

## March 1996 Vol. 2 No. 1

Quarterly Publication of the Boxer Club of Canada Inc.

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## Hope to see YOU at the Boxer Club of Canada's National Specialty on June 2, 1996

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### Send your news to the Boxer Shorts Editor:

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2539 Princess Ave.  
Brandon, MB  
R7B 0J5  
(204) 727-1429  
FAX (204) 728-9288

### Next Newsletter deadline is June 1

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## Timing is Everything

Unsuccessful breedings result more often from improper timing than any other cause. Proper timing using frozen or fresh-chilled semen is even more essential than during natural matings or AI with a fresh ejaculate. Since more breeders are investigating these options, a full understanding of the fertility cycle is required.

The outward signs of heat and breeding time, such as flagging and vaginal smears, are primarily controlled by changes in the hormone estrogen. Unfortunately, these changes are only an approximating of ovulation and can vary by more than a week. Many breeders can testify to the bitch that eagerly accepts a male as early as day 4 and as late as day 22. A much more precise measure is the LH (luteinizing hormone) surge which actually triggers ovulation. Ovulation occurs 2 days after the LH surge. The ovocytes then require an additional 2-3 days to mature, and will live for about 48-72 hours. Thus, the fertile period of the bitch falls between 4-7 days following the LH peak, with the most fertile period of the bitch falls between 4-7 days following the LH peak, with the most fertile days being on days 5 and 6 post-LH peak.

Progesterone assay (a blood test conducted by your vet which works similar to the home-pregnancy test kits) allows you to identify the occurrence of the LH surge. Before the LH surge, progesterone will remain low, progesterone levels will begin to rise, changing from a baseline of 0-1 ng/ml into a range of 1.5-2.0 ng/ml. Progesterone will then continue to rise as the cycle progresses, and remain elevated for 2-3 months in non-pregnant as well as pregnant bitches.

Ovulation timing focuses on using changes in progesterone levels to identify the LH peak in conjunction with vaginal smears. At least one test should be run during the first 5 days of the cycle, during proestrus, to determine the bitch's baseline level. If your vet is experienced in interpreting vaginal smears, you may want to use vaginal cytology as a guideline for continued progesterone testing. Once the slides show 50% to 60% cornification, run progesterone levels every other day.

If the bitch has had trouble conceiving previously, begin testing even earlier and continue testing every other day until you are certain of the progesterone rise indicating the LH peak.

The day that progesterone begins to rise is the day of the LH peak, and is counted as Day 0. The fertile period spans days 4 to 7 post-LH peak, with the most fertile days being days 5 and 6 post-LH peak. ICG believes that this method of identification of the LH peak is very accurate. By properly planned breedings or inseminations, you will optimize the probability of success.

if you have a natural breeding planned, the fresh semen of a normal healthy stud dog often lives up to 5 or more days in the bitch. Therefore, a breeding occurring a day or two before the fertile period will usually provide viable semen at the time of peak fertility.

If you plan a fresh chilled semen AI, fresh chilled semen will usually live for 2-4 days, post collection -- one day of this time is used in shipping. The reduced survival time of the sperm requires the breeding to be conducted closer to the short fertile period of the bitch. ICG recommends that two inseminations, using separate ejaculates, be conducted 48 hours apart between days 3-6 post LH peak.

Frozen semen survives less than 24 hours once it is thawed, so timing is even more critical than with fresh chilled semen. It is important that the period of peak fertility is covered. Therefore, progesterone levels should be checked daily, so that the accuracy of prediction of the LH peak is within 24 hours. Frozen semen breeding should be conducted on day 5 or 6 post-LH peak using surgical insemination by a veterinarian who specializes in reproduction.

Progesterone levels slowly decrease during the last third of pregnancy to a plateau of 4-16 ng/ml which is maintained for 1-2 weeks. A further abrupt drop occurs 12-24 hours prior to whelping, usually to a value of less than 2 ng/ml. If daily progesterone testing is begun 2-3 days prior to the estimated whelping date, this abrupt drop can help pinpoint the onset of labour.

