



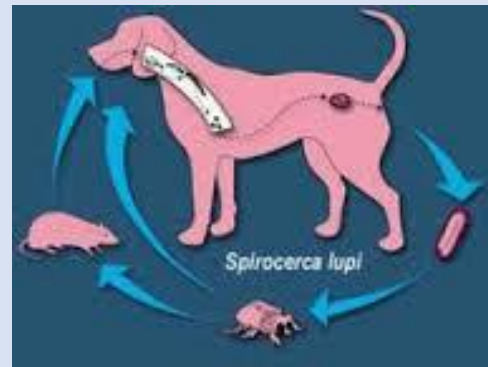
CAPE BULLMASTIFF CLUB

JUNE 2016 NEWS LETTER

From the Chair: Dr Ingrid Lester, one of the honorary veterinarians for the CBC agreed to write up an article on *Spirocera Lupi*, a disease which has caused death in many a dog – some of them Bullmastiffs.

SPIROCERCA LUPI – THE SILENT KILLER

Spirocera Lupi (SL) is a worm causing severe and often fatal disease in dogs. It has a complex life cycle and can cause a range of symptoms at different times in its life cycle. It often goes undetected until there are advanced changes in the dog's body by which time treatment is often too late.



Spirocera Lupi occurs mainly in summer rainfall areas in South Africa. It is however, becoming more widespread and is occurring on occasion in the Western Cape.

The worm requires both small scarab type dung beetles (not the dung rollers we are all more familiar with) and dogs to complete its lifecycle. The dung beetle ingests dung which contains eggs of these worms and within the dung beetle the worm develop into stage 3 lava, which need dogs as hosts to complete the cycle. At this stage the dung beetle is eaten either by a dog or another predator e.g. lizard, which in turn gets eaten by the dog. Once inside the stomach of the dog, the lava will hatch and burrow deep inside the stomach wall. Here they migrate and travel up the arteries towards the chest of the dog. This process takes about two weeks.



Once in the chest the larva lives in the wall of the aorta, the largest artery leaving the heart and supplying the rest of the body with blood. The worms live here for up to 3 months before migrating once again, across the tissues in the chest, until they reach the oesophagus. At this stage they can be 4-5 cms in length. This migration out of the aorta causes extensive damage & aneurysms to the wall of the blood vessels and potentially these aneurysms can rupture leading to sudden death.

Once in the oesophagus the worms form nodules in its wall and here they live, mate & lay their eggs. The eggs are excreted in the faeces of the dog and the life cycle starts all over again. The nodules in the oesophagus are the cause for most of the symptoms we see in our dogs. The symptoms range from gagging & regurgitation to weight loss & respiratory distress. With time these nodules undergo metastatic change and become cancerous, which further metastasise to the surrounding lungs. At this stage the prognosis for survival is very poor.

To diagnose SL infection, radiographs are required to visualise the granulomas/nodules in the oesophagus and metastatic tumours in the lung tissue. You can also diagnose the nodules in the oesophagus with an endoscopy procedure, where a scope with a small camera is passed down the oesophagus to directly visualise the nodules. On rare occasions the larva and worms get 'lost' on their migration to the oesophagus and can potentially cause nodules in any organ of the body. This is known as aberrant migration & requires a CT scan to diagnose it.

Although not conclusively proven, preventative treatment decreases the risk of SL infection by up to 80%. Prevention treatment involves monthly treatment with Milbemycin Oxime one of the ingredients in the dewormer Milbemax. There are also spot on products such as Advocate that also claim to prevent infection. Treatment remains a challenge once it is diagnosed. The product available to treat this condition is off label use and has its own potentially fatal side effects. Therefore, in this case, prevention is far better than cure.



Dr Ingrid Lester may be contacted at inkilester@gmail.com

Safety First...

