

# **Analysis of the 2000 AKC Stud Book for Rhodesian Ridgebacks; Relationship of Breeding Practices to Affiliation with the National Breed Club**

by Clayton H. Heathcock

The American Kennel Club “Stud Book” is the basic registry from which all pedigrees are constructed. When a dog or bitch is first registered as the sire or dam of a litter, they are entered in the stud book. The stud book is a public document and can be examined at the AKC offices. The entry includes the following information:

- Name, gender, AKC number, color, date of birth
- Sire name and AKC number and date of first entry into stud book
- Dam name and AKC number and date of first entry into stud book
- Owner name; breeder name

Beginning in January, 2000, the stud book for each breed is available for purchase from the AKC online store. A sample of the first two pages of the January, 2000, stud book for Rhodesian Ridgebacks is attached as an appendix.

This essay reports the results of a study of the Rhodesian Ridgeback entries in the 2000 stud book. During the year, exactly 400 Rhodesian Ridgebacks were entered in the stud book, 154 males and 246 females. It is not possible to tell from the stud book alone how many litters are represented by these entries because some of these dogs and bitches were presumably bred to dogs entered into the stud book at some previous time.<sup>1</sup> However, we can estimate that these new entries represent approximately half of the Ridgeback litters registered in 2000.<sup>2</sup>

For the purpose of evaluating the stud book to discern various trends, the data were transferred to a database that can be sorted in various ways. Additional data was acquired from two other sources, the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) online database and the 1999 roster of the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States (RRCUS). The OFA database was used to determine if a hip registration number has been entered for each of the 400 dogs and bitches whose names appear in the 2000 stud book.<sup>3</sup> The RRCUS roster was used to determine if the listed owner or breeder was a RRCUS member. Data are collected in Tables 1 and 2 and summarized graphically in Figure 1.

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<sup>1</sup> Remember that a dog is only in the stud book only the first time he or she is bred because this is all that is necessary to construct a full pedigree, which is the purpose of the stud book.

<sup>2</sup> The 2000 litter registration statistics had not been published at the time this essay was written. The number of Rhodesian Ridgeback litters registered in 1998 and 1999 were 579 and 539, respectively. For purposes of this essay, it is assumed that the number of RR litters registered in 2000 was 560. At the very least, the 246 ‘maiden’ bitches who appear in the 2000 stud book were responsible for 44% of the total 560 litters. On the high end, if every single one of the 146 dogs whose names appear in the 2000 stud book was bred to a mate already in the stud book, this would comprise an additional 27% of the total 560 litters. However, it is likely that some of the dogs and bitches who appear in the 2000 stud book were bred to each other. The names in the stud book for last year probably represent approximately 60% of the total litters registered.

<sup>3</sup> The OFA search was done on April 5/6, 2001.

