

A Scoring System for the Evaluation of Jindo dogs' Temperament in the behavioral Test

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Introduction: Although Jindo dogs have been considered as one of the pure-bred dogs of Korea, they were rarely analyzed objectively in various behavioral aspects. This study was conducted to collect objective data on Jindo dog's behavioral traits and make the scoring system to evaluate reactivity in each behavior.

Materials and methods: Healthy 24 Jindo dogs, aging from 26 days to 8 months, and 33 adult Jindo dogs, aging from 5 to 6 years, were observed and recorded in the behavioral test. Also, 12 Jindo puppies were observed and recorded from 7 to 13 weeks afterbirth in the interval of one week.

Results: As a result of testing, 141 observations were made. All of the participants were exposed to the 12 different behavioral tests. All of the dogs were videotaped and photographed during the testing period for further analysis. Based on the recorded data, various behavioral traits were classified into 9 categories, which include "contact", "offensive", "fearfulness", "startle", "playfulness", "submissiveness", "curiosity/fearlessness about target", "curiosity /fearlessness about environment" and "marking". The reactivity of each behavior was analyzed in further details so that the scoring system could be created for objective evaluation.

Clinical relevance: Throughout this study, we hope that the scoring system could function as a fundamental data for evaluating behaviors of Jindo dogs as a response to differences in sex, hair color, environment, etc.

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