

# FLORIDA LUPINE NEWS

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*Published Quarterly  
to Members and Free  
to DVMs, Shelters, Do-  
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## **Hurricane Season is Here**

**By Kim Miles**

Have you made provisions for your pets in the event of a hurricane? Advance planning is essential to the welfare of you and your pets.

Do you live in an area that mandates evacuation? Emergency shelters do not allow pets for public health and safety reasons; in addition, Animal Control facilities do not board pets.

However, there are other alternatives, but pet owners must seek out the alternatives prior to the storm's approach.

Some hotels will accept pet owners and their pets during a hurricane emergency. Call to determine which ones accept pets and if they have a limit on the size and number of pets.

Some veterinarians have boarding facilities. Call yours to see if he or she offers this option. If so, find out who stays on the premises with the animals during the storm and what provisions are made if they need to evacuate the building.

If your veterinarian does not have provisions for boarding animals during the storm, ask for referrals.

If you locate a private boarding facility that will provide your pet with refuge, call it early as many pet owners may have the same plans to board their animals, and the kennel may fill up quickly.

If you plan to leave your pet home while seeking safety elsewhere, do NOT leave your animal outside, exposed to the elements.

Bring your pets inside and place them in a safe room away from windows (e.g., a garage or interior room); leave plenty of dry food and water in non-spill containers; and make sure that ID tags are on all of your cats and dogs.

If you can stay or elect to stay at home with your animals,

- purchase extra pet food (dry kibble);
- acquire bags, newspapers, etc., for sanitary waste disposal;
- prepare an area in the home for your

animals to use for waste (e.g., a corner of the garage);

- have a complete First-Aid kit and any special medications handy;
- ensure that all animals are affixed with ID tags, complete with your phone number and address;
- ensure that all cats or dogs are current on their vaccinations, specifically rabies;
- have leashes, crates, and obedience aids handy; and
- fill bathtubs with plenty of water for you and your pets.



## **REMEMBER:**

Preparation before the hurricane can help to ensure the health, safety and well-being of your pets; and proper identification tags (with the owner's phone number and address) will prevent a beloved pet from becoming permanently separated from its owners.



### Florida Lupine Association, Inc.

A Non-Profit Organization  
Dedicated to the Betterment of  
Wolfdogs and Wolves in Captivity.

#### Letters, Advertisements and Pictures for the Newsletter are to be sent to

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## FLA Business Corner

Special thanks to those who provided donations or contributed their services to FLA this quarter:

- Barbara & Michael Weintraub, Mary Alice Palmer, Barbara & Bob Speer-Skeoch, and Mayo Wetterberg for their financial contributions.
- Sheila Blanton, Director of Tallahassee Animal Control, for sponsoring, printing and dispersing FLA's Wolfdog Brochures in Leon County.
- Dr. Geoff Stein, veterinarian and cartoonist, for the fine job on the FLA Newsletter wolf cartoon (on back).
- North Florida Animal Hospital in Tallahassee and Dr. Juan Fernandez in Miami for their many services in our wolfdog rescue and placement efforts.
- John DeMott and Gary Antosh for hosting our website on their server free of charge.

FLA is coming to the web:  
<http://www.floridalupine.org>

## Rabies Vaccine Update: USDA/APHIS Proposed Amendment to Virus-Serum-Toxin Act to Include Wolfdogs and Wolves

*Though the rabies vaccine has yet to be officially approved for wolves and wolfdogs, we are now closer to government approval than we have ever been thanks to the concerted efforts of many individuals and organizations.*

*In November 1998, The Wolf Dog Coalition (<http://www.inetdesign.com/coalition/>), a national organization dedicated to wolfdogs, submitted a significant number of wolfdog vaccination records they had acquired for the USDA to review.*

*On September 28, 1999, APHIS, a division of USDA, submitted a proposal to amend the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act. This proposal recognizes that the rabies vaccine is effective for wolves and wolfdogs and suggests that the definition dog be modified (to include wolves and wolfdogs) in the Title*

