Presentation

June 2025

Award
Won **first place** in the animal welfare award in 2023 in Lower Saxony, Germany.

Vets assume responsibility for our fellow creatures

Contents

What is QUEN ?

QUEN – Qualzucht-Evidenz Netzwerk

QUEN – Torture Breeding Evidence Network

The **torture breeding evidence network (QUEN)** is a non-profit organisation founded in 2021 crossing borders with a concentrated **network of experts** from the fields of veterinary medicine, biology, genetics, law and animal welfare making their knowledge regarding breed deformities caused by breeding (torture breeding) available to all.

The legal entity is the non-profit limited company **„Qualzucht-Evidenz Netzwerk (QUEN) gGmbH"** with its registered office located in Himmelpforten, Germany.

The nub of numerous projects is the development of the **QUEN database**, which aims to support veterinary authorities, courts and political decision makers effectively, as well as vets and breeders to implement animal protection law abiding standards.

QUEN database
www.qualzucht-datenbank.eu

Who is QUEN ?

Founders and Partners

Diana Plange
Expert veterinarian for animal welfare and animal welfare ethics, former state animal welfare officer for Berlin

Dr. jur. Christoph Maisack
Former judge, chairman of the German Judicial Society for Animal Welfare (DJGT)

Walter M. Hohl
QUEN Managing Director

Who is QUEN ?

Scientific Advisory Board

Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. vet. Achim Gruber
Manager of the Institute for Animal Pathology
at the FU in Berlin

Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. vet. Stephanie Krämer
Veterinarian and professor for animal welfare
at the Justus-Liebig-University in Gießen

Dr. med. vet. Anna Laukner
Expert veterinarian for public veterinary services
and expert veterinarian for animal welfare.

Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. vet. Gerhard Oechtering
Manager of the Small Animal Clinic at the
University of Leipzig

Dr. med. vet. Markus Baur
Lecturer at the Bundeswehr (German Federal Armed
Forces) University in Munich, expert on reptiles

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Jens Bülte
Full professor for criminal law at the
University of Mannheim

Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. vet. Michael Fehr
Former manager of the Clinic for Domestic Animals
and Reptiles of the Foundation Veterinary University
of Hanover

Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. vet. Holger Martens
Full professor for physiology in the specialist field of
veterinary medicine at the FU in Berlin

Dr. med. vet. Madeleine Martin
Veterinary health officer and state animal welfare
officer for Hesse

Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. vet. Andrea Meyer-Lindenberg
Former chairwoman of the Surgical and Gynecological
Small Animal Clinic of the LMU

Dr. med. vet. Anna-Caroline Wöhr
Acad. manager at the chair for animal welfare,
ethology, animal hygiene and animal husbandry of the
veterinary faculty of the LMU Munich

The current status of the advisory board and background to their expert knowledge
can be found at : www.qualzucht-datenbank.eu/team/

5

QUEN – Projects

https://qualzucht-datenbank.eu

Where is QUEN heading ?

1. Development of the **QUEN database** and expansion of the **fact sheets** regarding the specific deformities caused by torture breeding making current animal welfare laws easier to understand.

2. The further development of **DiaQUEN** in order **to categorise strains on health** (taking a leaf out of Holland's and Switzerland's book) allowing an objective evaluation of the health strains on animals caused by breeding.

3. The provision of easily accessible and free **advice for veterinary inspection offices** with the aim of reducing the workload of the enforcement authorities and in so doing reduce the deficits in official animal welfare and to implement the animal welfare national objective effectively (Art 20a GG)

4. To make a contribution to the **harmonisation of international animal welfare standards** providing cross-border, standardised frameworks for breeding, showing and trading with animals.

QUEN – Projects

https://qualzucht-datenbank.eu

In the coming years QUEN will be focussing on the development and expansion of the following projects in order to support animal welfare in a sustainable manner

QUEN database
scientific findings, reports, verdicts

DiaQUEN
web application for the evaluation of breeding animals

QUEN Advice
advice and support for veterinary inspection offices

QUEN – Database

https://qualzucht-datenbank.eu

Database

The QUEN database provides a consecutive, amended number of evidence based, structured **sources of information**, which are subject to strict quality management by the scientific advisory board and are **recognised by the courts as expert opinions**.

The data and information are updated continually in accordance with current scientific information.

Our work explained in a short video

Main focus | Digital content

- Collecting **scientific knowledge** regarding breeding related deformities, predisposition and illnesses

- **Fact sheets** about the deformities of different kinds of animals and breeds

- **Legal foundations**, current verdicts and specific examples

- Access to **reports and literature** for vets, veterinary inspection offices, political decision makers and the interested public

- Professional exchange with scientific institutions

QUEN – Database

https://qualzucht-datenbank.eu

Fact sheets

The **fact sheets with the specific deformities** caused by torture breeding will be compiled for animals and breeds sporadically.

