

D & M Farm Kennel August 2007 Newsletter

The Need for Vaccinations

Special points of interest:

- Vaccinations
- Dog Food Products
- Feeding from the Table

The AVMA Journal (#208, 1996) says: "There is no scientific data to support a recommendation for annual administration of vaccines. Furthermore, repeated administration of vaccines may be associated with a higher risk of anaphylaxis and auto-immune diseases."

Historically it has been recommended that dogs receive vaccinations and boosters every year. Many veterinarians now agree with not giving your dog annual vaccinations.

Puppy vaccinations are considered needed to protect a puppy until their immune system is fully functioning around 16 weeks of age. It is now believed that vaccinations of adult dogs may be counter productive and even harmful. Many

of the skin problems, allergies, ear infections, etc.; are now suspected of being attributed to unnecessary vaccinations and booster shots.

It is believed that the annual overload caused by introducing modified live viruses may adversely affect the immune system.

Healthy dogs have natural immune systems that will normally prevent them from acquiring most viruses.

It is still very important, and required by most state and county

health departments, that your dog receive rabies vaccinations. It is also believed that the vaccine for Parvo virus is another vaccination that should be required. Two vaccines that are suspect, are the hepatitis and distemper vaccines. In addition, are vaccines for kennel cough, Lepto virus, and the Corona virus.

Discuss this issue with your veterinarian. Be aware that vaccinations have been a large income for many veterinary practices. If you do not feel your veterinarian is willing to discuss this issue and is adamant that all vaccines are required, you may want to consult another professional.

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Bogie in Marietta, OH

Bogie was picked up by his new family and now resides in Mari-



etta, Ohio. It has been reported that he is doing great with his potty training ... no accidents! And, he is loved by all in his new family. They think he is great !

The long trip home was very tiring and a long nap was in store for the tired little boy.

Bogie is from Sheba and Kaiser's May 2007 litter.



Kennel Expansion Underway!



Lighting up!

We are almost finished with the kennel expansion. The concrete was poured on 20 July and we have completed the walls and ceiling. The expanded maternity ward will have room for two extra kennel cages, which can be used for new mothers or sick or injured dogs. This will also give us room for added storage cabinets, as well as a much needed counter top.

The current puppy occupants aren't sure what all the noise is about, but they love the extra time we spend in the kennel, which permits more time and attention for them. We have had some of them hiding behind the kennel boxes when the saws were going. It was pretty noisy!

Even with the hot weather the rooms have remained cool. We have heavily insulated the walls

and ceiling to block the heat and the cold.

It is great to have the extra room!



Terry putting the finishing touches on the kennel.

What to Feed

We get lots of questions about what dry food is best to feed your new puppy. And, should you include canned food to the diet.

Today there are many good quality dog foods on the market. The primary thing you want to look for as the main ingredient is meat. When you look at the content label, meat should be listed first. Sometimes you will see meat 'byproducts'. Actually this isn't a bad thing. Many parts of an animal that humans do not consume are good for dogs. Remember, in the wild they eat the whole thing! As long as the label states, "complete and balanced" it meets the recommended diet by the USDA.

Domestication has had an affect on the digestive systems in dogs. It isn't wise to feed table foods. Feeding table scraps caused a blocked bowel in one of our adult dogs.

Dog food companies often market different grades of dog food.

We use Purina's mid-range dog food, Purina One. We find our dogs do well on it and there is a reduced amount of waste in the yards. This means they are digesting more.

One of our veterinarians sells Science Diet in their office. Our daughter prefers to feed Nutro Dog Food. And a friend of ours likes to feed purely organic foods.

My rule of thumb is to feed a quality dog food and observe the dog to see if their coat is shiny and their eyes are clear. I feed different flavors, meaning, lamb, beef, chicken. I believe this adds the variety needed to make sure they are getting a balanced diet.

I only feed Pedigree canned dog food to our pregnant mothers, lactating mothers, and puppies.

We do this for the added calories to their diet. It's fine to supplement your adult dog's diet with canned food. Chows typically do not overeat nor do they become overweight unless there is a medical condition. I do believe the dry dog food should be the primary

food source.

Occasional treats are also fine, but should be kept to a minimum. Our dogs are like children, they will eat the treats whenever offered and this can interfere with their consumption of their balanced food.

So, if you have questions concerning what to feed ... you can consult your veterinarian and/or go online and do some research on your own. The internet has a wealth of articles on the subject. Try to stick to independent research articles that are not tied to any one dog food company.

As long as your dog has a good coat; their teeth and gums appear healthy, and it seems to be happy, you are probably doing just fine.

Reference articles:

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/petcolumns/showarticle.cfm?id=368>

<http://www.doberdogs.com/foodcht1.html>

"There are many brands and types of dog food to choose from."



Table Scraps . . . Good or Bad?

Many human foods can be very dangerous to dogs. Small amounts of chocolate, onions, macadamia nuts and bread dough can be fatal when ingested.

Some argue that they have never had a problem with feeding their dog scraps. Consider yourself lucky. Our personal experience from feeding table scraps to one of our chows ended up in a blocked bowel. It was extremely

painful for the dog and also very painful to our wallet when the veterinary bill came in.