*9 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).*

*APHIS has published the proposed amendment online <<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>> for public comment through November 29, 1999. The following is the full amendment as posted online in the Federal Register.*

[Federal Register: September 28, 1999  
(Volume 64, Number 187)]

[Proposed Rules]  
[Page 52247-52248]

From the Federal Register Online via  
GPO Access [[wais.access.gpo.gov](http://wais.access.gpo.gov)]  
[DOCID:fr28se99-17]

#### Proposed Rules Federal Register

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of

the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

9 CFR Part 101  
[Docket No. 99-040-1]

#### Viruses, Serums, Toxins, and Analogous Products; Definitions

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We are proposing to amend the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act regu-

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lations by adding a definition of the term dog to include all members of the species *Canis familiaris*, *Canis lupus*, or any dog-wolf cross. APHIS believes that dogs, wolves, and any dog-wolf cross can be safely and effectively vaccinated with canine vaccines. This action would allow canine vaccines that are recommended for use in dogs to be recommended for use in wolves and any dog-wolf cross.

**DATES:** We invite you to comment on this docket. We will consider all comments that we receive by November 29, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send your comment and three copies to: Docket # 99-040-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket # 99-040-1.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the Federal Register, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS rules, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**CONTACT:** Dr. Albert P. Morgan, Chief Staff Officer, Operational Support Section, Center for Veterinary Biologics, Licensing and Policy Development, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 148, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-8245.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The regulations in 9 CFR part

112 set forth packaging and labeling requirements for veterinary biological products. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) requires a product's label to identify the animals for which the product has been demonstrated to be effective and safe. Paragraph (b) of Sec. 113.209 requires a rabies vaccine to be tested for immunogenicity in each species for which it will be recommended. Therefore, rabies vaccines recommended for use in dogs may be tested in any member of the species historically named *Canis familiaris* and recommended for use in breeds of dog of the species *Canis familiaris*.

In 1993, the second edition of *Mammal Species of the World, A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference*, stated that domestic dogs, formerly identified as *Canis familiaris*, were a member of the species *Canis lupus*, which is the grey wolf. This publication is widely accepted as the standard for mammalian taxonomy. However, there is disagreement within the expert community.

In 1995, as a result of reclassifying dogs into the species *Canis lupus*, owners of wolves and dog-wolf crosses petitioned APHIS to recognize rabies vaccines approved for use in dogs as effective in wolves and dog-wolf crosses. The petitioners pointed out that many jurisdictions do not recognize the vaccination of wolves and dog-wolf crosses against rabies. Therefore, if these animals are involved in an incident in which rabies vaccination is an issue, they may be subject to euthanasia.

In April 1996, after consulting with taxonomists regarding the petition, APHIS hosted a meeting in Riverdale, MD, to review the issues of whether dogs and wolves were members of the same species *Canis lupus* and whether rabies vaccines recommended for use in dogs should be considered effective in wolves and any dog-wolf cross. Experts from the disciplines of animal taxonomy, molecular genetics, veterinary immunology, wildlife biology, and veterinary public health attended the meeting.

During the meeting, there was disagreement as to whether dogs and

wolves belonged to the same species, but there was consensus that inactivated rabies vaccines should be safe and effective in wolves and any dog-wolf cross. It was proposed that if rabies vaccines could be assumed to be safe and effective in wolves and dog-wolf crosses, then modified live vaccines against other dog diseases should also be safe and effective in wolves and dog-wolf crosses. However, the experts could not agree to this proposal without data demonstrating the safety of modified live canine vaccines in wolves and dog-wolf crosses. Without a clear consensus that the immune systems of wolves and dogs were equivalent, APHIS took no action at that time to allow canine vaccines that were recommended for use in dogs to be recommended for use in wolves and any dog-wolf cross.