ASK PERMISSION

- Not all dogs are friendly even if yours is!
- Some dogs are scared and don't want to meet.
- Some dogs are too rough for puppies or smaller dogs.
- Some dogs are wary of children, toddlers, or men.
- Never approach an unfamiliar dog without permission.
- Never allow your child to run up to unfamiliar dogs.
- When the law requires, be sure to leash your dog.
- Teach your dog to come when called before allowing him off leash.
- Scared dogs have a right to a nice walk for exercise, too - don't ruin it for them.
- Keep your own dogs and children to yourself unless you receive permission.

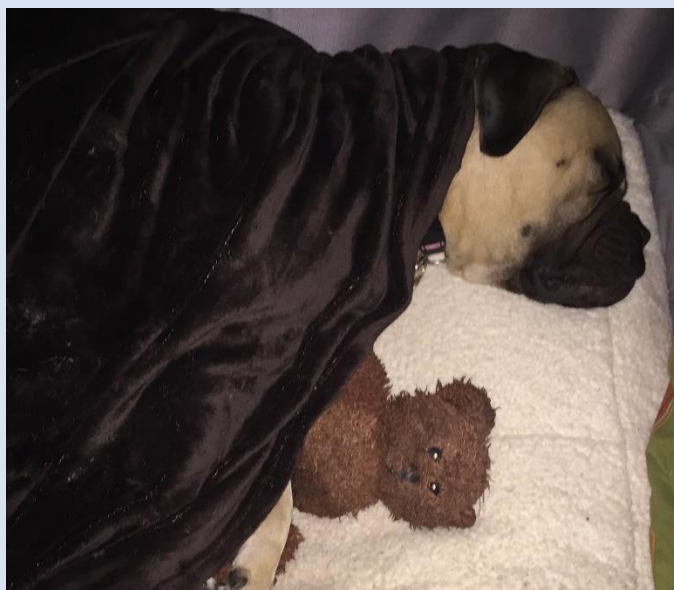


YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR DOG'S BEHAVIOR

www.pawsforpraise.com

FROM THE FAMILY ALBUMS





CONGRATULATIONS TO CH. CHIZELHURST CHECKMATE OF HAAITA CBA(Ex) FOR PASSING HIS
CANINE GOOD CITIZEN BRONZE



BREED SHOW RESULTS: JUNE 2016

Western Province Kennel Club - BOB & 2ND IN WORKING GROUP: SANNIESEBOS SPOONER BA(Ex)

- BEST CH. IN BREED: CH LAGRATITUDE DURANGO DUKE BA

Hottentots Holland Kennel Club – BOB & 3RD IN WORKING GROUP CH. LAGRATITUDE DURANGO DUKE BA

George Kennel Club - CC DOG LAGRATITUDE ATTICUS EARL

Outiniqua Kennel Club - CC DOG LAGRATITUDE ATTICUS EARL / CC BITCH SANNIESEBOS SURI SUKANI OF CHIZELHURST DMA

Swartland Kennel Club - BOB CH. LAGRATITUDE DURANGO DUKE BA / CC DOG & RBOB SANNIESEBOS SPOONER BA (Ex) / CC BITCH SANNIESEBOS SURI SUKANI OF CHIZELHURST DMA

West Coast Kennel Club - CC DOG SANNIESEBOS SPOONER BA (Ex) / RBOB CH. LAGRATITUDE DURANGO DUKE BA



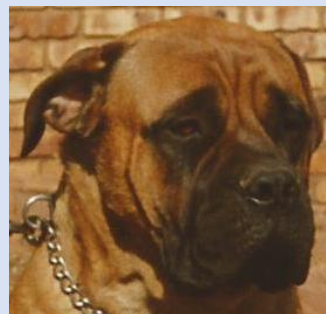
Promoting one of the CBC sponsors - Pet Creations – Oudshoorn & West Coast Shows June 2016

