

## History of the Sphynx breed

Bijgedragen door Beheerder

At various times in history there have been found naked cats. At the beginning of the twentieth century Mr. Shinick from Albuquerque/New Mexico obtained two cats, probably the last ones, of a hairless breed kept by the local Indians. From photos we can conclude that although Dick and Nellie, as they were called, were naked they were no Sphynx.

From time to time spontaneous mutations took place leading to the birth of hairless kittens. In 1966 was a hairless kitten born from a domestic cat in Canada. The same thing happened in 1978 at a farm in Minnesota. These cats were used in the Sphynx breeding program. In 1978 were two naked females, Punkie and Paloma, and one male, Bambi, found in Ontario. These cats were used for the Sphynx breeding program of Mr. Hugo Hernandez. Mr. Hernandez imported the first Sphynx-cats from Canada into the Netherlands. He worked together with Mrs. Hannie Nathans.

At that time the Sphynx by its appearance encountered a lot of resistance. In the 1990's the Sphynx made its comeback. Although there aren't still many of them, there is more interest for the breed than ever.