

PROBLEM BREEDERS – PROBLEM OWNERS....

Below is some information I have come up with, within the last week from the public. Caron below first started corresponding with me a few years back. I was kept up to date with her problems with pups and dogs she purchased before.

Storm often appears on our website, comments from Caron regarding her and regular pics of her. Storm is our breeding.

My findings with Caron – she is a very good owner, nothing she will not do for her dogs.

Her decision to write this mail, her recent experience when purchasing a gift of a yorkie for her daughter-in-law.... Her experiences over previous years with Yorkies purchased.

From: Caron
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 2:53 PM
To: Mijoy Yorkies
Subject: FW: Yorkshire terriers purchased

Dear Joyce

My previous experience with Yorkie breeders are somewhat scary and are as follows:-

Gizmo - I got him from a breeder that has her dogs outside in kennels open to the cold - he was born in winter – he is a hardy healthy Yorkie to say the least but weighs 2.2kg as apposed to 1.2kg as she sold him to us –

Candy - In my inexperienced days of Yorkies I bought her from a backyard breeder who only had the two females and a male that she bred with. Also was supposed to be 1.2kg but is 3.5kg had tummy problems her whole life but is a lovely dog.

Jody – I now thought I have all the experience and bought her from a top breeder that is very well advertised – she was supposed to be 1.2kg and grew to about 2.5kg – but was horribly sick we nearly lost her more than once. When we phoned the breeder she said we can replace her if we want. After you have loved her and want her, after that she would not even take my calls – we sat with a liver shunt dog and vet bills way over One Hundred Thousand Rand and in the end kidney failure and a dead dog at 2.5 years old – a tragedy in

our lives. Hospital back and forth, needles, drips, operations a nightmare – she was such a honey in every way!

My question to Caron – Jody - *did the breeder offer to take the dog and replace her or just give you another one?* She first took her back and then phoned to say she was 100% as she had her checked by her vet which I also ended paying for – she then said after a month if I was not happy I can have another one – I was horrified as she made it feel like you are buying shoes with no feeling at all! We had feelings for this little one already we loved and adored her! The money back may have eased some of the vet bills though swapping her - I was scared she would just put her down! But when I tried to talk to her she said it was not her problem anymore and that she was pregnant and I am upsetting her she did not even want to know anything further as to how she was? I know she blamed us for not taking care of Jody which is so upsetting because we truly tried everything!

My reply regarding Jody and what went down: *Irrespective how any pup is handled or treated no new owners pup can develop liver shunt through mismanagement. This is a health condition the pup was born with.*

*I too have offered to take back pups in the past NOT because of ill health but because they grew larger than expected. MORE INFO ON SIZING FURTHER ON. I do this as a lot of people only want one dog and if it is not what they want I would rather try and give them what they do want. However, in recent times offered a lady the opportunity to return her dog, to which she commented what type of person did I think she would be to even consider such a thing and then turned around and asked me to hand her one of my own adult teacup dogs. What sort of person would I be to consider doing that ????? I **thought** she knew me better than that. Maybe other breeders may, but for me, that is not an option – no matter what, not an option.*

Sadly I have heard of cases where breeders do take back pups diagnosed with liver shunt and do put them to sleep. However we do hear of cases where pups are sold with a form stating that the minute the pup leaves the breeders premises their responsibility ceases NO MATTER WHAT.

I have purchased from a breeder for new blood lines who operates like this – the pups are always put into quarantine and dewormed and treated for parasites before being allowed anywhere near my own dogs.

Storm - Amazing experience through and through the best ever – promised weight 1.2kg adult weight 1.5kg perfect never sick, happy and healthy little personality!

Coco – I bought this as a gift for my daughter in law in December – when we collected her she came with glucose, and we were told she may need some coaching to eat – night one good, day 2 she crashed, she would not eat at all, when we looked at her she looked dead, her gums were ice cold and sticky, I took her back immediately as I was not going to be taken again, the breeder took her back and said we did not know what we were doing as

she needed to be force fed if she would not eat on her own. I demanded my money back and I threatened to report her to all breeders and Hello Peter. She begged me not to and said that she would only refund me if I promised not to take any further action!

