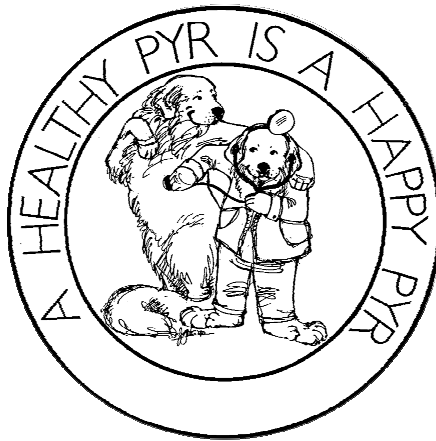


Great Pyrenees Club of America's



2006 Health Survey Results

For the Period of: 2/2006 - 12/2006



Date: 5/2006
Submitted by: GPCA Health Committee
Prepared by: Dianne L. Migas
©Great Pyrenees Club of America - All Rights Reserved

Health Survey Commentary for 2006

Prepared and submitted by Dianne Migas

The GPCA, as a part of its concern for the health of the breed, conducts an on-going health survey. In February of 2006, the Health Committee made a revision to the original survey with the hope that it would increase GPCA Membership participation. The Health Committee addressed two areas that members expressed concern – “confidentiality” and “length”.

Confidentiality: Page 1 of the Health Survey consists of ownership information. This information is kept only with an Independent Tabulator (under contract with the GPCA).

Length: Page 2, which contains only the health information on the dog, is then mailed to the Health Survey Database Manager.

2006 Distribution: To help increase participation, the Health Survey was distributed through the following avenues in 2006: New Titleholders; New Members; National Rescue Packet, Affiliated Club Representative for health, a one time printing in the GPCA Bulletin, available from the HC Table at 2006 GPCA National, inclusive in the HC Annual Meeting packs, and is available for downloading on the GPCA Health Website.

Result: The Independent Tabulator reported that a total of 70 Health Surveys were received. 43 Owners participated in completing the Survey.

Through all these efforts we felt it necessary to report and submit the results for the period of 2/2006 through 12/2006. We will continue to report “annually” to monitor the health as well as track the success of distribution. It is important to understand that a compilation over a period of years is necessary to be to identify what is a health concern vs. a trend.

In the area of “Cause of Death” and “Disorders” you will note that “Down In The Rear” has a high incidence. Therefore, the Health Committee has determined that more education on disorders, such as degenerative myelopathy, (which can cause this) be provided.

In some instances results are broken down by Origin (where the dogs are from), gender and Intact vs. Neutered/Spayed. In areas such as “overall health”, “overall temperament”, and testing, where options for combination responses were given, we have simplified it (due to space in the Bulletin) and are submitting an “Overall” for each. A full detailed report is available online at www.gpcahealth.org.

2006 GPCA Health Survey Summary

Prepared and submitted by Dianne Migas

Total Received	70	Alive - 49	Deceased - 21
Total Males	38	Bred	Litters
Intact	15	3	10
Neutered	23	0	0
Total Females	32	Bred	Litters
Intact	8	3	4
Spayed	24	5	11

Submission: Origin / Distribution

Codes: **MI**-Male Intact / **MN**-Male Neutered **FI**-Female Intact / **FS**-Female Spayed

Origin		New Member	New Titleholder	General Member	Other / Not Indicated
GPCA Bred 45		5	6	33	1
MI	13	2	4	7	0
MN	11	2	1	8	
FI	7		1	5	1
FS	14	1		13	
Non GPCA Member 9		4	1	3	1
MI	2			1	1
MN	2	1		1	
FI	0				
FS	5	3	1	1	
Rescue 13		4		5	4
MI	0				
MN	8				
FI	1				
FS	4				
Other 3		1		1	1
MI	0				
MN	2			1	1
FI	0				
FS	1	1			

Overall Health – The overall health are of our breed for this period is “Excellent”

Health	Males Intact	Males Neutered	Females Intact	Females Spayed
Excellent	13	18	7	11
Good	2	7	1	10
Average	-	3	-	2
Poor	-	1	-	-

Overall Temperament – The overall temperament of our breed for this period is “Confident”

Temperament	Males Intact	Males Neutered	Females Intact	Females Spayed
Very Shy/Timid	-	-	-	2
Timid/Protective	-	1	-	-
Reserved	-	7	-	7
Res./Confident	1	3	-	-
Res./Conf./Protective	2	-	-	4
Reserved/Protective	2	-	1	-
Confident	11	7	6	3
Confident/Protective	1	6	2	6
Protective	-	3	-	-
Aggression/Humans	-	-	-	1

Cause of Death / Origin / Average Age

Causes of Death and Disorders reported were high in various forms of Cancer. Osteosarcoma being the highest reported for this period. Hemangiosarcoma coming in second. It is safe to assume that Cancer is NOT a trend but indeed a problem in the Breed as it is with many breeds.