For further information, contact International Canine Genetics at their toll-free number - 1-800-248-8099. The staff are extremely helpful. ICG can supply your vet with information, test kits, fresh-chilled collection kits, frozen semen collection and insemination information and much more.

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**Success doesn't always go to the head -- sometimes it goes to the mouth!**

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## **1995/96 BCC Executive**

**President:** *Eve Whitmore*

**Vice President:** *Paul Dulong*

**Treasurer:** *Norm Walker*

**Recording Secretary:** *Alma Hasler*

**Corresponding Secretary:** *Bernice Langley*

**Show Chairperson:** *Verena Jaeger*

**Membership:** *Mary Dulong*

**Discipline:** *Gord Graffman*

**Publicity:** *Sharon Simpson*

**Trophy Chairperson:** *Shirley Bell*

**Obedience:** *Debbie Carbonneau*

**Program:** *Lillian Wainwright*

## **Regional Directors:**

**Ontario -** *Shirley Bell*

**Maritimes -** *Warren Hood*

**Quebec -** *Helene St. Hilaire*

**Prairies -** *Sharon Simpson*

**BC -** *Cora Verhulst*

**Why not let your name stand for election to the 1996/97 Executive?**

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## Upcoming Specialties & Boosters

### **April 27 - May 1, 1996**

American Boxer Club Specialty  
Holiday Inn (Francis Scott Key), Frederick, Maryland  
Judge:  
Bitches - Bonnie Linnel Clarke  
Dogs & Intersex - Joe Heine  
Futurity - Al Lee, Sr

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### **June 2, 1996**

Boxer Club of Canada Specialty  
Holiday Inn, Burlington, ON  
Judge - Duana Young  
Sweeps - Margaret Krey

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### **June 22, 1996**

Dogwood Boxer Club Specialty  
Cloverdale, BC  
Judge - Bruce Voran  
Sweepstakes - Judy Voran

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### **June 23, 1996**

Boxer Club of Canada Regional Specialty  
Judge - Jack Ireland  
Sweeps - Sharon Simpson

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### **July 6, 1996**

Boxer Club of Western Ontario Booster  
Woodstock, ON  
Judge - James Bennett

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### **July 7, 1996**

Boxer Club of Western Ontario Specialty  
Woodstock, ON  
Judge - R. William Taylor  
Sweeps - Joan Johnson

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### **July 14, 1996**

Alberta Boxer Club Specialty  
Calgary, Alberta  
Judge - Donna Cole  
Sweeps - Cora Verhulst

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**July 15, 1996**

Western Canada Boxer Club Specialty  
Calgary, Alberta  
Judge - Neil Graves

**July 15, 1996**

Boxer Booster  
Calgary, Alberta  
Boxer Booster  
Judge - Robert Verhulst

**September 21, 1996**

Northern Ontario Boxer Club Specialty  
Sudbury, Ontario  
Judge - Sue Ellen Rempel  
Sweeps - Lynne Beilhartz

**September 22, 1996**

Boxer Club of Canada Regional Specialty  
(hosted by Northern Ontario Boxer Club)  
Sudbury, Ontario  
Judge - Donna Cole

**October 3 - 6, 1996**

ABC Regional Specialty  
Chicago, Illinois  
Ramada Inn (formerly Holiday Inn Chicago South/Harvey)

## **Boxer Publications**

**BOXER REVIEW** published 10 times a year

8760 Appian Way  
Los Angeles, CA 90046  
Canadian Subscription - US \$\$  
1 year -- \$45  
2 years -- \$60

**BOXER QUARTERLY**

published 3 times a year  
Manor Farm, Lenton  
Grantham, Lincs, NG33 4HG  
England  
Overseas Subscription rates  
@14-00 (by airmail)

**BOXER N.A**

published quarterly  
Isabel Gordon  
c/o Harold Burton

PO Box 1032  
Baldwin, NY 11510  
Canadian Subscription - US \$\$  
1 year - \$38  
2 years - \$72  
3 years - \$80