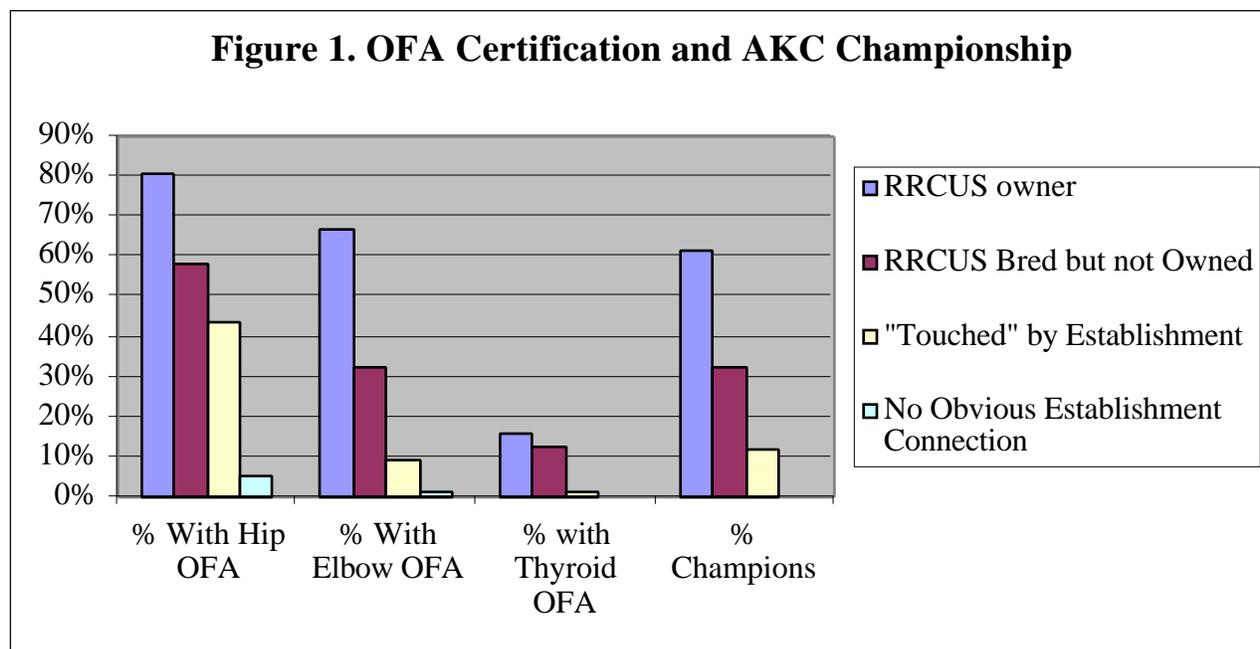
**Table 1: Relationship of Breeding Practice to Involvement with the "Establishment" (raw data)**

	RRCUS Owned	RRCUS Bred but not Owned	"Touched" by Establishment	No Obvious Connection to "Establishment"	Total
Total Dogs	133	31	76	160	400
OFA Hip	107	18	33	9	167
Hip = "E"	33	5	11	4	53
Hip = "G"	71	10	19	3	103
Hip = "F"	2	3	3	2	10
OFA Elbow	89	10	7	2	108
OFA Thyroid	21	4	1	0	26
AKC Champions	82	10	9	0	101
Average Bitch Age at 1st Breeding	3.7	3.9	3.3	2.6	
Bitches less than 2 at 1st Breeding	2	1	4	33	40
Average Dog Age at 1st Breeding	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.2	
Dogs less than 2 at 1st Breeding	12	4	12	25	53

**Table 2: Relationship of Breeding Practice to Involvement with the "Establishment" (expressed as %)**

	RRCUS Owned	RRCUS Bred but not Owned	"Touched" by Establishment	No Obvious Connection to "Establishment"	Total
Number of Dogs	33%	8%	19%	40%	
OFA Hip (% of number of dogs)	80%	58%	43%	6%	42%
Hip = "E"	31%	28%	33%	44%	32%
Hip = "G"	66%	56%	58%	33%	62%
Hip = "F"	2%	17%	9%	22%	6%
OFA Elbow	67%	32%	9%	1%	27%
OFA Thyroid	16%	13%	1%	0%	7%
AKC Champions	62%	32%	12%	0%	25%

