



Weatherbys Scientific,
Irish Equine Centre,
Johnstown, Co. Kildare
Ireland

Press Release

For Immediate Release

For more information contact Ian Sanders isanders@weatherbys.ie

The Kennel Club to recognise genetic test results generated by Weatherbys Scientific

Weatherbys Scientific is pleased to announce that the Kennel Club will accept canine CombiBreed™ genetic test results generated by Weatherbys Scientific in partnership with VHLGenetics. Selected results will be recorded on the Kennel Club's registration database and will be accessible via the Kennel Club's online resource, Health Test Results Finder with indication if the tests are mandatory or strongly recommended for as part of the Assured Breeders Scheme.

Speaking for Weatherbys Scientific, Head of Commercial Operations, Ian Sanders said, "We are delighted to be working with the Kennel Club, we believe that we offer the most comprehensive and easy to navigate range of over 100 breed specific health and genetic trait packages for dogs. For many first-time breeders knowing which genetic tests are relevant to their breed and finding a genetic test provider can be confusing and daunting. We make canine genetics simple and accessible to improve the health and wellbeing of all dogs"

Dr Tom Lewis, Kennel Club Genetics Research Manager said "There are many genetic service providers both in the UK and internationally. We are pleased to add a laboratory with such a high reputation as Weatherbys Scientific to the test providers from which we will publically record the results of DNA testing."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

[About Weatherbys Scientific:](#)

Weatherbys Scientific commenced parentage testing thoroughbred horses using blood typing technology in 1985, and established operations at a facility on the same site as the Irish Equine Centre in Johnstown, County Kildare, Ireland.

In 2000, the technology for parentage verification changed to Microsatellite DNA markers. We started offering parentage testing services for other species – bovine, ovine, canine, companion and exotics. As the level of scientific expertise developed in the business, so too did the suite of DNA based services offered, and in 2010 the laboratory commenced genotyping cattle using SNP technology. The team quickly developed a reputation for service and versatility and genotyped cattle using the Illumina 7k low density SNP chip in 2012.

Weatherbys Scientific's reputation for service has been strengthening over time. Close relationships were established with the Irish Cattle Breeders Federation (ICBF) in 2012 and 2013, and the Weatherbys Scientific team collaborated, through a research project, in the development of a customised SNP chip (IDB) for dairy and beef breeds, genotyping 25,000 cattle/week (the largest program of its type in the world).

Weatherbys Scientific has achieved significant technical milestones – it is an institutional member of the scientific body of the International Society of Animal Genetics (ISAG) and it is also accredited by the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) and is an accredited ICAR Data Interpretation centre. It is also approved with Propel certification by Illumina, and has been selected as an Illumina Beta testing laboratory for new technologies.

WeatherbysScientific.com

About the Kennel Club:

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare and training. Its objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners.

It runs the country's largest registration database for both pedigree and crossbreed dogs and the Petlog database, which is the UK's biggest reunification service for microchipped animals. The Kennel Club is accredited by UKAS to certify members of its Assured Breeder Scheme, which is the only scheme in the UK that monitors breeders in order to protect the welfare of puppies and breeding bitches. It also runs the UK's largest dog training programme, the Good Citizen Dog Training Scheme and accredits dog trainers and behaviourists through the Kennel Club Accredited Instructors Scheme.

It licenses shows and clubs across a wide range of activities, which help dog owners to bond and enjoy life with their dogs. The Kennel Club runs the world's greatest dog show, Crufts, and the Discover Dogs event at ExCeL London, which is a fun family day out that educates people about how to buy responsibly and care for their dog.

The Kennel Club invests in welfare campaigns, dog training and education programmes and the Kennel Club Charitable Trust, which supports research into dog diseases and dog welfare charities, including Kennel Club Breed Rescue organisations that re-home dogs throughout the UK. The Kennel Club jointly runs health screening schemes with the British Veterinary Association and, through the Charitable Trust, funds the Kennel Club Genetics Centre at the Animal Health Trust, which is at the forefront of pioneering research into dog health. The Kennel Club Cancer Centre at the Animal

Health Trust (AHT) contributes to the AHT's well-established cancer research programme, helping to further improve dog health.

www.kennelclub.org.uk