#### **LITTLE BLUE BOOK**

published annually  
by the South Western Boxer Club  
Path Heath, Seefeld Boxers,  
Biddisham, Azbridge,  
Somerset BS26 2RS  
England  
\$10 - available from Sheila Bowman or Shirley Bell at the ABC

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## **Welcome New Members**

Deborah Garland  
Sherri Davis

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Write to:

Mary Dulong  
Membership Chairman  
678 MacLaren Drive  
Burlington, Ontario  
L7N 2Z2  
for membership application forms or more information

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## **Health, Herbal & Holistics**

**How to Have a Healthier Dog** - Wendell Belfield, DVM

**Dr. Pitcairn's Natural Guide to Health for Dogs and Cats** - Richard Pitcairn, DVM

**The Holistic Guide for Health Dogs** - NEW - Kerry Brown, DVM & Wendy Volhard

**The Complete Herbal Handbook for the Dog & Cat** - Juliette de Bairacli Levy

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## **Out & About**

Plans are well underway for the BCC national specialty to be held at the Holiday Inn in Burlington, Ontario on Sunday, June 2, 1996. The awards dinner & much-anticipated annual auction will be held on Saturday evening -- tickets are \$25, see Mary Dulong for information. Last year's specialty was well attended with beautiful sunny weather -- and a great potluck luncheon between sweepstakes and breed judging.

Thanks to Lee Muirhead for identifying the record holder for the most champions produced by a boxer bitch -- Verwood's Lollipop holds the honour with 12 Canadian champions to her credit! Lee also corrected the information published regarding "Sassy" -- she counts 9 Canadian champions out of 16 puppies and a Philippine champion -- the youngest imported boxer to hold two championship titles! Ch. Dauntae's Cameo is now working towards her Grand Philippine championship -- by

working towards an additional 25 points from the specials class. also in the brag bag this month -- Ch. Dauntae's Pendant of Sunar completed her championship -- gaining 3 Best Puppy in Show wins along the way!

Bracara Boxers had lots of news to contribute this month -- Irene Waddell reports that husband, Len, is recuperating nicely following 4 bypass surgeries. And partner, Isabel Levers retired from her 32 year career at the end of January.

Gerri Ganske reports that Ch. Rasilan's Camelot Odyssey is the proud sire of 3 males and 1 female, all brindle. The litter arrived January 30th and the dam is Ch. Rasilan's Madison Avenue.

Congratulations to Barry Green's Lynbary's Pretty Boy Floyd (Ch. Turo's Kristian Dior x Cachet's Garnet of Turo) on picking up 2 majors recently and winning Best of Breed along the way.

The Dogwood Boxer Club is inviting boxer lovers to contribute to the trophy fund for their specialties being held June 22 & 23. Donations can be mailed to Lee Muirhead, 5040 Ayum Rd., Sooke BC V0S 1N0. Dogwood is also planning their 1996 Boxer Picnic for May 5th -- call (604) 271-3926 for more details.

Anne McDougall of Chieftain Boxers has a new litter sired by her Tex son, Chieftain's Cool Canadian, out of her English import, Sugarwood's Leading Lady at Rupik, 3 males, 1 female, all fawn.

If anyone is interested in placing an ad in the 1996 ABC catalog or in ordering a marked catalog, contact [Pat Mullen](#) (813)855-3877 -- deadline is March 29, 1996.

Peter Lariviere was curious to know if other boxer fanciers compete in brace competition -- he was the proud recipient of Best Brace in Show with a father/son duo at the Moncton shows last August.

If you haven't already forwarded information regarding your 1995 championship & obedience titles, and Sires & Dam of Merit applications, you're late!! Send your 1995 data to [Shirley Bell](#), RR2, Hwy 17E, Corbeil, ON POH 1K0. Send the Sire & Dam of Merit information to Mrs. Maurette Walker, 7720 - 6 Kennedy Rd., Suite 800, Markham, ON L3R 0N4. Hurry!!!

Plans are underway for BCC's annual Puppy Match at Verena Jaeger's home on Sunday, July 21st -- watch newsletter for more details!

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