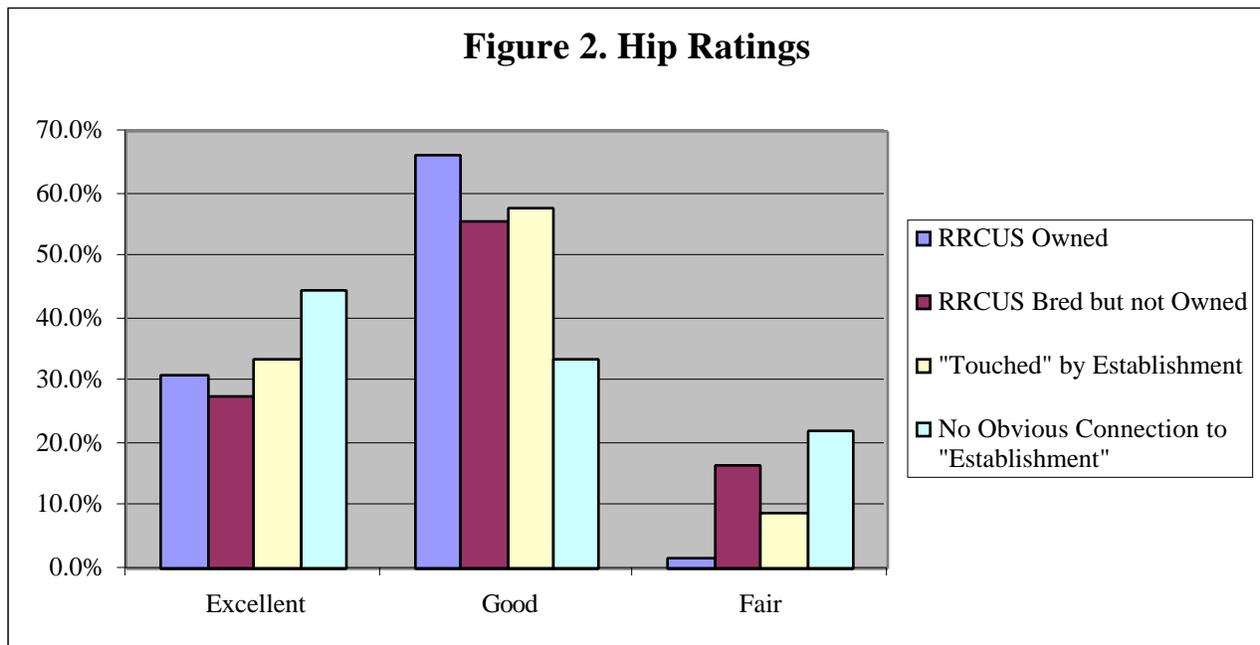
**Figure 1. OFA Certification and AKC Championship**



The data shows that dogs owned or bred by members of RRCUS, the national breed club, are more likely to have achieved an AKC conformation championship and are more

likely to have OFA hip, elbow, and thyroid certifications. Even having some loose connection with the 'establishment' has a noticeable effect on breeding practices. One can sort the 236 dogs who were neither owned nor bred by RRCUS members into two groups—those 'touched' by the establishment (76 animals) and those with no obvious connection to the establishment (160 animals). For purposes of this analysis, I assigned to the former category any dog who had an AKC championship, whose sire or dam had an AKC championship, or whose sire or dam has a kennel name recognized by me to be that of a RRCUS member. Tables 1 and 2 show that even a loose connection with the 'establishment' leads to an increased use of OFA, at least for hip certifications, relative to the group which has no obvious establishment connection.

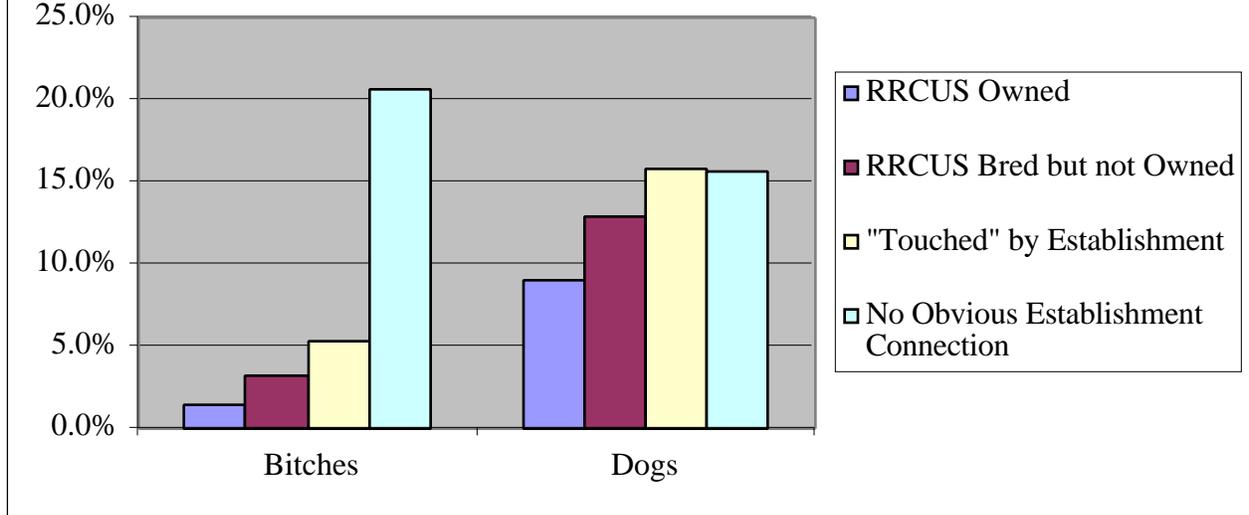
Table 2 and Figure 2 also show the distribution of hip scores for those animals bred for the first time in 2000. The good news here is that more than 30% of the dogs who had OFA hip scores and were bred for the first time had OFA ratings of "Excellent." This is significantly higher than the breed average of 19.7%. Overall, 6% of the animals bred for the first time in 2000 had hip ratings of "Fair", about equal to the breed average of 6.6%. However, in general, the weaker the 'establishment' connection, the more likely it was for dogs with "Fair" ratings to be bred.



