

D & M Farm Kennel

March Newsletter

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Chows & Entropia - What is Entropia?

Entropia is the inward turning of an eyelid causing irritation to the eye by the lashes. Unfortunately, the Chow Chow breed is predisposed to this condition. The founding sire of the breed had Entropia, so it is a predisposition more than a genetic issue. Even if both parents show no indications, it can still appear in their offspring. We have been very fortunate with our bloodlines, that Entropia has shown up only a few times in all of the puppies we have produced.

Sometimes, Entropia is diagnosed when it is really something else. For example, a simple and temporary eye infection.

As Chow puppies mature, the development of their tear ducts

don't always keep up with their sudden growth spurts. You may notice tearing. This is because the duct is either blocked or isn't large enough yet to function properly. Often you will see this alternate between the eyes or come and go in one eye. Not all veterinarians are familiar with this. The puppies will normally outgrow this condition.

If you notice a discoloration to the tearing, then most likely there is an infection ongoing. It will often appear milky, with yellow or green mucous. By the time it is yellow or green, it is a full blown infection. This is easily treated with an antibiotic.

Entropia will cause constant tearing and will not go away. The inward rolling of the eyelid

cause the lashes to actually touch the eye. This causes the irritation. Generally, you can tell if Entropia is developing, by taking your thumb and pulling downward on the skin below the eye. You may then ascertain whether the lid is rolled inward.

Having all of these conditions checked by a chow knowledgeable and qualified veterinary is the best course of action. Being aware of these different conditions, can enhance your position as a pet owner to be more involved in your puppies care.

Entropia will normally manifest itself very early, and definitely before the puppy is a year old. If treated while young, it will only take a single stitch, known as an eye tack, to correct the

Leo in Indiana

This little guy now lives with his new family in Lynn, Indiana. He is growing like a little weed and is doing great.

His family reports that being outside is one of his favorite things. He loves to go for

walks and getting all the attention from the neighbors. He is very social and everyone thinks he looks just like a teddy bear.

Is it any wonder?

Leo is from the litter of Cesar and Ginger.



Special points of interest:

- Ear Infections
- Dominant Behavior
- Puppy Showcase

Maggie in Indiana

Maggie now lives in Indiana with her new family. She is adored by all. She has a wonderful personality and is becoming very social with all she meets.



Maggie loves to go outside and also loves to chew on anything she can find. Typical puppy!

Maggie is attending puppy classes. At first she was a little timid about approaching other dogs but now has overcome that and likes meeting the dogs in her class.

She was very easily potty trained and now sleeps through the night to the relief of her keepers.



Makes a great toothpick.

Maggie is from Pandy and Teddy's litter. What a cutie!



I have my coat on!

Those Cute Little Ears

Chows are not prone to ear infections but it can happen.

Ear infections can normally be detected by how your Chow acts. Chows are very stoic by nature so don't expect whining or crying. But, they will shake their head or frequently scratch at their ear. The ear may look moist inside and often will make the hair around the ear look wet which is from the excess wax production.

It is important not to get water inside the ear during baths. The moisture will create an excellent environment for bacteria to grow.

If infections are left untreated it can become a chronic condition.

In some dogs ear infections are believed to be caused by allergies. If your Chow suffers from chronic ear infections ask your veterinary about allergy medicine for your dog.

You can imagine how miserable it is to

"Most Chows are not prone to ear infections but it happens."

Khan in Texas

This handsome boy now lives in Texas. He is a gorgeous cream from Kaiser and Gracie's last litter. He looks so much like his daddy when he was a puppy!

Khan, as he is now named, is a gentle giant to the Pomeranian puppies in the house.



He sets by their pen and sniffs noses but is very gentle with the little ones.

Sounds like he is going to be another great ambassador for this incredible breed!

Sassy and Ginger in Idaho

Sassy and Ginger stick together like glue. The new sisters are great pals and prefer to sleep together rather than in their own beds.

Sassy is reported to now weigh in at 51 lbs and is the most gentle, loving, caring dog. She understands that Ginger is a baby and is very gentle when she plays “rough”.

Another member of the household is a 14 year old Lhasa Apso named Tiki. Tiki loves both Sassy and Ginger but when she gets tired of their antics she goes to her room for quiet.

Sassy is very protective of Ginger and it has turned out to be a match made in heaven. The girls are both great ambassadors.

Sassy is from a litter of Sheba and Kaiser. Ginger is from Misty and Sampson.

Show your stuff girls! Make us proud!



Dominant Behavior

Dominant behavior exhibited by your dog towards humans is never acceptable. Sometimes it appears to be cute, but can eventually manifest itself into unwanted and sometimes dangerous behavior.

It is important to set boundaries for your puppy very early. The longer you wait, the harder it will become.