A good quality dog food will provide all the nutrients your dog will need. If you want to feed treats ... stick to dog treats. These are meant for dogs and are of no health risk. However, give them sparingly as occasional treats, not the mainstay of your dog's diet.

Dogs are very much like chil-

dren. They will crave what they get used to having and beg for treats when they associate it with something good.

Be a good responsible pet owner by managing your dog's diet.

Prevent overeating and the resulting added weight. Provide a good quality food which will promote good health, good teeth and gums, and a shiny coat.

Just like us humans . . . they are what they eat!

Sir Ceasar Simba in Marysville, OH



Ceasar is now in his new home. He is a puppy from Ceasar and Ginger's May 2007 litter.

He is a bundle of joy to his new



family. He is "awesome" and has made himself right at home in his new surroundings.

"We love to profile our puppies and see how they grow!"

Upcoming Litters

As of 13 August we have Ebony and Rosy in the maternity ward. Ebony is bred to Kaiser and Rosy is bred to Khan. This will be Rosy's first litter, so there is some anxiety there.

Midnight will be next with Ceasar's litter. She will be due

in September. Currently, no one is due in October. November is going to be busy with four litters due and one in December.

Thankfully, we were able to finish the kennel expansion, so we have plenty of room to accommodate everyone.

We are getting to the place that we have puppies of some age almost all the time and we love it. It is so rewarding watching them grow and seeing them go to their wonderful new homes. Our clientele are all such good people and lovers of chows. We are truly blessed!

Sassy in Mountain Home, ID



Mine, all mine!

Sassy is now settling into her new home in Mountain Home, Idaho. She is doing great with housetraining and loves all her new toys and attention she is getting. Her pet companions include a Llasa Apso and a Shitzu that she is giving a run for their money. They are both 13 years old and having a youngster around is bit overwhelming.

She is referred to as a "precious bundle of joy!"



Sassy in her new home.

Sassy is a puppy from Kaiser and Sheba's May 2007 litter.



I know I put it around here somewhere.

Lucy in Norwalk, CT

Some of our latest puppies!

Lucy is with her new family in Norwalk, CT. Although she does fuss a little at night, she has settled into her new family very well. Her two new human playmates wear her out during the day. You can tell by the picture she adores her new daddy figure.

Lucy is a puppy from Ginger and Ceasar.



Tory in Dublin, OH

Tory has a new home in Dublin, Ohio. It has been reported that she has far too many toys and is being completely spoiled. Tory denies all of it!

She has made her first trip to the vet and faired the trip well. She didn't mind the vet at all.

Tory is from the June litter from Misty and Kaiser. She is feisty and lovable.

Good Luck Tory. Keep everyone on their toes and make us proud in Dublin!



"I'm gonna get ya!"

Lucy in Broussard, LA

Lucy is now three years old and is a puppy from Sampson and Midnight's April 2004 litter.

She started out in Ohio and has now moved with her family to Louisiana. Her favorite activity is playing with the geckos. She knows not to eat them but has lots of fun chasing and playing with them.

Lucy has a quiet demeanor. She takes her time warming up to strangers, but once she does, the

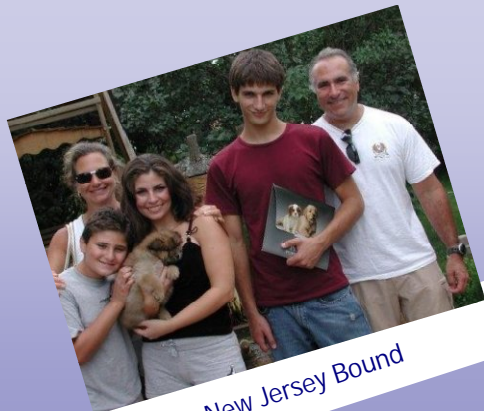
tail goes non-stop.

What a pretty girl!

She is a precious member of the family that loves to receive their attention and love.



Puppies with New Families



New Jersey Bound



Off to Las Vegas!

Here are some pictures taken at the time of pickup from our latest litters.



Remaining a Buckeye!



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Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament is our Goal

We're on the web!
www.dmfarm.com

*The goal of D & M Farm Kennel is to
breed quality Chow Chows
with exceptional temperament.
We want all of our puppies to be good
ambassadors of the breed"*

Leo and Daisy



Leo is a very sweet boy. He is a red and is one of our puppies from Sampson and Midnight. When he was about two weeks old another puppy in the litter accidentally poked Leo in the eye with it's claw. It resulted in him losing the eye. Since he lost the eyesight at such a young age it has never bothered him. We decided to keep him and use him as one of our breeding males. Leo throws gorgeous puppies with very nice coats and good body

structure. Leo weighs in at 68 lbs.

Daisy is one of our most friendly dogs. She never meets a stranger. She is a cream chow. Her coloring is very recessive so her coat color is almost white and she has pink around her eyes and lips. Although her tongue is bluish in color it is not the dark blue/black color of most chows. We intentionally mate her with a male of a dominant color, red.

Jewel, who we featured in our April issue under Grooming, is one of Leo and Daisy's puppies. Jewel is a cinnamon. We normally get reds and cinnamons in their litters and the puppies are of a good size and conformation. Obviously we think they are really nice since we kept one!

