



BREEDING YOUR DOG

We think it is extremely important to learn the facts and possible consequences in advance if you are contemplating breeding your dog. In today's overcrowded world, we must accept the responsibility ourselves.

CONSIDER THESE POINTS

QUALITY

AKC registration is not indication of quality. Most dogs, even purebred, should not breed! Many dogs, though wonderful pets, have defects of structure, health, or personality that should not perpetuate. Breeding animals should be proven free of these defects before starting on a reproductive career. Breeding should only be done with the goal of improvement.

COST

Dog breeding is not a large moneymaking proposition when done correctly. Health care, vaccinations, proof of quality, extra food, facilities, stud fees, advertising, etc. are all costly and must be paid before the pups can be sold. An unexpected cesarean or emergency intensive care for a sick pup will make a break-even litter become a major problem. And this is if you are lucky enough to sell all the pups!!

SALES

First-time breeders have no reputation and no referrals to help them find buyers. Previous promises of "I want a dog just like yours" evaporate. Consider the time and expense for caring for pups that may not sell until four months, eight months, or more! What would you do if your pups did not sell? Veteran breeders with a good reputation often don't consider breeding unless they have cash deposits in advance for an average-sized litter.

TIME

Veteran breeders of quality dogs state that they spend well over 130 hours of labor in raising an average litter. This is over two hours per day, every day! The bitch cannot be left alone while whelping and only for short periods for the first few days after. Be prepared for days off work and sleepless nights.

Even after delivery, mom needs care and feeding; puppies need daily checking, weighing, and socialization. Later grooming and training, and the whelping box needs lots of cleaning. More hours are spent doing paperwork, pedigree, and interviewing buyers.