You should begin teaching patience, which also teaches a puppy who is in charge. This can be done by making them sit and then offer them a treat. It's tough for a puppy, just like a child, to wait for things. They must be taught patience.

Another exercise is to make them sit while you are preparing their food and not allow them to go to the bowl until you say it is

okay. This will take some patience on your part as well, but it is well worth it in the long run. A puppy should be made to wait by the door and not permitted to run out until you say it is okay. This is for safety, as well as training them to follow your lead. Chows are very intelligent and will learn very quickly. But, they are also willful, so they won't always do what they know they are being asked to do, until the exercise has been repeated several times.

They should also wait to be asked to get into your lap, jump up on you, or when allowed to get up on the furniture. These

are all boundaries that also show who is in charge. All members of the family should be involved, so your puppy will follow the lead of all the family members.

I recommend the excellent book by Cesar Milan, “Being the Pack Leader”. It explains how you can train your dog without punishment and ultimately achieve a pet that is a joy to be around.

Some dogs just come about this naturally and fall into this with no problem. Others, may have the alpha personality and require much more work. But, it will definitely be worth it.

“Dominant behavior exhibited by your dog toward any human is never acceptable.”

Cesar Jr. in New Jersey

Cesar is the newest member of this New Jersey family. He is said to be a, “Baby with a big Bark!”

He doesn't know how to drink without getting his chest all wet. He's greedy and tries to take in his water in record time. Doggy Bibs are in order.



Drinking? Does it look like I've been drinking?

Cesar loves to get hugs and is another great ambassador for the Chow Chow breed. He is very social and is much loved by his new family.

What a handsome boy!

Raiden In Connecticut

Raiden Klein Bull is reported to be doing great and getting big. He is lots of fun and fits in perfectly with his family. He loves to go on long walks and he loves the water. Especially the beach. He has great fun chasing squirrels and barking at his reflection.

Attention is bountiful when Raiden is out and about.

Raiden lives with his family in Connecticut and is a puppy from Leo and Raven. He was born in May '07.



Simba

Simba is perfect in every way, his family

says. He loves to meet new people and other animals. He is in obedience class and is the only Chow in the group. So, he stands out. He does very well and is yet another great ambassador for the breed.

Simba's family cherishes this little guy. He is from a litter of Leo and Daisy. He is cinnamon in color.



I'm gonna get you!

Aw, we're only playing.

I'm gonna get you back!

But, we're only playing!

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617 W. Dayton-Yellow Springs Rd.
Fairborn, OH 45324
Phone: 937-767-7075
Cell: 937-369-8425
E-mail: dnmfarm@aol.com

We're on the web
www.dmfarm.com

● Quality Chows with
Exceptional Temperament

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

“ To be posted VERY LOW on the refrigerator door - pet nose height”

Author Unknown

Dear Dogs and Cats:

The dishes with the paw prints are yours and contain your food. The other dishes are mine and contain my food. Please note, placing a paw print in the middle of my plate and food does not stake a claim for it becoming your food and dish, nor do I find that aesthetically pleasing in the slightest.

The stairway was not designed by NAS-CAR and is not a racetrack. Beating me to the bottom is not the object. Tripping me doesn't help because I fall faster than you can run.

I cannot buy anything bigger than a king sized bed. I am very sorry about this. Do not think I will continue sleeping on the couch to ensure your comfort. Dogs and cats can actually curl up in a ball when they sleep. It is not necessary to sleep perpendicular to each other stretched out to the fullest extent possible. I also know that sticking tails straight out and having tongues hanging out the other end to maxi-

mize space is nothing but sarcasm.

For the last time, there is no secret exit from the bathroom. If by some miracle I beat you there and manage to get the door shut, it is not necessary to claw, whine, meow, try to turn the knob or get your paw under the edge and try to pull the door open. I must exit through the same door I entered. Also, I have been using the bathroom for years --canine or feline attendance is not required.

The proper order is kiss me, then go smell the other dog or cat's butt. I cannot stress this enough!

To pacify you, my dear pets, I have posted the following message on our front door:

To All Non-Pet Owners Who Visit & Like to Complain About Our Pets:

1. They live here. You don't.
2. If you don't want their hair on your clothes, stay off the furniture. That's why they call it "fur"niture.

3. I like my pets a lot better than I like most people.

4. To you, they are an animal. To me, he/she is an adopted son/daughter who is short, hairy, walks on all fours and doesn't speak clearly.

Remember: Dogs and cats are better than kids because they:

1. Eat less
2. Don't ask for money all the time
3. Are easier to train
4. Normally come when called
5. Never ask to drive the car
6. Don't hang out with drug-using friends
7. Don't smoke or drink
8. Don't have to buy the latest fashions
9. Don't want to wear your clothes
10. Don't need a gazillion dollars for college, and...
11. If they get pregnant, you can sell their children