn out rubbish' – she welcomed the new Quarantine Law! Finally, reviewing a novice dog named 'Made in Germany' she added he 'might have remained there'.

In 1898 The Pomeranian Club revised the Breed Standard to clarify the difference between a mismark and a parti-colour. The sentence 'a few white hairs in any self-colours shall not disqualify, but should be discouraged' was strengthened to 'a few white hairs in any self-coloured dog shall not absolutely disqualify, but should carry great weight against a dog.' The definition of a parti-coloured dog was added 'in parti-coloured dogs, the colours should be evenly distributed on the body'. Leaving no stone unturned (until the next clarification) this was added 'whole coloured dogs with a white foot or feet, leg or legs, are decidedly objectionable and should be discouraged, and cannot compete as whole coloured specimens'. Preference was also to be given to whole coloured specimens.

In 1901 there was another revision – the list of admissible colours was amended. Grey, shaded sable (including red, orange, or fawn) now appeared, and, black and tan was removed! Obviously there had been continuing confusion about what is a parti-colour and what is a mismark as the definition of a parti-colour was extended to include 'a dog with a white foot or a white chest would not be a parti-coloured.'

right - unknown chocolate Pom circa 1900

There were a lot of mismarked Poms recorded such as Gluck of Rozelle born in 1891 'black, white spot on chest, white tips to three feet'. It must have been quite a surprise for Miss Hamilton, having selected Black Boy, a rising star and the first black Pom champion, for her top winning white bitch Garda Booh Wooh. It is possible she may have hoped for a parti-colour as expressed later in Mrs Parker's book 'blacks, whites and oranges inter-bred produce blues, wolf-sables and parti-colours'. Ives noted that after the 1915 cancellation of CCs for whites (usually over 7lb in weight), the bitches were mated to 'any sort of coloured dog' and mainly produced 'wolf sables and pretty parti-colours'.

The removal of black and tan from the list of admissible colours did not mean it was discouraged as the standard concerning nose pigment was unchanged; 'In black, black and tan, or white dogs the nose should be black etc'. It is possible they had come to think of it as a pattern, like the parti-colour, and this is why no