



REAL SOCIEDAD CANINA DE ESPAÑA

Declarada de Utilidad Pública por Real Orden del Ministerio de Fomento de 27-02-1918
Miembro de la Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) desde 1912

www.rsce.es



XARNEGO-PODENCO VALENCIANO

PROPOSAL OF THE RACIAL STANDARD

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

Cave paintings in the Neolithic times in the south east of Spain show shapes of animals clearly identified as hounds and, later on, in the Iberian times, numerous pieces of craftwork show a type of hound similar to the current Xarnego. It is curious that all the territories occupied by the Iberian tribes practically were in the same area of the breed from immemorial times until now. Roman invasion left many samples with artistic representations (sculpture, painting, mosaics...) of hounds hunting that were similar to ours all along the Mediterranean area, vertebral axis of their empire.



Romans were afterwards, but before, Phoenicians and Greeks helped to spread the autochthonous hounds in a probable route from west to east. That helped to participate in the creation of other lineage of dogs in the Mediterranean area of erect ears.

It is possible that the Xarnego is the oldest of the peninsular hound dogs. It represents an original and generous type blood lender. It has been described by different cynophile and cynegetic authors all over the Mediterranean area. Due to the historical precedents and to the morphological type the dog currently has, the Xarnego represents a genuine type of hound that has known how to survive the stimulus of other exogenous influences. Thanks no doubt to the reason of its own existence: its full functional capacity in the geographical environment typical of it all over the centuries.

It is paradoxical that it is the last representant of its typology that knocks the door to be official in the 21 century.

1. GENERAL APPEARANCE.

Lupoid, related to wild canidae, conical head, erect ears, medium size, sublongilineal, harmonious, solid and muscular poise. Mild, alive, arrogant, dynamic, self-confident, completely faithful and closed to its owner. The breed has three faneroptic varieties; smooth, wire and sedeño-typed for the type.

2. ZOOTECHNICAL FUNCTION.

The main function is the hunting of the hunting the rabbit in all its modalities and lands, talented in hunting and perfectly adapted to the great variety of different ecosystems in the Mediterranean area and specially in Spanish peninsular levant and the Ebro valley. It has a great hearing and sight, with a wonderful and excellent sense of smell, making of him a versatile hunting dog. It has a legendary resistance to extreme heat and is able to hunt in a dry environment, virtues that have made of it the most appreciated hound by the hunters in these areas, who do not doubt in using it for small game, and even in big game.



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3. MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

I-HEAD:

Conical, truncated in its base. Total proportion in relation to the body. Relatively wide base matching the general structure of the head. Substantial in males, more slender in females.

- Skull: Slightly longer than wide, subconvex facial profile, little pronounced stop. Marked occipital.
- Face: Cheeks are fleshy and consistent, clean and stuck to the bone. Subconvex facial profile. The face is slightly longer than the skull. Wide, open and deep nose, the colour fitting the coat.
- Well developed jaws, strong and complete with 42 teeth correctly set, scissor bite.
- Thin lips and the mucosa having a similar colour to the nose.
- Small, oblique, almond eyes, with a colour fitting the coat and the nose; well pigmented eyelids; dynamic, intelligent, lively sight.
- High set ears, with wide base, perfectly triangular with rounded points, moderately fleshy, so solid, moving and absolutely erect when alert. With a good size in relation to the head but not giving the appearance of being too big.

II-NECK:

Medium length, slightly curled in the insertion with the head, without dewlap, perfectly rounded, sticky skin, tense, arrogant and elegant.

III-BODY:

In both sexes, the sensation is of a dog longer than tall, this characteristic is more pronounced in females.

- Withers: Wide set in the neck, powerful, not very marked.
- Back: Straight, long, powerful, moderately fleshy. Straight dorso-lumbar line.
- Loin: Long, wide, muscular.
- Croup: Long, slightly inclined.
- Chest: Deep, long, quite wide, developed, long and arched ribs.
- Belly: Tucked-up, not excessively in the flanks, with the skin very stuck.

From all the mentioned concerning the chest, it must be clearly deduced the great thoracic capacity of this breed, having big and powerful lungs, something essential to do a constant work with fatigue races that require a quick aerobic recovery in a short time, in an extremely hot atmosphere.

- Tail: Low set, the point reaches the hock at rest, moderate thickness, being thicker in the base and thinner in the point. It has a crescent shape.

IV-LIMBS:

- **Forequarters:** Symmetrical, proportioned, well set, good bones, solid elbow and carpus, parallel to the body. Forefeet are, very often, slightly left. Scarcely oblique metacarpus. Rounded feet with straight toes, moderately curved, solid, joined, neither catfeet nor harefeet. Hard footpad but flexible.

- **Hindquarters:** Well set, perfectly solid, with a very much accused muscular development in the thighs, open angulation in the hock, medium high, strong and robust tendons. Hindfeet have the same characteristics as the forefeet.



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V-GAIT:

Agile and fast trot when searching for hunt, when running it is a very fast gallop, maximum expression of those characteristics of agility and speed.

VI-SKIN:

Moderately thick, stuck to the body, not having creases, the colour fitting that of the coat.

VII-COAT:

Xarnego has three very-well-defined types of hair:

- Smooth hair, about 1,5 cm. long, with a difference of $\pm 0,5$ in the lower part of the neck and back part of the thigh. Straight shiny hair. Hair-covered tail. Some dogs have plumes in the tail and forequarters.
- Wire hair, longer than 2,5 cm., defined as bearded, with cerdeño-type hair in body and also in tail, not being longer than in the beard. Straight or semicircular hair, rough, slightly rising over the skin. There is no undercoat.
- Sedeño-type hair, from 4 cm., although it can be shorter in several zones of the body. Sedeño-type dogs have no hair in the beard but do have in the rest of the body, specially in hindquarters, tail and chest, where it is more abundant in winter, being even lush. The hair is thin, flexible, soft and silky, the long ones are sometimes curly. There is no undercoat.

VIII-COLOUR:

All the colours typical of the breed are admitted: the common ones are cinnamon, fawn, black, chocolate, monochromatic or preferably mixed with white in the face, neck, feet and belly. Likewise, it is strange to see predominantly trout or mottled white bottom layer coat. The influence of faces wearing a tie or a collar, feet and with the tip of the tail white is very high in dogs of any colour.

IX-SIZE AND WEIGHT:

- Males, from 55 to 61cm. with an approximate weight of ± 20 kg.
- Females from 50 to 57cm. with an approximate weight of ± 18 kg.

These weights are taken considering the period of rest.

During the hunting season, it can vary up to ± 4 kg. per dog, which denotes the great fatigue they have when doing their work.

X-FAULTS:

- Eliminating:

Prognathic or enognathic bites.

Monorchid or cryptorchid.

Lacking of dental pieces.

Drooping lips.

Drooping ears.

Any signal that denotes mating with similar breeds, long head with no stop, whippety bellies, atypical tails.

Aggressiveness.



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- Penalizing:

Dogs with very high limbs.

Dewclaws.

Saddle backs.

Tails lying plain on the loin or completely curled up over it.

Limbs with evident deformities either at rest or when moving.

Excessively easily scared.