

NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB OF AMERICA

Breeder's Corner



Pros and Cons of Breeding Older Animals



"Many times owners hope to breed older animals. This may be because they were actively campaigning the dog when it was younger, or they want to continue to breed a dog that is producing high-quality offspring. Unfortunately, using older breeding animals of either gender can pose difficulties secondary to a reduction in fertility.

In aging bitches, for example, we see increased interestrous intervals, the length of time between heat cycles, decreased conception rates and decreased litter size. For males, some studies have shown a significant decrease in sperm quality as early as 6 years of age. This reduced fertility does not mean that these animals can no longer be used for breeding, but it often means that it will be more challenging. With males, some of these problems can be alleviated by collecting and freezing semen between the ages of 2 and 5 years old, when semen quality is higher and freezing success rate is greater, for use at a later point." - Tessa Fiamengo, DVM, of The Ohio State University.

"The pros for using older bitches and older stud dogs is that it helps to keep these individuals in the genetic pool and thus helps with genetic diversity. The cons are they are subject to more illnesses, especially infertility, because of their age. The ability to reproduce an older dog is sometimes a luxury. In a world where some dog breeds are essentially endangered species due to their limited genetic diversity, keeping the most genetic diversity is key. Eliminating older reproducing animals eliminates those genetics. Keeping them allows for more genes to flow in an already limited population.

The con to using these older animals is that there is a greater chance of disease. One caveat to consider is that having an otherwise healthy older bitch pregnant is better than allowing her to cycle without an intention to breed her. As the bitch cycles, the effects of a nonpregnant uterus are additive. They form cysts, and this predisposes them to pyometra, a life-threatening uterine infection. The pregnant uterus is much healthier. Lastly, spaying a bitch after her breeding career is a healthy solution to this problem." - Victor Stora, DVM, of the University of Pennsylvania

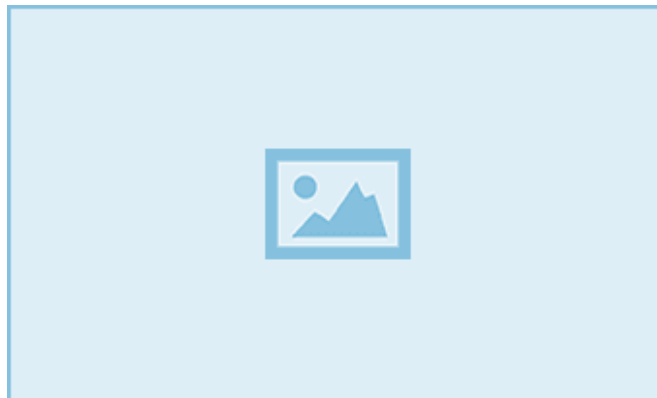
excerpts from Today's Breeder roundtable Q&A with veterinary theriogenologists.



Breeding Older Bitches

She is the kind of bitch every breeder loves to have around the house. She is correctly constructed, very attractive and is a great mover. She has a pleasing personality and excellent ring manners. She also possesses an amazing ability to...

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Infertility in the Bitch

In this podcast Dr. Cheryl Lopate discusses testing for and causes of infertility in the bitch. This podcast is part of a special series of podcasts on canine reproduction in partnership with our corporate alliance, Zoetis.

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Pre-breeding testing recommendations for older bitches



Recommended bloodwork in older bitches includes a complete blood count, complete serum chemistry panel, screening thyroid hormones (total T4 +/- free T4 and thyroid stimulating hormone or TSH), urinalysis (paying particular attention to urine specific gravity, USG, and protein content), and a urine

protein:creatinine ratio (or urine microalbuminuria). The age for this testing is generally recommended is 7-8 years for toy, small or medium breeds; 6-7 years for large breeds; and 5 years for giant breeds. - Cheryl Lopate, MS, DVM, DACT Reproductive Revolutions, Wilsonville, OR.

Preservation vs. Conservation Dog Breeders: Who Are We?

A conservation breeder is a purebred dog breeder dedicated to preserving and advancing their breed.

