

STOP PUPPY FARMING

Submission by Margaret & Steve Adams – Adashad German Shepherd Dogs

We have been breeding German Shepherd Dogs for 30 years

We have had success in the show and obedience rings with our bloodlines.

We place them into good family homes and in fact most of our puppy purchasers come back to us for a second and some a third dog.

STOP PUPPY FARMING means just that – not to stop everyone from pursuing their hobby and breeding under the guidelines laid down by their breed.

It is the fools who get a dog and a bitch and say let's have puppies and make some money (without a care for the welfare of the dogs or their young) that society needs to be rid of. They bear no responsibility for those little ones – don't care what happens as long as they make a dollar. Often they have no standard to work with, no veterinary support, no proper diet or cleanliness. **THEY SHOULD BE OUR TARGET AS PART OF OUR DUTY OF CARE AS HUMAN BEINGS**

This is an overview of our breeding practises –this is how we believe all puppies should be raised. These little ones futures are in our hands and we raise puppies with love, for families to love.

Our dogs **MUST** be registered pedigreed dogs, they are x-rayed and must achieve a very good pass and they are regularly vet checked to ensure they grow into healthy adults. They are breed surveyed for character, temperament and soundness of mind and body. **ONLY** then we will look at selecting a suitable mate to enhance their qualities and virtues.

Our pregnant dams have veterinary care throughout pregnancy, ultrasound checks etc.

We raise our puppies in our home – they are born one of our bedrooms that is fitted out as a whelping room complete with a bed for us so we can monitor the puppies' early lives. Heating, bedding, scales, monitoring equipment is all at hand to ensure puppies are growing properly and thriving. Puppies are handled several times a day in order to bond with people.

The mothers are allowed to stay with their babies as often as they wish – we had special fencing built so they can easily go to their babies. This contact is imperative to raise confident and well-adjusted puppies.

Puppies are weaned on the best quality food – fed three times a day 7, 2 and 9. This regime would make it easy for a family to implement – dropping the middle feed as they grow bigger of course.

Puppies are vaccinated and microchipped at 6 weeks of age. They are wormed at 2,3,4 and 6 weeks of age – the 8 week wormer is sent home with the purchaser so the puppy's immune system is not put under added stress prior to leaving.

We interview new owners and give them our puppy pack to view PRIOR to any contract being made – they have to agree that they understand their responsibilities BEFORE they take one of our puppies into their home. When it is time for puppies to go to their new home they leave with a 15kg bag of our preferred food, wormer, heartworm treatment and small items like a brush etc.

We offer training at the German Shepherd Dog Association's training grounds and 6 weeks pet insurance, we transfer the registration papers into the owners name AND all of our puppies are sold with a non-breeding agreement. We do not allow our puppies to be exported.

We give a comprehensive puppy information booklet which guides owners through the puppy's early life. This includes information on the need to let puppy grow at a natural rate without pushing growth and how the hormones are required to ensure the dog's correct development

We are extremely concerned regarding the mandatory sterilisation of dogs – who is going to take responsibility for those dogs that are affected adversely because of early neutering??? It can have an adverse effect on our breed.

We do not agree with pet shops selling any animal – this gives the public that impulse buying opportunity – these are not fridges or sofas they are living creatures whose needs and wants have to be taken care of – we as a civilised society NEED to ensure this happens.

Registered breeders are constantly under the watchful eye of the kennel controls and the individual breed clubs – these are the best organisations to be wardens for dogs and ensure their care is done properly.

Rescue groups should be affiliated with breed clubs where possible – they have the support of the members and the opportunity to place re-homed dogs into homes of enthusiasts for that breed.

PLEASE let us concentrate on condemning those who cause suffering to puppies NOT condemning those who love and treasure every moment of breeding.

Thank you

Margaret & Steve Adams

