



CAT BEHAVIOURAL AND PERSONALITY STUDY = THE KISPET

Questionnaire directed to cat owners made by University of Helsinki

3 sections:

Behaviour

Background

Health

Key study interests:

variation & structure of personality, environmental factors, genetics

Why study cats?

Behaviour problems a major reason for relinquishment

Selecting the right cat to a right home

Environmental factors: simple way to improve cat welfare

Genetics and heredity of behavior: useful in cat breeding, knowledge on genes and pathways

Why KISPET?

- Studies on cat behaviour sparse
- KISPET based on Fe-BARQ survey
- Further developed with cat experts: animal behaviourists, veterinarians, Finnish pedigree cat organisation, and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Companion and Hobby Animal Welfare Council)
- Aiming for the largest data collected on cats
- Allows comparing life style and behavior of cats between countries
- Environmental background of behavior poorly known
- Detailed background section for studying tens of environmental factors
- Genetic background of behaviour poorly known
- Large sample size to study heritability in related individuals