Shelby – I bought for my daughter in law in January from a very reputable breeder in PTA as Mijoy never had any females – this little one crashed periodically we have to keep giving honey and her tummy is always upset, grumbling, vomiting, I just hope we not going down the same road! Will keep you posted on her! Only had her for a month now and we have been to the vet 3 times already and back again on Thursday?

I WILL NEVER again buy a pup from anyone other than Mijoy! I can guarantee healthy dogs and an excellent experience – No other breeder above has kept in touch with us at all, Mijoy goes the extra mile and beyond!

I was at a client today who said that she has had three pups die and all from the same breeder who charges her full rates every time - the pups die from cat flu when they are brought home – the breeders says not his problem – I cannot understand why anyone would keep buying from the same breeder – her vet says that some dogs get cat flu from the breeder but while they are breast feeding they are immune but when you bring them home the bug grows?

Thanks Caron

Last paragraph read further down printed in red.

From: MC

Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 10:34 AM

To: mijoy@wam.co.za

Subject: Yorkshire terriers

Good morning Mijoy

Last weekend I was in the Mall in Sandton and met a Lady carrying one of your dogs. To say I was in awe is an understatement .

I asked where the dog originated from, she was very happy to report on you and her experience with you as a breeder. We got chatting and then decided as we had so much in common when it came to these small Yorkies that we would go for coffee.

Her experience with her teacup dog is a very far cry from my own experience with three Yorkies all bought as teacups, none of which are teacups, two with serious health problems.

I do not want to go into my own misfortune with my own experiences with looking for that very small dog but I have to commend you on the pup she has from you, her overall opinion of you as a breeder and it was very satisfying to me to learn that breeders are out there that put the dog first and nothing else.

I learnt from this lady she waited a long time for her pup, was frustrated often rude to you which she now says she regrets, has apologized to you on numerous occasions, her dog is five years of age. She said she would wait every bit as long again if necessary, as she too had the disaster after disaster with previous small Yorkies and this little stunner has never given her one moment's problem.

In the next few years I hope to purchase a pup from you such as the one this Lady proudly owned.

I do however have to continue with my own yorkies I own and that is a full time occupation and costs me a lot in vets bills.

I am so grateful to have learnt that you exist and are so passionate about your breeding. Every success to you in the future, you deserve it.

Sincerely

Meredith

SIZING OF DOGS

As mentioned in both mails above, two mails of dozens and dozens of mails I receive on a regular basis from the public regarding, sizing of dogs.

WE are honest and tell the public if they are in a hurry for the tiny dog **do not** join our waiting list. We do our utmost and go to great lengths to ensure to the very best of our ability that what we sell as tinies, are indeed tinies. However we too make mistakes it can be extremely difficult to be 100% spot on. Weight depends to a degree if the dog as adult is a walking skeleton or a well-covered healthy yorkie. We opt for the latter for obvious reasons.

A dog/pups diet should never be rationed to keep it as small as possible. Interfering with nature to produce these very tiny dogs is not something that should be undertaken

lightly although it is done by certain breeders. INTERBREEDING is the main cause of ill health in the tiny sized yorkie. Unless the breeder is extremely clued up, can guarantee that the dogs used in an interbreeding program are perfectly healthy with no chance of any genetic flaws or problem genes, best keep well clear of interbreeding.

For those of you who do not understand what I mean by the above. If you have a stud dog and it carries a gene that could produce for example a heart defect, the gene is there lies dormant in most cases if outbred to an unrelated bitch, but he is then mated to his daughter for example, in doing so she may or may not also carry that gene – if both of these dogs carry this gene very good chance of pups being born with heart disease, the risk of heart problems is greatly increased. OFTEN small sized Yorkies are born with heart problems and some people believe that it is the NORM in small dogs to have health issues (???) Any weaknesses, genetic faults etc are greatly increased with interbreeding, if it is to be done leave it to an expert to do it. We have never done it and believe it to be the main reason we produce very healthy, tiny sized dogs.

