Competitive Dog Events, Sources of Intact Purebred Puppies, and their Relationship to the Reproductive Status of Purebred Dogs

Wayne Cavanaugh
United Kennel Club
Est. 1898

Reproductive Status in Canine Competitive Events

- Dog Registries established late 1800’s
- Dog Shows and Field Trials soon followed
- Spayed and neutered dogs ineligible to compete in conformation events
- Females in estrus eligible to compete in conformation events but not in performance or field events

Sources of Intact Purebred Puppies

- Show Breeders
- Field Trial Breeders
- Direct Sales
- Pet Shops
- Internet Sales
- Pet Distribution Centers

AKC Dog Registrations

Source: DVM News Magazine DVM360.com
Puppy Distribution Centers

According to the USDA, The Hunte Corporation shipped 89,235 puppies in 2005 from their distribution center in Goodman, Missouri*. On an average week, an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 intact pups are bought, sold, and processed by Hunte, then loaded and shipped to retail pet shops who, in turn, sell them to puppy buyers.

* Reported in Tulsa World, a newspaper owned by Berkshire Hathaway


- 1990 - the American Kennel Club (AKC) introduces a Limited Registration Policy for breeders.
- 1992 to 2008 - AKC Registered Dogs per 1,000 people decline by 65%* by 2012 AKC registrations reach a 50-year low.
- 1991 - Hunte Corporation establishes the first major Puppy Distribution Center and builds 10-million dollar facility in Goodman, Missouri.
- 2005 - USDA records show that Hunte shipped 89,235 intact puppies to re-sellers in a 12 month period.
- 1993 to 2012 - UKC now licenses 17,345 annual performance events including obedience, rally obedience, agility, terrier sprints, lure coursing, and dock jumping.

* Source: DVM News Magazine, DVM360.com
Potential uses for Non-invasive Sterilization

- Temporary sterilization for performance and field participants who plan to breed after competition period.
- Permanent sterilization for performance participants with no plan to breed.
- Inexpensive choice for shelter and rescue dogs participating in performance events.
- Consider USDA requirement for Pet Distribution Centers.

Additional Potential uses for Non-invasive Sterilization

- Guiding Eye dog breeding programs
- Therapy and Service dog breeding programs
- Police and Military dog breeding programs
- Working farm dog breeding programs
Concerns for Non-invasive Sterilization Methods

- Physical control of injectable sterilization
- Long and short-term health concerns
- Identification of dogs sterilized by injection