The GPCA co-funds an Osteosarcoma Grant which has been extended for an additional year without additional funding. In addition to the Osteosarcoma Grant, we have been encouraging our members to “participate” in the Dog Genome Project with the Broad Institute, which covers various forms of cancer. We ask that you if you have a dog who is diagnosed with Cancer that you please help the breed and participate.

**Note: Over the years we have been able to identify that Osteosarcoma is a problem in the Breed through the results of Surveys. This allowed us to conclude that we needed to participate in research and/or Grant. This is exactly one of the benefits and purposes of having Health Surveys.*

Other causes of death were “age related”, with “down in the rear” being the most common.

The overall cause of death is technically “Euthanized”, due to disease and / or age. Out of the 70 surveys received, a total of 21 dogs/bitches were deceased. No “Intact” females were reported as deceased.

The TWO Leading Causes of Death are:

“Cancer” with a total of 9 and 1 No Diagnosis Given. Forms of Cancer, Osteosarcoma (5) has the highest incidence, Hemangiosarcoma (2), Mouth (1) and Jaw Bone (1)
Males Neutered had 4 Incidences, Osteosarcoma (2), Hemangiosarcoma (1), Jaw Bone (1), and No diagnosis given (1).

MN	GPCA Bred	- Cutaneous Basal Cell Tumor on Neck	6
MN	GPCA Bred	- Hemangiosarcoma	8
MN	Rescue	- Jaw Bone	7
MN	GPCA Bred	- Not Indicated	9
MN	GPCA Bred	- Osteosarcoma	6
MN	GPCA Bred	- Osteosarcoma	10
MN	Rescue	- Osteosarcoma (Dog not Deceased)	7

Total Cancer 14

Dentition/Oral

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MI	GPCA Bred	- Blocked Salivary Gland (surgery)	4

Total Dentition/Oral 1

Ears

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
FS	GPCA Bred	- Deafness	9

Total Ears 1

Eyes

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
FS	GPCA Bred	- Cataract	8
FS	GPCA Bred	- Distichiasis	1
MN	Non-GPCA	- Lipid Deposit OD	2

Total Eyes 3

Endocrine

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
FS	GPCA Bred	- Hypothyroid (not AutoImmune - MSU DX)	7
MN	Rescue	- Hypothyroid	7

Total Endocrine 2

Gastrointestinal

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MN	Rescue	- I.B.S.	2

Total Gastro. 1

Kidney

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MN	GPCA Bred	- Not Indicated	1

Total Kidney 1

Musculoskeletal

Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
FS	GPCA Bred	- Spondylosis	9
FS	GPCA Bred	- ADL - due to Injury	5
FS	GPCA Bred	- Spondylosis	4
FS	GPCA Bred	- Arthritis	9
FS	GPCA Bred	- Hip Dysplasia	1
FS	Rescue	- Luxating Patellas	2
MI	GPCA Bred	- DLD Rt. Elbow due to Trauma	2
MI	GPCA Bred	- Spondylosis	8

MI	GPCA Bred	- Arthritis	8
MI	GPCA Bred	- Arthritis	11
MN	GPCA Bred	- Popping Hocks	1
MN	GPCA Bred	- Rear / Weakness	13
MN	GPCA Bred	- OCD	5
MN	GPCA Bred	- Torn Cruciate	5
MN	GPCA Bred	- Spondylosis	9
MN	Non-GPCA	- Luxating Patellas	4 Mo.
MN	Rescue	- Luxating Patellas	Unk
Total Muscu.		17	

Neurological			
Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MN	Non-GPCA	- Hepatic Encephalopathy	10 Wks.
Total Neurological		1	

Reproductive			
Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MN	GPCA Bred	- Enlarged Prostate	6.5
MN	GPCA Bred	- Monochroid	0
FS	GPCA Bred	- Pyometra	6.5
FS	GPCA Bred	- Uterine Inertia	3
FS	GPCA Bred	- Uterine Inertia	6.5
Total Reproductive		5	

Skin			
Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MI	GPCA Bred	- Seborrhea	2
MN	GPCA Bred	- Chronic Hot Spots	2
MN	GPCA Bred	- Seborrhea	4
MN	Rescue	- Currently Working Up	11 Mo.
Total Skin		4	

Other			
Sex	Origin	Disorder	Age of Onset
MN	GPCA Bred	- Prepuce Discharge	
MN	Non-GPCA	- Protosystemic Liver Shunt	2 Mo.
MN	Rescue	- Valley Fever	5
MN	Rescue	- Seizures (Cause not indicated for duration of 1 yr)	2
Total Other		4	

Testing – Total of 28 Dogs/Bitches reported to have tested. 13 Males and 15 Females. All dogs that were bred and had litters were tested for at least hips.

Test	Males Intact	Males Neutered	Females Intact	Females Spayed
	9	4	5	10
BAER	1	-	-	-
Cardiac	4	-	1	-
CERF	2	-	2	
Hips (OFA/Penn Hip)	8	4	4	9
Elbows (OFA)	4		1	1

Shoulders/OCD (OFA)	2	-	-	-
Patella (OFA)	5	-	1	-
Autoimmune Thyroiditis (OFA)	3	-	-	-
CHIC Number	1	-	1	-