

Successful selection against fearfulness in Swedish Rough Collie dogs

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INTRODUCTION

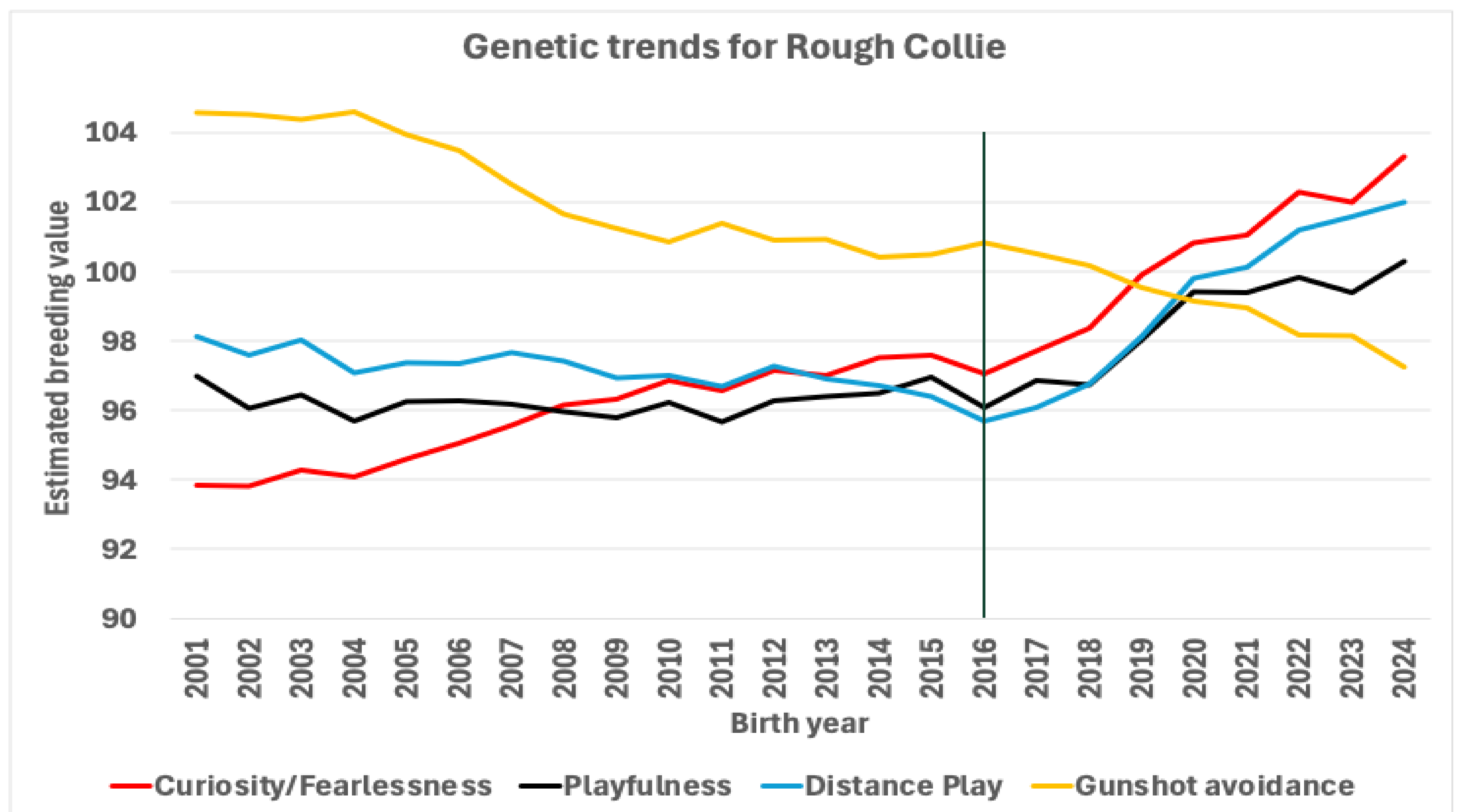
- The Rough Collie in Sweden has shown high levels of fear and anxiety in everyday life.
- On the initiative of the Swedish Collie breed club, estimated breeding values for several behavior traits, incl. Curiosity/Fearlessness, have been published since 2012.

AIM

- Because these EBVs have now been published for over 10 years, we wanted to evaluate if there has been a desired genetic decrease in fearfulness.

RESULTS

- The genetic improvement in Curiosity/Fearlessness increased about 5 years after the publication.
- Similar changes in slopes were found for Playfulness, Distance Play, and Gunshot avoidance.
- The change for Distance Play is a correlated selection response, because no EBVs were available.



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