Since 1974 I bred with prefix "della Zagara", changed then in "Bonsai". After innumerable years dedicated to the breed-selection and to show my dogs that gave me many satisfactions with more than 120 titles of "champion", I settled to become judge.

Surely the Judge' activity is very demanding because involve the duty of value a dog under point of view morphological but also to give a valuation about the breeding, recommending well the breeder to correct all that is wrong in his dog under the reproductive point of view.

People asks me what is the greatest honour found in a Yorkie for show and what is the the worst flaw.

Bearing in mind that in the original English standard it's given the highest score to the texture and to the colours, I believe that both the advantage and the defect should be sought exactly in this context.

Finding, for example, in a ring, we must start from a group of dogs considered correct under point of view morphological, (that is the right size, well-constructed, with correct heads and good moving) and extrapolate the best one.

Is here that it makes the difference: on colours and on texture. We'll have to choice the dog with the best texture that will have to be silky that is with a coat flat and heavy (adherent to the body) and shining like steel, not inflated or flutting and from here to pass to evaluate the colours.

Is that the Blue that the Tan change in the YT continuously, change due to age but also to other many factors, for example to the food, to the exposure to the sun, to motherhood in females, etc. The blue in the YT is difficult, I'd say almost exceptional, that is uniform.

It may, in fact, occur nuances clearer in some parts of body that, if minimum, are not penalized. The important thing is that the outer hair is uniform to the under one, that we can see raising the hair, in other words a coat that outwardly appears dark and, raising, is more clear, is incorrect. Also the Tan is evolving from the youth age, when is a mixed to gray hairs (no black), to the next age when become uniform, but never become too dark (block tan). The tan, in fact, must be intensely golden (golden tan)) never brown or red and clear gradually from root to the points. The only red shades allowed will be only around the ears, to the side of the skull and muzzle. As well penalized is the tan too clear, of straw colour (pale tan).

Well, the dog that will win, will be the one with the texture and colours that more reflect the standard.

Accordingly, the worst flaw that I can see is that one what concerns the colours and the texture.

Too often in the rings there are dogs treaties and retouched in the colours with chemical artifices, that go to the expense of the breed; a council should be given to the Clubs that expose scales in the ring, "fiscalize" the weight of a dog (if the tolerance is minimal) is useless and assessable to eye too.

A small surplus don't penalize the breed but a colour muffled up, invisible to the eye of "not specialists", besides being to be penalized by the Regulation is as more wrong for the "selection", so much declaimed by known breeders.

Sonia Pagani