EAR CARE FOR THE BULLMASTIFF



CORRECT EAR SET

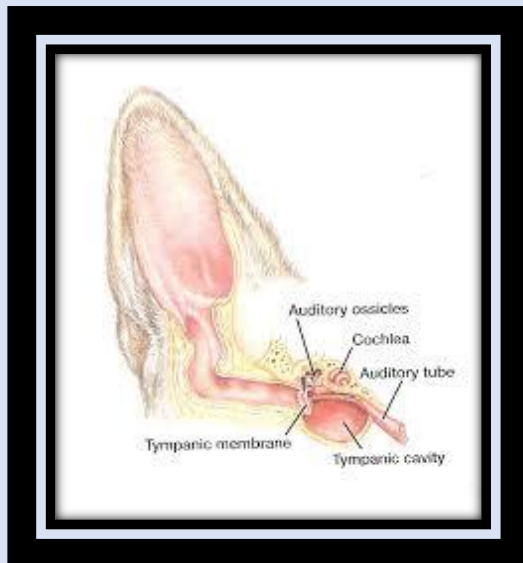
Blocking air flow



INCORRECT EAR SET

Allowing air flow

The Bullmastiff has 'v' shaped ears that are placed high on the head with the inner edge resting against the temple as it drops downwards - as demonstrated in the first photo. This ear setting tends to restrict air circulation with a tendency for the ear canals to overheat which can cause potential problems.



Anatomy of a dog's ear



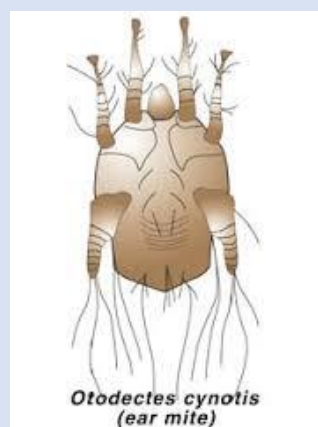
Some common problems

In some instances, there can be a build-up of the ear wax which needs to be removed before it becomes a perfect haven for ear mites which tend to survive well in the deeper recesses of the ear. An indication of this will be a dark smelly substance difficult to remove. There is usually continuous shaking of the head, some scratching and some redness to the inner surface of the upper ear.

There are multiple solutions available from the veterinary outlets which can be used for cleansing. However, do take care in their applications and the procedures advised. Usually a damp cotton wool swab is sufficient to remove the debris after an application. Ear buds can be dangerous if inserted when the dog is moving or the attendant is not 'au fait' with the anatomy of the ear canal. Ear buds can also push the debris further down the ear canal.

Sometimes just letting the dog shake his head can work to advantage as the applications are then distributed normally and can work accordingly and be removed with a swab.

If ear mites are suspected, then the help of your Veterinarian is needed.





THE RAINBOW BRIDGE



In loving memory of Penny Thole who crossed the rainbow bridge on the 7th of June and is now in doggie heaven running happily with her friends.

"It is not for us to ask why you were taken from us so early, you gave us so much love and we love you more than words can say" Your Mom, Dad & big brother Brady.



THE CBC COMMITTEE WISHES TO THANK THOSE BREEDERS THAT ENROLL THEIR NEW PUPPY OWNERS AS MEMBERS OF THE CLUB ☺

GOOD HOME **OFFERED** TO AN ADULT BULLMASTIFF MALE APPROXIMATELY 3-5 YEARS OF AGE - PINELANDS CAPETOWN. NO RESIDENT CHILDREN, VISITING GRANDCHILDREN, ONE OTHER 7-YEAR-OLD SPAYED BITCH.

Contact info@capebullmastiffclub.co.za

***“IT’S NOT WHAT YOU GATHER BUT WHAT YOU SCATTER
THAT TELLS WHAT KIND OF LIFE YOU HAVE LIVED”***

Golda Meyer

The information in this magazine is confined to its members. Statements or opinions may be expressed in this communication that are personal to the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Club.

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