Structure

- Description of the deformities/breeds
- Possible problems/syndromes
- Symptoms and prognostic value
- Physical/psychological strains
- Inheritance, genetics, known genetic testing, if applicable
- Diagnosis
- Animal welfare evaluation (DE/AT/CH)
- Verdicts / references (international)
- Necessary and possible regulations from a veterinary perspective

Home ⌄   QUEN Projekte ⌄   Tierarten ⌄   QUEN Qualzucht-Evidenz Netzwerk   Neuigkeiten ⌄   Infomaterial ⌄   Kontakt ⌄

17
04.2025

17.04.2025 | Kategorien: Merkblätter Hunde

Fact sheet dog breed
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

FOR THE ENGLISH VERSION **CLICK HERE [...]**

Weiterlesen ›

04
01.2024
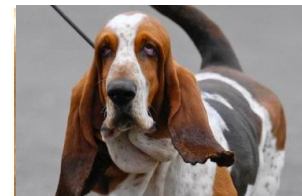
04.01.2024 | Kategorien: Merkblätter Hunde

Fact sheet dog breed
English Bulldog

FOR THE ENGLISH VERSION, **CLICK HERE [...]**

Weiterlesen ›

24
04.2023

24.04.2023 | Kategorien: Merkblätter Hunde

Fact sheet dog breed
Basset Hound

FOR THE ENGLISH VERSION, **CLICK HERE [...]**

Weiterlesen ›
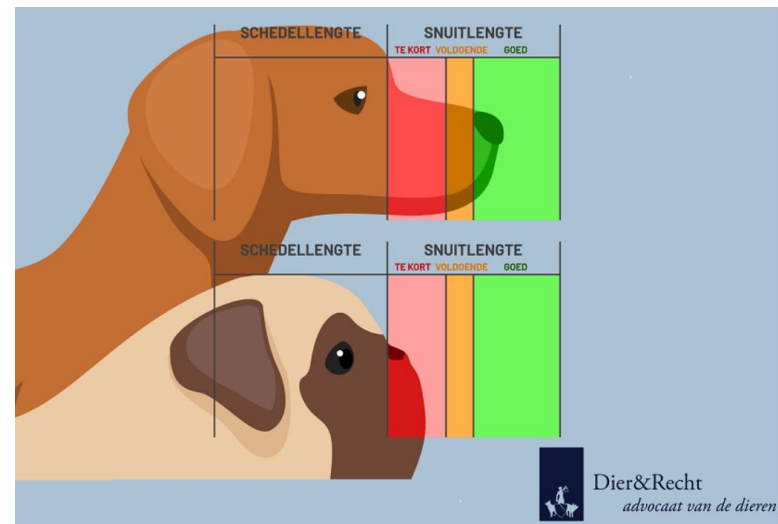
DiaQUEN - Project

Web application

The web based application **DiaQUEN** should make a neutral, cross-border and objective evaluation of strains caused by breeding in animals used for breeding.

The aim is to prepare **a tool to judge the suitability for breeding and showing**.

The current project DiaQUEN, which is still being developed is being realised in cooperation with the authorities from different countries. It is based on the traffic light system for brachycephalic dogs from Holland, as well as the Swiss evaluation model.

Stress categories from 0 to 3 provide a classification of breeding related deformities of all kinds of animals.

Example: The Dutch traffic light system for brachycephalic dogs

QUEN-Advice

Advice

QUEN runs a nationwide **advice service for veterinary inspection offices** and education of the public regarding possible breeding deformities in all kinds of animals and breeds.

The aim is to advise and support vets, veterinary authorities, political decision makers and the interested public in the implementation of current legal standards in the field of torture breeding in a practical and evidence based manner that is legally watertight.
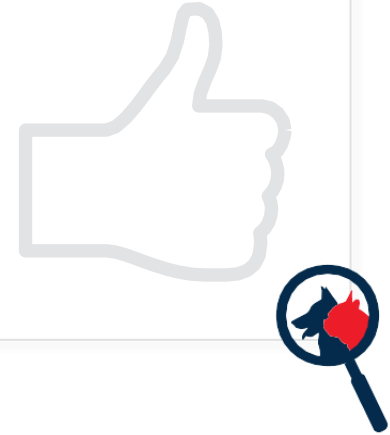
Main focus

1. Specialist advice regarding breeding related deformities
2. Support and consultation in questions regarding verification and enforcement questions
   - Model requirements for showing
   - Support in the formulation of authoritative measures
   - Provision of legal reports and jurisdiction
3. Digital service platform
   - Online knowledge database, email support
   - Tools for case evaluation (e.g. checklists)
4. Building networks
   - Cooperation with universities, trade associations and NGOs
   - Promoting scientific publications and dissertations
   - Sharing experiences cross-border and regardless of departmental boundaries

11

QUEN – Successes

What has QUEN achieved until now?

1. Project manageress received the **animal welfare award 2023** of Lower Saxony, Germany

2. Until now **over 50 fact sheets** have been prepared; 46 of those have been published (status as of May 2025)

3. Homepage access: serious **visitors 2,000 per month**

4. Advice: **3-5 consult enquiries** from veterinary inspection offices **weekly**

5. Fact sheets **recognised by the courts as expert reports** e.g.

   – Administrative court in Stade – Ref. 11 ME 221/22 (resolution from 25.10.2022), *breeding ban for French and English bulldogs*

   – Administrative court Düsseldorf – Ref. 23 K 7084/22 (verdict from 05.11.2024), *showing ban for dogs with deformities caused by torture breeding*

   – State administrative court Vienna, LVwG Wien VGW-001/024/12790/2024-8 of 27.01.2025, *breeding ban for short nosed and short headed cats (here: Persian cat, Peke-face type)*

6. Project related support and donations from individual ministries, state animal welfare officers and animal welfare organisations

7. Recommendation by the BMEL and the Federal Chamber of Veterinarians

QUEN – Contact

https://qualzucht-datenbank.eu

Project Manageress

Diana Plange

Expert veterinarian for animal welfare
and animal welfare ethics

**Qualzucht-Evidenz Netzwerk
(QUEN) gGmbH**

Löhe 10, D-21709 Himmelpforten
Tostedt magistrate's court | HRB5256

Mobil: +49 171 77 433 40
info@qualzucht-datenbank.eu
www. qualzucht-datenbank.eu

Do you share our commitment to
animal welfare? Support our mission