Furthermore we DO NOT use tiny dogs in our breeding program but we do get tiny sized dogs being produced on a reasonably regular basis. We periodically produce tinies as the gene for that tiny runs in the blood line.

We have produced adult sized teacup dogs weighing as little as 550gms. Dogs that live without health issues for ten and twelve years of age.

No breeder NO HUMAN being can guarantee that a particular pup will weigh 600 - 800gms at two years of age. We can try by applying all the experiences we have developed over many years of breeding it still does not give any breeder the ability to guarantee ANY pup will be an approximate weight. Sometimes we are spot on and sometimes we are not.

We do however realize that there are a good few breeders out there who do take the public for a ride, breed unethically, any small dog will be a teacup and so it continues.

We do find in some cases the public gets tired of being on a waiting lists, opts to go elsewhere and often comes back with a sad story or two, they are so sorry they were not more patient.

OWNERS – GOOD OR BAD....

No matter what size pup is purchased what breed of pup, toy, miniature, standard, every single pup needs to be taken care of be it a yorkie or a Rottweiler. NO new owner can expect to buy a pup no matter where it was purchased or from whom and expect that pup to look after itself.

All animals need constant attention. To purchase a pup leave it at home in a pen in the house whatever, food and water and expect that pup to thrive. For every pup that will survive that poor treatment, a good few will have issues being handled like that. Again it comes back to how the pup was raised. Outside in a kennel very little human contact, food and water so many times a day, you may be fortunate and win with a pup bred under such circumstances. HOWEVER pups bred by breeders who monitor on a continuous basis, handle that pup frequently every single day, play with that pup, treat the pup like royalty, a pup like this will stress in a situation where it is left home alone or 95% of the time to its own devices.

We rarely have an issue with a pup that leaves us. However when we have had an issue the problem points right back to the owner. Stress, a huge issue. Stress leads to dogs developing upsets stomachs, refusing to eat etc. A lot of breeders comment when they have issues it is always the BAD breeder.

ONLY purchase a pup if you are an animal lover to begin with. Have the time and the resources to do whatever it takes required by that particular breed of dog to be reared by you the new owner correctly, all veterinary inoculations, deworming and sterilization required doing to be done and done timeously, when required. *"We did not get around to sterilizing it" Lindi sound familiar?????*

If you want to experiment in breeding well do so with a breeders animals you have the authority to do it with. We sell all our dogs as pets, good quality, pups as pets. We are not interested in them going into a home for breeding a litter or two, or letting there beautiful little boy sire a litter because ??? Who actually knows why???? We have very good reasons for suggesting sterilization at 6 months of age, it stops bad habits in males from starting. One litter – the male has sired has the sexual tendencies and urges to mark territory, will neutering at a later stage then stop any bad behavior that may have developed, possibly it will and possibly it won't??? Happy if your much loved PET male lifts his leg all over your home, furniture bedding or will he then be booted out and rehomed or left outside to get on with it or will it be labeled a dirty boy dog????????? YES I am passionate and very outspoken when it comes to what I stand for and believe in. I have been to the shelters and volunteered, done the training with dogs that are totally out of hand biting their owners as in German Shepherds, rehabilitated many a German Shepherd etc. I have seen the discarded, pregnant dogs, the litters of dumped pups, the abused and forsaken.

If you are not prepared to sterilize your pet you purchase or want to purchase if you are not going to do all that is required to keep your pup from day one as it should be kept, cared for, reared and raised to live happily ever after in a very happy home – please do not contact MIJOY.

