

Dear reader,

As of 1 June 2014, there is a mandatory DNA parentage verification test for pedigree dogs in the Netherlands. This means that the mandatory test applies to **all breeding from 1 June 2014 onwards**. DNA samples will be taken from all pedigree dogs and their parents, verifying that the registered parents are indeed the actual parents, and also to enable a much more specific work method for improving the health of pedigree dogs in the Netherlands. We hope that you as the owner of a breeding dog outside of the Netherlands will cooperate with this parentage verification test.

How does the test work?

For the parentage test, both parent animals have to have an ISAG2006 profile. The Raad van Beheer collaborates with Certagen GmbH (subsidiary of the “Van Haeringen Group”), which does DNA profiling and parentage verification testing. If a Dutch breeder wants to use a foreign breeding dog, a package can be ordered on the Raad van Beheer website. The package contains a form to be filled in, two Genotek® swabs and an invoice. The swab is used to take a sample of DNA material by swiping it along the mucous membrane of the mouth. No “biological material” is involved as mucous is taken from the mouth. Therefore, the swab can be sent directly via regular mail to Certagen GmbH. All parts of the form have to be completed. It is important that the identity of the breeding dog is checked while taking the sample, by reading the microtransponder (chip) or tattoo. The forms then have to be signed.

Though this procedure works well and is held in high regard by many, you can also have the test done via your veterinarian at a laboratory of your choice. If your veterinarian wants to take a DNA sample to be used for the mandatory DNA parentage test, it is important to meet the following requirements:

- The veterinarian (or laboratory) must provide the correct materials to extract, store and send the DNA sample to the laboratory.
- The veterinarian will check the identity of the dog before taking the sample, and will provide a document in which they state having done so.
- The veterinarian will extract the DNA and send the DNA in a sealed envelope to an accredited laboratory (ISO17025). Please visit the Raad van Beheer website for a list of laboratories: www.raadvanbeheer.nl/fokkerij-gezondheid-gedrag-en-welzijn/dna-afstammingscontrole/geaccrediteerde-laboratoria
- The DNA profile has to meet the **ISAG2006** requirements.

Please take into account the processing time: The breeder will enclose a copy of the DNA certificate when sending the breeding registration or the registration of birth of the nest.

Does your breeding dog have a DNA profile yet?

If your breeding dog already has an ISAG 2006 DNA profile, you may be able to use it for the parentage verification test. In that case, give a clearly legible copy to the breeder.

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Please note: the requirement applies to **all dogs** entered into the Nederlands Hondenstamboek (NHSB, Dutch Dog Pedigree Register). This means dogs without a clear parentage cannot be registered and thus also not be issued a pedigree. If your dog breeds with a Dutch female, you will need to be able to give a clearly legible copy of the ISAG2006 DNA profile to the breeder of the nest.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Raad van Beheer op Kynologisch Gebied in Nederland (Dutch Kennel Club)