

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 2014

Registrations

In 2013, 242 puppies were registered from 47 litters.

Breed Health Plan

A Breed Health Plan was developed by the Health & Welfare Sub Committee and was endorsed by the Committee. It was circulated to all members in January 2014 and has subsequently been forwarded to the Working Clumber Spaniel Society. This document provides much information about the current known health of the breed and guidelines for all breeders to consider when planning a litter. The Breed Health Plan is subject to an annual review so that it can be kept up to date.

Surveys

A Breed Health Survey for 2014 has also been developed and circulated, it is based on the surveys carried out in 1991 and 2001 but has been expanded to allow for more information to be gathered about the conditions reported. This will allow for better comparison of the results with past surveys than it was possible to achieve with the 2009 survey.

It is extremely important to the breed that as much information as possible is gathered on the conditions affecting the Clumber and it is as important to know how many dogs are fit and healthy with no conditions to report. This will show how prevalent any conditions are within the breed so it has been requested that a form is submitted for every Clumber even if there are no health issues to report.

In 2013 two new ongoing surveys were launched and both can be downloaded from the website. A Life Span Survey covering age & cause of death and any lifetime conditions that may have contributed to cause of death. Also a Breeding Survey that covers mating, whelping & health of puppies to 8 weeks

Health Screening

a/ Eye Testing

The inclusion of the Clumber Spaniel as a High Profile Breed focused attention on the eye health of the breed. The Clumber Spaniel Club has always recommended health screening and eye testing with the KC/BVA Eye Scheme has been utilised by some over the years. However the results are not published therefore in 2009 the Club started its own database for the results and anyone with an eye test certificate for a Clumber is invited to forward a copy. This will enable the Club to gather information on the true status of the breed's eye health.

The Club agreed to subsidise the cost of eye testing for its members throughout 2012; in 2013 the subsidy was extended at a lesser rate to cover non members Clumbers and this is being repeated in 2014. An eye testing session has been held in conjunction with the Club's Championship Show each year and it is anticipated that this will become an annual event.

The BVA has provided data on the number of eye certificates issued for Clumbers each year since 2006 and it has increased steadily each year from 13 in 2006 to 30 in 2011; in 2012 when the Club started subsidising the cost of testing it rose to 79 eye certificates which was a very positive increase. The number of certificates issued in 2013 dropped to 53 however it is still pleasing as most of these were new dogs; regrettably we only received copies of 29 of these certificates for the Club's

database. The results can be found on the Club's website and although varied but give us a good base line for measuring progress.

Eye Testing is recommended for Assured Breeders.

b/ Hip & Elbow Scoring

Hip Scoring is recommended for all breeding stock and in 2013 a total of 41 Clumbers were screened for Hip Dysplasia; 15 were also screened for Elbow Dysplasia.

Hip Scoring is a requirement for Assured Breeders.

The 5-year Rolling Trends in hip scoring show continuing improvement in hip health. For the 5 years ending in 2013 it can be noted 22.4% of the dogs registered in that period were hip scored which is excellent for a numerically small breed and 101 dogs (40.4% of the total scored) had a score of 10 or less. The Breed Mean score for the period is 24.4 and the Median is 12.

c/ Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Phosphatase 1 Deficiency (PDP1) Screening

In 2013 4 Clumbers were tested for PDP1 and all were Clear.

It is recommended that all breeding stock is tested for PDP1. The Animal Health Trust will give a discount on group submissions and we are facilitating this offer to all.

PDP1 Testing is recommended for Assured Breeders.

Publishing of Results & Surveys

In 2013 the Health Pages of the Club's website were expanded to include all past results and reports since 1985 thus making the information accessible to all.

Current surveys and databases are also published on the website and are regularly updated.