The stud book can also be used to determine another breeding practice--the age at first breeding. There is a two-month delay after a litter registration before the dog's name appears in the online stud book. That is, dogs whose names appear in the January, 2000, stud book, were registered in November, 1999. Since the date of birth is given, one can determine the age of the dog ( $\pm 2$  weeks) at the time its name was entered in the stud book.<sup>4</sup> Data are shown in Table 1 and graphically in Figure 3. This data shows that breeders who are not affiliated with the national club are far more likely to breed bitches at a young age.

<sup>4</sup> Because of the gestation period, the actual mating would have been done two months before entry into the stud book.

**Figure 3. Percent of Dogs Bred that were Less than Two Years of Age**



Analysis of the stud book confirms that there are several relatively large-volume breeders of AKC-registered Rhodesian Ridgebacks who have no obvious connection with the AKC through conformation competition, make little or no use of OFA, and who do not belong to the national breed club. Table 4 presents selected entries from the 2000 AKC Stud Book for Rhodesian Ridgebacks. These 25 entries represent litters produced by 16 females and 9 males who were sired by six breeders using a total of only 7 males. Only one of the 25 had an OFA hip score and 60% were entered in the stud book before their 2nd birthday.

**Table 4. Selected Entries from 2000 AKC Stud Book**

Dog	Gender	OFA	DOB	Age	Owner	Breeder	Sire	Dam
Hatari Bwana	M	no	2/8/99	1.1	Hightower B & S	J Cressel	Ju-Geo's Mann Della My Sohn	Ju-Geo's Pemba Of Patches
Menagerie Farms Sienna	F	no	11/17/98	1.7	G Glaeser	J Cressel	Ju-Geo's Mann Della My Sohn	Ju-Geo's Temne Of Scottie
Blake's Brandi	F	no	11/17/98	1.5	S Blake	J Cressel	Ju-Geo's Mann Della My Sohn	Ju-Geo's Temne Of Scottie
Blake's Mandee	F	no	11/17/98	1.5	S Blake	J Cressel	Ju-Geo's Mann Della My Sohn	Ju-Geo's Temne Of Scottie
Lobradira Nura	F	no	9/14/98	1.8	J Peter	J Cressel	Ju-Geo's Mann Della My Sohn	Ju-Geo's Temne Of Scottie
Bauete's Sabaka	F	no	3/9/98	1.7	Petrizza, P.	Miller, P.	Nan-Nuk's Guardian Tug	Nan-Nuk's Cashs Pinky
Bayete's Shaka Zulu	F	no	3/9/98	2.4	M Petrizza	P Miller	Nan-Nuk's Guardian Tug	Nan-Nuk's Cashs Pinky
Cinnamon Spice	F	no	12/16/97	2.8	Eastling D	P Miller	Nan-Nuk's Guardian Tug	Nan-Nuk's Doodle
Lawson's Kunta	M	no	8/14/98	1.4	Lawson, D.	Miller, P.	Nan-Nuk's Guardian Tug	Rowes Daisy Duke
Bayete's Kiora	F	no	8/3/98	1.4	Petrizza, M.	Miller, P.	Nan-Nuk's Worthan's Cash	Nan-Nuk's Doodle
Jade Ridge My Valen Day Luv	F	no	2/14/96	4.0	English, J. & P.	Morrison, D.	Par's Razor Ridge	Rum Ba Bas Mahogany
Martha Valentine For Bon Bon	F	yes	2/14/96	4.3	J Chamorro, R Chamorro	D Morrison	Par's Razor Ridge	Rum Ba Bas Mahogany
Outlaw Doc Holiday	M	no	8/16/95	4.8	T Peck	D Morrison	Par's Razor Ridge	Sidiboarani's Lucy Bee Free
Blake's Buster Boy	M	no	12/12/98	1.4	S Blake	H Parsons	Pretty Boy Jeffery	A-Alli's Princess Magi
Gage	M	no	12/12/98	1.8	L Foster	H Parsons	Pretty Boy Jeffery	A-Alli's Princess Magi
Parsons Red	M	no	12/12/98	1.6	J Peter	H Parsons	Pretty Boy Jeffery	A-Alli's Princess Magi
Lady's Precious Girl	F	no	12/12/98	1.3	L Foster	L Foster	Pretty Boy Jeffery	Cebhs Pretty Lady
