

Letter from Germany

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Essen, Germany
August 28, 1951
Rosastrasse 2
Censenkirchener Bergwerks AG
(Mines.inc.)

Rommewinkel
Director of Properties

President of the German
Shorthair Association

R. A. Hirschnitz
102 Alameda de las Pulgas
Redwood City, California USA

Dear Mr. Hirschnitz:

To your letter I give the following information (explanations):

The shorthaired German Pointer ... German Shorthair ..., frequently called German Pointer in foreign countries, is the oldest race of German pointers. The Old German Pointer, which was very close to the old Spanish Pointer, and which came from Spain and France to Germany, was a heavier, quieter and slower dog, which had to have very good qualities as a pointer, so that partridges and pheasants could be caught with a net before the gun was known. After the introduction of firearms in the years 1600 .. 1800, the quality of the pointer was also especially furthered. (advanced and strengthened)

In the early part of the nineteenth century, especially after 1848, much pointer-blood was introduced into these dogs. The intention was to mix the advantages of the Old German Pointer with the one-sided (exclusive) swift Pointer. This indeed went to the second-daughter-generation; but, then some very undesirable throw-backs entered in, so that at the end of the eighties and beginning of the nineties, with the start of the movement toward the 'utility dog', one went back more and more to the blood which, in the pure form as inherited from the Old German dog, had provided and most reliably passed on talents for versatile pointing, sureness in tracking, keenness for wild game, readiness to retrieve, and readiness to take to water. So through conscious breeding for versatile performance came into being the work-type German Shorthair of today.

In the making of the versatile, perfected dog, the Lemgoer (iron-grey) and the 'Hoppenrader' (brown and iron-grey) had the greatest breeding influence under the patriarchs of short-hair breeding. Because of its versatile usefulness and its noble appearance the German-Shorthair has enjoyed a popularity which has carried it to the very top of German Pointers.

.....(Translator's note: the rest of the letter contained references to German magazines and periodicals pertaining to the German Shorthaired Pointer and Hunting.)

Mit Waidmannsheil
(Hunter's greeting)

Signed: Rommewinkel