WE CARE WAY TOO MUCH

How do we operate and why do we operate like we do..... MIJOY

- Firstly with regard to our breeding, we do not breed large quantities of pups at any time.
- A good few years ago, we were often pestered by the odd person to let their pup go at 6 weeks of age, NO MORE, not for years now. No pedigreed pup should be sent off at 6 weeks of age, our bigger sized dogs we MAY allow to leave us at 8 weeks of age.
- TINIES as in teacups and pockets leave us at 10 weeks of age, after they have had their second inoculation.
- NO pup will and NO PUP ever has left our care without being inoculated, dewormed and every single pup we breed sees our vet prior to going to its new owner or new family.
- Our tinies are sold mainly from a waiting list. We opt to work with a waiting list, future pup owners prepared to wait for the right pup are the right owners. They are people who have made a conscious decision that this is what they want and are prepared to wait for it. We receive dozens of calls for teacups and I would imagine the majority are impulse buyers.
- We try and advise, educate our buyers to the very best of our knowledge as to how to raise and care for the pup they choose.
- We are very strongly willed when it comes to those very tiny pups as they need the right owner, someone dedicated, well informed. Someone who will do whatever it takes, someone that realizes this is similar to having a baby and not something that is a show piece and can be left home and forgotten about.

WE do not CUT ANY CORNERS when it comes to our dogs and the pups we proudly produce....

1. ALL our pups are of good quality, sold as PETS and not for any form of breeding whatsoever. Sterilization at 6 months of age NOT negotiable.
2. All our pups are sold with a contract of sale, our pups all carry health guarantees.
3. Our pups will have been dewormed numerous times prior to leaving our care.
4. Our pups will be Identipet micro – chipped.
5. Our pups will be registered.
6. All our pups are treated from birth with a preventative treatment for ticks and fleas, resulting in them not suffering any ill health from either of these parasites.
7. All our pups are properly immunized as are their parents.
8. All our pups are thoroughly examined before leaving our care and moving onto their new home.

We as breeders, advise anyone purchasing a pup from us to contact us immediately if they have any problems or experience anything they have concerns with, require any information whatsoever. If any pup is purchased and the new owner for whatever reason decides to return the pup or dog or relinquish ownership, our door is always open.

We do go the extra mile and would like to think so do the owners who buy our Yorkies and biewers.

CAT FLU – Parvo virus –

I was at a client today who said that she has had three pups die and all from the same breeder who charges her full rates every time - the pups die from cat flu when they are brought home – the breeders says not his problem – I

cannot understand why anyone would keep buying from the same breeder – her vet says that some dogs get cat flu from the breeder but while they are breast feeding they are immune but when you bring them home the bug grows?

This was included in the mail received from Caron.

I believe one has to give the vet the benefit of the doubt here as to what he exactly said to this client. She possibly misunderstood him but if he did indeed say the above best she change her vet.

I am NO VET, do not claim to be a vet but I have never ever had parvo, cat flu as it is more commonly known in my home, in my dogs or in my pups NEVER.

There is various options open to breeders to combat having this become an issue for them or their pups or new owners of their pups. It can and does happen however.

I will refer to this as Parvo in this information below:

Parvo is a young dog's disease, meaning it affects basically puppies and young adult dogs.

All pups and dogs should be immunized and in all initial inoculations with pups parvo virus is present in that inoculation to start the immunization process.

It is not known exactly when a pup loses its immunity from its mother , the bitch that delivered it. It is essential pups drink colostrum soon after birth from the mother dog as it is the colostrum that carries the immunity to that pup. Does the pup lose its immunity at 5, 6 or 8 weeks or when? UNKNOWN. The reason pups are immunized every four weeks to ensure their immunity is covered in these initial months of their lives.

You should not walk a pup on a public street, in a public park etc, until such times as it has been inoculated completely. Three inoculations, first being at 6 weeks of age, 10 and then 14 weeks of age. Rabies can be done at 12 weeks or 14 weeks of age and should be done as South Africa is now considered rabies territory.

You can repeat your rabies shot every three years, or annually, we do it annually and have done rabies in our dogs for many, many years.

Some vets will give a pup rabies at 12 or 14 weeks and a booster shot four weeks later – some vets will only give the rabies shot once at 12 or 14 weeks. Repeated at a year and so forth, ask your vet. He /she will be familiar with your area etc and know if you are at high risk, low risk or NO risk.