Les's Tippy Toe's	F	no	12/12/98	1.3	L Foster	L Foster	Pretty Boy Jeffery	Cebhs Pretty Lady
Cassies Scamper	F	no	3/4/99	1.6	R Foster	R Foster	Pretty Boy Jeffery	Pretty Girl Cassie
Hall's Augustus Gold Key	M	no	6/22/96	4.0	G Hall , L Hall	D Wortham	Wortham's Copper Cash	Wortam's Kinza Kate
Dee-Dee II	F	no	12/25/96	3.6	N Silva , R Ramon	G Wortham , D Wortham	Wortham's Copper Cash	Wortham's Deah
Sally Ann	F	no	1/21/98	2.7	S Lemons , T Lemons	G Wortham , D Wortham	Wortham's Copper Cash	Wortham's Deah
Wortham's Luther Grinch	M	no	12/25/96	3.0	Cooper H	Wortham, G. & D.	Wortham's Copper Cash	Wortham's Deah
Allison's Zola Buckhuna Dan	M	no	4/13/98	1.9	T Allison , S Allison	D Wortham	Wortham's Tomba Buckhuna	Northam's Zola Zee
Pinehaven's Kenya	F	no	1/1/97	2.9	Harkey, L.	Wortham, D.	Wortham's Tomba Buckhuna	Northam's Zola Zee

What conclusions can we draw from examination of the 2000 stud book?

- First, we see that the majority of Rhodesian Ridgeback litters do not come from 'establishment' breeders. Large-scale 'non-establishment' breeders are producing a

relatively large fraction of the Rhodesian Ridgeback litters registered in the United States. Many more seem to come from 'backyard' breeders.

- Second, we see that affiliation with the 'establishment' has a strong influence on three breeding practices: (1) breeding dogs and bitches who have achieved AKC conformation championships, (2) use of OFA to screen for hip dysplasia, and (3) age at first breeding. The stronger this 'establishment' link, the greater the effect; dogs belonging to RRCUS members have a higher championship rate, higher OFA rate, and greater average age at first breeding.
- Third, although the RRCUS Code of Ethics has for many years stated that "Only dogs screened and certified clear of hip dysplasia shall be bred," only four in five dogs and bitches bred in 2000 by RRCUS members had an OFA hip certification number as of April 6, 2001.<sup>5</sup> Of course, this 20% of non-OFA certified dogs may have been evaluated by veterinarians not affiliated with OFA, but nevertheless the relatively high percentage of non-OFA certified dogs bred by RRCUS members is surprising.
- Fourth, 'establishment' breeders are making extensive use of OFA for certification of elbows--more than 60% of the animals bred for the first time in 2000 were certified clear of elbow dysplasia. Thyroid testing still lags, but the 'establishment' group does seem to beginning to use OFA for thyroid certification.

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<sup>5</sup> In June of 2000, the RRCUS Code of Ethics was amended by the Board of Directors to read as follows: "II.4. Only dogs screened and certified clear of hip and elbow dysplasia by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals or similar registry shall be bred. (This provision applies to dogs born after January 1, 1996.) Breeders are encouraged to screen for all appropriate hereditary disorders." [Minutes of the June, 2000, Board of Directors meeting, RRCUS web site, Members Only section.] However, this change has never been implemented and the Code of Ethics that is presented on the club website and printed on the membership application is still the version that existed prior to this amendment.



# THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

## Online Stud Book

The American Kennel Club Stud Book is the official record of the pedigree of AKC registered dogs. Published monthly, the Stud Book documents the first time any AKC registered dog (male or female) is used to breed an AKC-registered litter of purebred dogs. Using the Stud Book, the full pedigree of any AKC registered dog may be determined.

### How to Read Stud Book Information

*Breed* | *Name* | *Sex:*  
*D - Dog (male)* | *Registration Number* | *Color* | *Studbook Issue Month and Year*

**COLLIES** | **CH FIELDS OF GOLD (D)** - **DL123456/01** - **BLK WH & TN** | **OCTOBER 2000**

*Date of birth* — **5-24-93**  
*Stud Book Date* — **2-94**  
**6-92**

**Sire: CH ELYSIAN FIELDS – DL234589/01**  
**Dam: LADY SPRINGFIELD – DL123458/01**  
**Owner: F PYNE - Breeder: F PYNE**

**CH FIELDS OF GOLD (D) – DL123456/01 – BLK WH & TN** **5-24-93**  
**Sire: CH ELYSIAN FIELDS – \* SCOTLAND**  
**Dam: LADY SPRINGFIELD – GERMANY**  
**Owner: F PYNE - Breeder: F PYNE**

*Birth Country (Foreign Dogs)*

*(\*) Accepted from a Foreign or Prior Registry*

### Color & Marking Abbreviations

AGT (Agouti)	DG (Deadgrass)	MSTD (Mustard)	SL (Seal)
APCT (Apricot)	DK (Dark)	MZL (Muzzle)	SLT PPR (Salt&Pepper)
BCKSN (Buckskin)	DKR (Darker)	ORG (Orange)	SLTE (Slate)
BDGR (Badger)	DLUT (Dilute)	OVRLY (Overlay)	SLVR (Silver)
BV (Buff)	DMNO (Domino)	PBLD (Piebald)	SMT (Smut)
BG (Beige)	DPL (Dapple)	PK (Pink)	SNDY (Sandy)
BHEIM (Blenheim)	DTCH (Dutch)	PLMNO (Palomino)	SPKLD (Speckled)
BL (Blue)	FCE (Face)	PLTM (Platinum)	SPTD (Spotted)
BLK (Black)	FN (Fawn)	PNTO (Pinto)	SPTS (Spots)
BLK-TN (Black & Tan)	FN(ISB) (Isabella)	PRD (Predominant)	STG (Stag)
BLNK-BCK (Blanket-Back)	FRNSHS (Furnishings)	PRTI (Parti-Colored)	STL (Steel)
BLTK (Blue Tick)	GLD (Gold)	PTCHD (Patched)	TIG (Tiger)
BLTN (Belton)	GLDN (Golden)	PTCHS (Patches)	TKD (Ticked)
BRDL (Brindle)	GR (Gray)	PTS (Points)	TN (Tan)
BRDLG (Brindling)	GRZL (Grizzle)	BY (Ruby)	TPS (Tips)
BRN (Brown)	HLQN (Harlequin)	RCH (Rich)	TRI (Tri-Colored)
BRNZ (Bronze)	INK BL (Inky Blue)	RD (Red)	TRM (Trim)
BSCT (Biscuit)	IRSH PIED (Irish Pied)	RDSH (Reddish Brown)	TWNY (Tawny)
BVR (Beaver)	ISB (Isabella)	RDTK (Red Tick)	UNDRCT (Undercoat)
CAFÉ (Café Au Lait)	LMN (Lemon)	RN (Roan)	WICP (With Cap)
CHCL (Charcoal)	LT (Light)	RST (Rust)	WHTN (Wheaten)
CHLT (Chocolate)	LVR (Liver)	SBL (Sable)	WH (White)
CHMPA (Champagne)	MALT BRDL (Maltese Brdl)	SBLG (Sabbling)	WLDBR (Wild Boar)
CHSTNT (Chestnut)	MHGY (Mahogany)	SDG (Sedge)	WLFGR (Wolfgray)
CMN (Cinnamon)	MKGS (Markings)	SDL (Saddle)	YLW (Yellow)
CPR (Copper)	MNTL (Mantle)	SDL-BCK (Saddle-Back)	
CR (Cream)	MRL (Merle)	SESME (Sesame)	
DBL (Double)	MSK (Mask)	SHD (Shading)	



