

## 2011 Breeding Survey

This survey was generated because of breeding problems recorded in the 2009 Health Survey and published figures stating the Clumber Spaniel was one of the top five breeds requiring caesarean sections at whelping.

A questionnaire was sent out to those that had registered a litter of Clumber Spaniels in the last 5 years. 29 of the 68 forms sent out were returned, giving a return rate of 42.6%. Two of the forms had only been partially filled in so have not been included in these figures.

43 out of 61 attempted matings were successful (70%), i.e. they produced live puppies, from which 263 puppies\*\* were produced giving an average number of live puppies per litter of 6.

\*\* This is the number of litters / puppies as recorded on the returned survey forms. According the KC BRS there were 215 litters bred with a total of 1145 puppies during this 5 year period. This survey, therefore, only reflects 20 % of the successful litters bred during this period.

46% (20 out of 43), of births required a caesarean, over half (11) of which were required because of uterine inertia. 4 had a physical blockage and there were 5 known absorptions.

The most common abnormality with the puppies was the presence of an umbilical hernia, (13% of puppies were affected).

Over 70% of puppies born had no problems i.e. they were healthy!

Table of conditions affecting puppies

| Condition        | No affected | %      |
|------------------|-------------|--------|
| No problems      | 192         | 73%    |
| Monorchidism     | 1           | 0.38%  |
| Umbilical hernia | 36          | 13.68% |
| Cleft palette    | 1           | 0.38%  |
| Jaw over/under   | 19          | 7.22%  |
| Eye defects      | 5           | 1.9%   |
| Fading puppies   | 9           | 3.42%  |
| Other            | 8           | 3.04%  |

‘Other’ conditions included:

Kinked tail; oxygen starvation; stillborn; swimmers; foetal monster; juvenile cellulitis; gastrochisis; wry nose; hair lip.

