

Puppy Farming is the largest animal welfare scandal of all times. It has been the content of investigative TV programmes since 1988—that's over 20 years!! People are making vast sums of money from the unsuspecting via this despicable trade. A greater knowledge can help to bring it to an end.

"The greatness of a nation can be judged in the way it treats its animals"

Mahatma Gandhi

"To sin by silence when they should protest out makes cowards of men"

Abraham Lincoln

All comments or suggestions will be discussed by The Basset Hound Health Group. The Health Group is made up of one health representative and one deputy health representative from each of the eight UK Breed Clubs plus a National Co-ordinator.

You can contact your local Breed Health Representative by using any of the contact details in this flyer

Information Leaflet Compiled and Supplied by

The Basset Hound Health Group

To keep up to date with all matters affecting Basset Hounds in your area, why not join your local Breed Club?
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Puppy Farming

The Facts

Destined to a life of being deprived, confined, kept in comfortless conditions not even provided with a bed forced to lie on a concrete floor scattered with straw, within an agricultural barn, pig sty, sheep pen, poultry shed or even a disused refrigerated container lorry, without access to the outside. Denied human contact—this is where she will be used as a 'breeding machine' a conveyor belt producing a litter of puppies every season. She and her puppies will lack the basic veterinary care such as worming, flea treatment and vaccinations. When her puppies are 6 weeks old they will transported by dealers, hundreds of miles all over the UK and sold in pet shops to the unsuspecting!!

What is a Puppy Farm?

You may have already heard of the phrase 'Puppy Farming' but are probably unaware of just how big an issue this is in the UK.

Puppy Farms exist all over the UK with higher concentrations in Wales and Northern Ireland.

A 'puppy farm' can involve a small to a large number of dogs breeding and producing puppies; the reason for existence being that of financial gain which takes priority over welfare.

Puppy Farms exist to make profit with little regard to welfare standards. Running/operating costs are reduced wherever possible, to maximize profits, what this can mean is that dogs and puppies are kept in appalling conditions with puppies produced dying before reaching the buyer or sold off with hereditary diseases along with physical and psychological problems-resulting in further suffering, heartache and veterinary bills for their new owners.

Some breeding premises are unlicensed and other are licensed by the Local Authority, these breeding sites exist to supply puppies to the public, as demand is high in our throw away society and the trade is flourishing.



Mum and her young litter look undernourished

'The dogs all lead miserable lives'

Dogs are kept in kennel premises for the sole purpose of the mass production of puppies, who are when a few weeks of age transported en masse across the country to be sold in pet shops and through dealers advertising in papers and on the internet.

Puppy farming is a sickening trade which continues right under our noses, in our own country, a country which is known as a 'nation of dog lovers'. But, it's all about the money, the money made by the puppy farmers, the dealers, the pet shop outlets, it's big business to churn out litter after litter after litter of pups and the dogs used for breeding are no more than a commodity, to be disposed of once finished with.

It is well known that many puppy farm dogs live miserable lives, crammed into dismal kennel pens in large numbers, desperate for human company and affection, living in filthy stinking conditions where the highlight of the day is some dried food thrown in and the remainder of the day is spent pacing round in circles as the boredom breaks their spirits and the injuries and illness breaks their bodies.



This bitch kept in a small concrete pen has a skin condition



This puppy has an obvious problem with its left eye

'Many puppies die before they have a chance'

Once born, many puppy farm pups will lose their fight for life due to sub standard conditions before the surviving ones are packed into vehicles and transported out across the country all ready to look cute and cuddly for the public.

Sadly, it's the public who through their purchases of puppy farm dogs who keep commercial breeders who put money before welfare in business - keep puppies mum and dad and thousands like them confined solely for their next breeding - keep dealers and 3rd party traders in business you may not have realised that your money is what fuels and maintains this practice.

The RSPCA estimates that 50,000 farmed puppies are imported (or 'trafficked') into the UK every year from Ireland, where breeding legislation is practically non-existent. A significant proportion of the UK's estimated eight million dogs started their lives in a puppy farm.

Puppies reared indiscriminately are more likely to develop any of the following:

DISEASE such as parvo-virus, gastro enteritis, distemper.

TEMPERAMENT PROBLEMS such as aggression, behaviour problems, nervousness, biting.

DIFFICULTY with house training, isolation stress, adjusting to family life (unused to children or human handling).

PHYSICAL DEFECTS such as bone deformity, skin problems such as mange, eczema, flea infestation, lice.

HEREDITARY WEAKNESSES such as heart defects, hip dysplasia, eye disease.