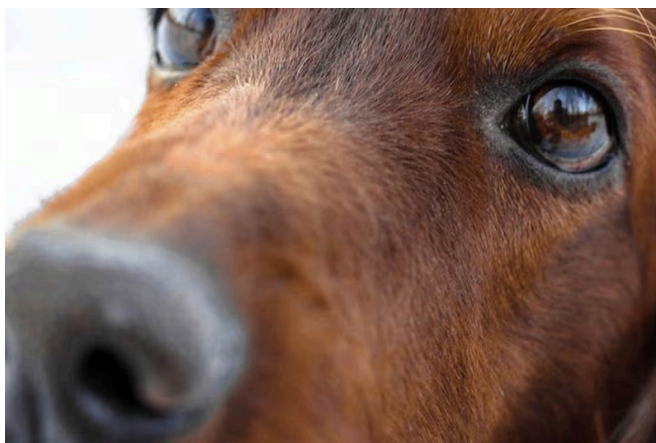
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Continuing Education

January 24: Dr Aime Johnson of Auburn University presents *"Prostate pearls of wisdom: How to successfully manage the aging stud dog."*

[Register Online](#)

Presented by The Theriogenology Foundation and the AKC Canine Health Foundation.



In Praise of the Older Stud Dog

Some dogs, just like good wine, age with grace. They are sound and wise and still have some spark well into their senior years, and through their endurance

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Poll - What Would You Like to Hear from Us?

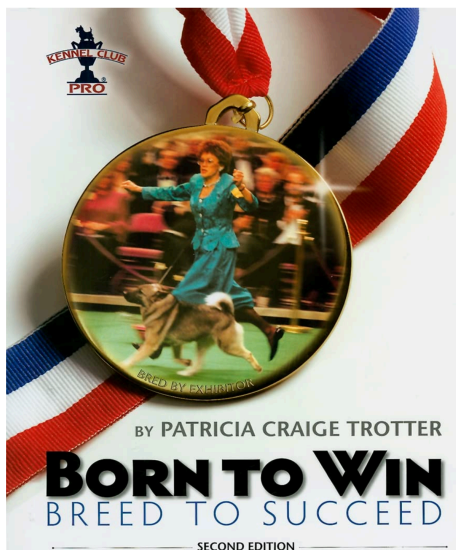
What Breeding Education Resources would you like most?

Articles and Interviews with Influential Breeders

Seminars and Material from Theriogenologists

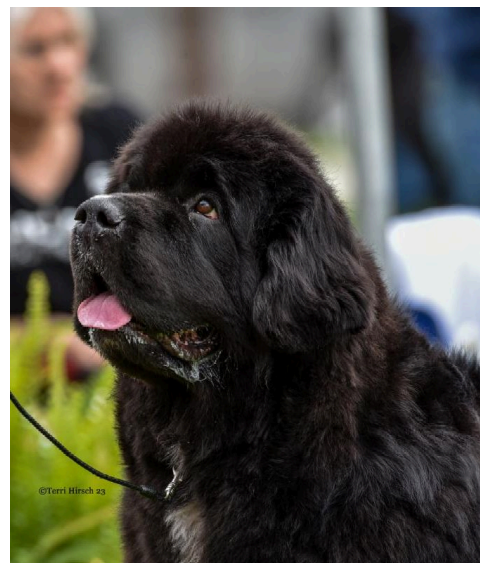
Information for Researchers and Research Projects

Reviews and Recommendations on Reproduction Books



Born to Win, Breed to Succeed

Everything you need to know, and everything you didn't know you needed to learn, is in this book. Although it's intended for breeders, current or wannabe, anyone who shows dogs can gain from the work of Patricia Trotter (formerly Craige). Today Mrs Trotter is an esteemed



Studies Enrolling Participants

Clinical Trials

Clinical trials help veterinarians investigate methods to improve detection and treatment of disease, as well as improve the quality of care each patient receives. It can be

judge but for decades she bred some of the winningest and most influential Elkhounds in AKC history. A former history teacher, she has a very readable style of writing that is blessedly easy to learn from. In addition she has over a half century of experience breeding and showing dogs, plus a knack for thinking creatively and being open-minded. Is there a better instructor?

[Buy The Book](#)

devastating when your pet receives a diagnosis of cancer or some other canine disease. However, participation in a clinical trial may help your dog's prognosis and will advance veterinary science, helping future generations of dogs to have better outcomes.

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Puppy Referral System

The NCA has a Puppy Referral System. This program allows any NCA member to list a planned litter, puppies available or an adult needing placement. Listings are now available to all NCA members. If you have questions or suggestions about the program, please [let us know](#).

[Start a New Listing](#)



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The Newfoundland Club of America aspires to be a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive community of enthusiasts recognized as the leading voice for the preservation, protection, promotion, and celebration of the Newfoundland Dog.





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