



D & M Farm Kennel October 2007 News

Breeding Pairs

Many have asked us how we know which dam to breed with which sire. Many factors are taken into consideration.

Bloodlines is only the first thing we look at. We also look at the conformation of the potential dam and sire. Any trait that may be weak in one, should be a strong attribute in the other. Body size, squareness of body frame, size of the head, conformation of the muzzle, and the texture, thickness, and coloring of the coat are some of the primary traits we consider. Temperament and personality are also factors to be considered. Family history of thrown coat colors are also a valuable tool in determining what colors might likely be thrown in a

planned litter.

After taking all these factors into consideration we make the decision as to which dam and sire are the best match.

Mother Nature has her hand in it also. Sometimes our choice of sire is not acceptable to the dam. She may not like the sire we have chosen and refuses to breed with him

Yes, some of our dams are very fickle about who they want to have puppies with. We have had refusals before, and simply moved the dam to another male and she willingly mates. So, we are not the only ones who have a say in these "arranged marriages".

We have been very fortunate with our breeding program. We have never had a litter that we were disappointed with. We have changed a mating, if we thought the offspring could be improved.

We are always learning from our dogs. And, our breeding program is always evolving to meet our goal of producing the best quality Chows with great temperaments.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Tory in Ohio

Tory is almost four months old now and is a bouncing 26 lbs. She has learned several commands already and has begun formal obedience training. She loves everyone and is a very intelligent puppy. She favors her sire, Kaiser, in looks.



Is that a treat I smell in your pocket?

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Special points of interest:

- *Teaching patience*
- *Best rough coats*
- *Biting is unacceptable*

Adding To The D&M Farm Menagerie

Darrell and I made a trip to the Mt Hope Exotic Animal Auction Sept 13-15. We love to attend the auction. There are great people there, the countryside is beautiful, and there is always something there to buy!



We bought more poultry. We got Silky

chickens, bantams, and some laying hens. All are quite colorful. We also bought a goat as a companion to our Nanny goat.



We bought a wonderful pinto pony for our grandkids. Princess is broke to ride and to drive. Of course, that meant we had to then buy a cart and harness.

And, we bought a miniature horse. Nugget is four months old and is as sweet as can be.



He is the first "mini" we have ever had.

Our grandkids are our main excuse for buying the animals ... but, truth be known, we enjoy it every bit as much as they do.



Darrell with Princess and Nugget

Patience is a Virtue

It is important to teach your puppy manners when feeding treats. It is never a good idea to allow them to grab a treat out of your hand. Sometimes your fingers may get in the way of those sharp little teeth.

It is important to teach your puppy patience. When offering a treat, make your puppy sit. Pull the treat away if he gets up. Make the treat inaccessible by cover-

ing it between your fingers. Offer the treat, but do not allow the puppy to have it until he continues to sit and only takes the treat upon command.

Practice this and in just a few days you will have a much better mannered puppy.

"Puppies are always learning. Teaching them manners is very important."

Puppies are constantly learning. Everything you do to instill good behavior as a puppy, will go a long way in your adult dog being accepted by other people and other animals.

Sassy in Idaho



Sassy is growing by leaps and bounds. She is now four months old and already weights 21 lbs. She has become a veteran camper. She loves sharing



the outdoors with her human dad, Chuck. And she knows mom Marion will always have snacks for her if she just looks cute! Sassy knows just the look required! Sassy is from Kai-

ser and Sheba's litter.



Putting this tackle box here as my stool is perfect!

Who Has The Better Coat?

In many species the male has the showier presence. Chows are no different. Normally the males have the larger mane, more pronounced feathering behind the lower legs and are larger in size. Their coats also tend to be thicker. But, many of the females also have nice coats with large manes. They typically are smaller in size and weight ... 10-15 pounds.

Females who are never used for breeding normally have better coats. Pregnancy often causes hair loss due to hormonal changes in their body. Some lose a little of their coat and some lose a lot. Time of the year also plays a factor. During hot months I have noticed my pregnant females tend to lose more hair.

When you come to our kennel you will notice some of our females have shorter coats. During a period after they have had their pups, some even resemble smooth coat Chows. Others maintain their thick coats during and after preg-

nancy. Regardless, their coats do not seem to show any long term affects by their pregnancy.

So, if that massive lion look is what you are after, you might want to avoid breeding your female or stick to the males.



Grooming promotes excellent coats and maintains the health of their skin. This also avoids having to cut out mats that may develop, especially behind the ears. All coats will have a show quality look when brushed and fluffed. The lion mane looks more impressive and your Chow will be proud of how he or she looks!

Cesar in Ohio

Look at him now! We had Cesar in our August newsletter and boy has he grown!

Cesar came to visit our farm last weekend. He is a fluffy four months old now. What a



I know I'm handsome. What did you expect?

cutie? He minds very well and thought all the sites and smells at the farm were very interesting.

It appears he is going to keep that striking black mask. He gets regular compliments from strangers on his looks and his friendly nature.

Keep up the good work Cesar!



Are you done yet? I want to go play!!

Nip It In The Bud!

Nipping is a fact of life with some puppies. This is what they do with their littermates, and not surprisingly ... with their new owners. Part of it is play and the other is teething. **It is not indicative of an aggressive instinct.** Although it is quite natural, it still needs to be corrected. Puppies need to learn that putting their teeth on humans is unacceptable.

If your puppy is nipping at you, here are some things to try:

- Yell loudly and pull your hand away.
- Tell them immediately, "NO!" with a strong voice.
- Take your two fingers and tap the puppy firmly across the bridge of its nose while telling it "NO!".
- After correction, you can give them something they are allowed to chew on. They will learn what is allowed and what isn't.

Most puppies naturally grow out of this phase, but it is a good time to instill in them that biting is a bad thing for them to do.

Those puppy teeth are sharp! Be firm and persistent and he'll get the point. Everyone will be better for it.

Remember ... exercise, discipline, affection, in that order.

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*Quality Chows with Exceptional
Temperament*

*“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”*

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

More Kennel Renovations

Darrell and I are always looking for ways to improve our kennel making it better and/or easier to manage. We finished the expansion and are now adding cabinets and counters. This will give us more storage space and a place to mix the food and/or medicines for the dogs.

We also painted the washroom floor with the epoxy garage floor paint. It's amazing what a little paint will do. The concrete floor never looked clean. Now it is easier to maintain and looks so much better!

We are still building outdoor shelters. Each shelter will house three dog houses, a feeder, and their water. Much to my dismay, it is almost time to put out the heated buckets! Where did the summer go?

These shelters help to insulate the dog houses, provides shade from the sun in the summer, and blocks the wind in the winter.

The dogs are always excited when we work in their area. They consider it a special treat to have us with them for long periods of time and think it great fun to steal our tools or gloves. Some of our dogs can be real rascals. Darrell has lost

two cell phones to the little thieves!

It is now time for us to make preparations for the upcoming winter. You may also want to take a moment to think about what you might do to make things easier and better for you and your pet(s) during the upcoming winter season.



The information contained within this newsletter is from our personal experience and research we have done. All is written from the experience we have gained through our Chow ownership.