RHODESIAN RIDGEBACKS

JANUARY 2000

**ASLAN'S KRUGERRAND (D) - HM582553/03 - RD WHTN** 4-6-95  
Sire: CH ASLAN'S DESERT SON OF JENTON SC - HM393054/07 10-93  
Dam: CH KIMANIS PROCLAMATION - HD627158 12-91  
Owner: J MARTIN, D MARTIN - Breeder: S HOUGHTON, C DAVIES

**AZANIA ISABELLA FLAME (B) - HM634961/01 - WHTN** 3-6-96  
Sire: AZANIA EL REY DE MEDIODIA - HM486394/01 12-95  
Dam: FLAMBOYAN AZANIA DASABI - HM526285/04 7-96  
Owner: F ARNIELLA - Breeder: F ARNIELLA

**BAYETE'S SABAKA (B) - HM757943/07 - RD WHTN** 3-9-98  
Sire: NAN-NUK'S GUARDIAN TUG - HM579756/01 3-97  
Dam: NAN-NUK'S CASHS PINKY - HM494183/06 11-97  
Owner: M PETRIZZA - Breeder: P MILLER

**BRONDIKI NEW KID ON THE BLOCK (D) - HM689726/07 - RD WHTN** 12-24-96  
Sire: CH BRONDIKI CALIFORNIA VICE - HD887107 2-96  
Dam: BRONDIKI HOLIDAY SPIRIT - HM393902/04 12-95  
Owner: R CICH - Breeder: R CICH

**CH CALLUNA KILLIAN OF RIMFIRE (B) - HM693799/02 - WHTN** 12-12-96  
Sire: CH CLAPTON Z MASAI JC - HM506982/01 12-96  
Dam: CH CALLUNA TEYSHA CALIENTE - HD723370 4-95  
Owner: L ROBINSON, C ROBINSON, H QUEENER - Breeder: E QUEENER, H QUEENER

**CH CALLUNA KUUMBA Y'ALL CD SC (B) - HM555390/06 - WHTN** 12-27-94  
Sire: CH LOMO ROJO KUBWA ASKARI IMANI JC - HD645441 6-92  
Dam: CH CALLUNA TEYSHA CALIENTE - HD723370 4-95  
Owner: S ADLER, E ADLER, H QUEENER - Breeder: E QUEENER, H QUEENER

**ELSA THE LION-HEARTED (B) - HM552567/08 - RD WHTN** 12-13-94  
Sire: CH BART SIMPSON OF CANYON CREEK - HD850141 8-92  
Dam: CANYON CREEK CASANDRA - HD894618 8-92  
Owner: S HARRISON, K HARRISON - Breeder: J UNDERWOOD, D UNDERWOOD

**JOHOKWE HENRY (D) - HM838142/01 - RD WHTN** 2-26-92  
Sire: NDUNA SUDI VIR SIMBA SAFARI - \*  
Dam: JOHOKWE GALA - \*  
Owner: J VANSELOW - Breeder: R BROOK-RISSE

**CH JUBALEE-SHADORDG RHYTHMNBLUES JC (B) - HM663845/01 - RD WHTN** 9-1-96  
Sire: CH JUBA LEE'S MANDELA OF OAKHURST - HM363810/02 8-93  
Dam: CH SHADOWRIDGE BLUE MOON JUBA LEE - HM536158/08 12-96  
Owner: L HELLINGE, K WILLIAMS - Breeder: L HELLINGE, K WILLIAMS

**KABAKA BAYETE MORROCCO (D) - HM768969/02 - WHTN** 5-14-98  
Sire: CH TALLTIMBERS AUGUSTUS BROWN JC - HM531016/01 2-98  
Dam: CH KING'S KABAKA SHABA - HM395263/04 7-94  
Owner: M PETRIZZA, M PETRIZZA - Breeder: D DAUGHERTY, M DAUGHERTY