A pup is only considered fully immunized once it is four months of age and all inoculations have been administered.

All breeders dogs should be inoculated annually. This will ensure the pups have the best chance starting off in life.

If the bitch is not inoculated or the pup does not suckle from its Mom at birth, a vet may suggest early inoculation of the pup or pups as in five weeks of age, early inoculation to cover the possibility of the pup not having immunity. The normal inoculations would follow as in four weeks apart, twice thereafter. Always be guided by your vet.

Inoculations should not be skipped or lengthy periods in between inoculations allowed as all this could impact on the overall immunity of the pup.

It is not recommended to purchase an uninoculated pup. This does carry risks. Parvo is an airborne disease. You take an inoculated pup to your vet, you sit in the waiting

room, a parvo pup or dog has been in the consulting room or comes into the consulting room, you could be exposing your pup to the virus. Your vet then examines your pup finds it to be fit and healthy inoculates it and a week later your pup is down with parvo. Who carries the blame, the breeder for not having the pup inoculated, you for buying a pup that was not inoculated? When exactly was that pup exposed to the virus, in the vet's waiting room or at the breeders premises? This could result in the breeder being labelled BAD BREEDER. If you of course are prepared to buy a cheap uninoculated dog you should have NO recourse to the breeder. He/she is as good as telling you that this pup carries NO immunity at this stage.

NEVER inoculate a pup that is not well, be it first, second, third, fourth inoculation, Wait till the pup is fully recovered.

Breeder caught in the middle – it can happen that a breeder takes their pups to the vet for their first inoculation and in so doing exposes the pups to the parvo virus from a sick dog or pup that may have been in that clinic that day. Very unfortunate for the breeder concerned. Breeder in this instance is totally innocent doing the right thing, but is going to be brought to task when the pups develop parvo. There are ways of getting around this. Ask the vet to see your pups in your vehicle. Phone ahead make an appointment to see the vet, advise it is for first inoculations.

My vet years back asked his receptionist to call me to advise that if I was bringing in any tiny pups or young pups not to come in, they had had a parvo dog.

Inoculating a pup at 6 weeks to be homed the following day to the new owner – again not the best choice to make. It takes time for that inoculation to start the immunization process and for at least a week or so your pup still carries NO immunity. Speak to your vet if you have any doubt regarding this. Rather safe than sorry.

We give our pups the best chance in life and that means they are immunized twice prior to leaving us.

If you have had a pup or dog with parvo you need to be cautious when introducing your new pup. There is a window period. It is around three months from the time of the virus being active on your property or in your home. ASK your vet.

I am not sure how the person Caron refers to had three pups go down with parvo one after the other, I can only imagine, they were not inoculated or were inoculated when they had been in contact with the virus or possibly brought into a home with the virus still active.

If at any time a pup is exposed to a virus be it distemper or parvo, it is not advised to then immunize that pup until your vet has advised you of your best options. To inoculate a pup that is developing the disease is similar to giving it a double dose of that disease. You need your vets input and knowledge on how to cope and sort this problem.

There is only one way to ensure you are never hit by parvo.

Inoculate your dogs annually. Remember it is a young dog's disease but if not caught in time will be fatal and is often fatal no matter when first diagnosed.

Any pup you purchase ensure it is inoculated prior to taking it home and the inoculation must have had time to develop in the dogs system. If you have concerns at all, ask your vet or purchase a pup that has had two inoculations.

Hopefully your breeder of choice, inoculates all their breeding stock all other dogs on their premises and all the pups when required and does not let boosters etc lapse.

Treating sickly pups is an expensive situation. As I say to the public when they come with this story of how cheap they can buy a pup – your cheap pup could end up the most expensive pup you have ever owned or worse still, a dead pup.

At the end of the day there is only one way to breed, happy, healthy pups and dogs and that is by doing everything by the book, NO short cuts, no skipping out on this or that to save money and it is essential that every pup is checked out thoroughly by a vet prior to going to its new home.

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