

THE MINIPLI

The Minipli is genetically a Longhair cavy but it also carries curly genes (derived from Lunkarya) and rex genes (derived from Alpaca) and it has been selected to have a slower-growing, shorter, weaker coat than conventional longhairs.

This combination of factors produces a semi-longhaired, curly-coated cavy with characteristics that differentiate it from other longhairs, one that appeals to people that like longhairs but do not have the time, skills or inclination to keep them in full coat and who are also attracted by the curls. Specifically:

Coat length should be such that it only just reaches the board even without being cut (which it must not be). The coat grows more slowly than on other longhairs, at approximately half the rate, so that the length of U/5 and 5/8 exhibits will be much shorter than in those of other longhair breeds. The frontal (known as the ‘**fringe**’) is also much shorter and weaker than on other longhairs, so that it flops a little from the head in the style of a fringe but it will never cover the whole face. **Chops** are short, never of a length to reach the board, and have a slightly fuzzy, harsh feel. The overall appearance of the cavy should be of a rounded effect (when viewed from above), looking neat and tidy.

The cavy should be covered with a large number of tiny **corkscrew curls** all over the body, these being tighter than those of the Lunkarya. The **coat texture** is sufficiently harsh that these curls stand out from the body, meaning that it is not possible to attempt to show the cavy with a parting; but the coat is much softer than on the Lunkarya, and this contributes to the tighter curls.

Accordingly, the Minipli can be distinguished from the Lunkarya by a shorter, more slow-growing coat; shorter frontal (fringe) and chops; softer coat and tighter curls. Its shorter coat, corkscrew curls and the difficulty in maintaining any form of parting make it clearly different from the Alpaca.

Head, eyes, ears and body type are as expected for the Lunkarya and Alpaca.