As a follow up to the meeting, wolf and dog-wolf cross fanciers submitted supplemental data to support the use of modified live canine vaccines in wolves and dog-wolf crosses. The data indicated that 216 wolves and 460 dog-wolf crosses were vaccinated with various modified live canine vaccines without any reported adverse reactions attributable to the vaccines. Many of these animals received multiple vaccinations over several years. These data provide only limited statistical inference; however, the fact that wolves and dog-wolf crosses share the same environment with dogs and have similar exposure to disease agents with ample evidence of protection against those diseases for which the animals were vaccinated provide strong evidence that wolves and dog-wolf crosses respond to canine vaccines in a manner similar to dogs. Further, the lack of reported adverse reactions after vaccination provides strong epidemiological evidence that wolves and dog-wolf crosses respond to canine vaccines in a manner similar to dogs. In addition, manufacturers of canine vaccines acknowledge that their products have been used extensively in wolves and dog-wolf crosses with no reported adverse reactions.

Based upon the above, APHIS believes that dogs, wolves, and any dog-wolf cross can be safely and effectively

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vaccinated with canine vaccines. Therefore, we are proposing to add a definition of dog to 9 CFR part 101 to include all members of the species *Canis familiaris*, *Canis lupus*, or any dog-wolf cross. This would allow canine vaccines recommended for use in dogs to be recommended for use in wolves and any dog-wolf cross. Manufacturers who wish to include wolves and dog-wolf crosses on the labels for their canine vaccines could add these animals to the labels.

APHIS believes that, even without this change, all canine vaccines labeled for use in dogs would be accepted as being safe and effective in wolves and any dog-wolf cross. If manufacturers wish to include wolves and any dog-wolf cross on their labels, the labels would first need to be approved by and filed with APHIS.

We would not require additional efficacy and safety studies to be performed; however, manufacturers could perform additional efficacy and safety studies, at their discretion, prior to recommending the use of their canine vaccines in wolves and any dog-wolf cross.

#### **Executive Order 12866 and Regulatory Flexibility Act**

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12866. The rule has been determined to be not significant for the purposes of Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

This proposed rule would amend the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act regulations by adding a definition of the term dog to include all members of the species *Canis familiaris*, *Canis lupus*, or any dog-wolf cross. As a consequence, canine vaccines that are recommended for use in dogs could also be recommended for use in wolves and any dog-wolf cross. Manufacturers could include wolves and any dog-wolf cross on the labels for their canine vaccines. The labels would need to be approved by and filed with APHIS.

This proposed rule would affect all licensed veterinary biologics

establishments that produce vaccines for use in dogs. Currently, there are approximately 150 veterinary biologics establishments. According to the standards of the Small Business Administration, most of these establishments would be classified as small entities, and approximately 10 percent of these establishments currently produce vaccines for use in dogs.

Because the efficacy and safety of licensed canine vaccines have already been demonstrated in accordance with the regulations, and because this proposed rule does not require manufacturers to replace labels for their products for use in wolves and any dog-wolf cross, any additional costs manufacturers would incur if this proposed rule is adopted should be minimal. Currently, manufacturers of veterinary biological products do not recommend canine vaccines for use in wolves and any dog-wolf cross. Under this proposed rule, if manufacturers recommend their canine vaccines for use in wolves and dog-wolf crosses, additional efficacy and safety data would not be required. Therefore, manufacturers would not incur any additional costs as a result of the rule.

This proposed rule would not restrict manufacturers from using their discretion to elect to perform additional efficacy and safety studies prior to recommending the use of their canine vaccines in wolves and dog-wolf crosses. However, if a canine vaccine is used on wolves or dog-wolf crosses in accordance with the label recommendations, this proposed rule would not relieve the manufacturer of responsibility for the performance of the product (e.g., adverse reactions).

Under these circumstances, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this action would not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

#### **Executive Order 12372**

This program/activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.025 and is subject to Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 7

CFR part 3015, subpart V.)

#### **Executive Order 12988**

This proposed rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. It is not intended to have retroactive effect. This rule would not preempt any State or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule. The Act does not provide administrative procedures which must be exhausted prior to a judicial challenge to the provisions of this rule.

#### **Paperwork Reduction Act**

This proposed rule contains no information collection or record-keeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

#### **Regulatory Reform**

This action is part of the President's Regulatory Reform Initiative, which, among other things, directs agencies to remove obsolete and unnecessary regulations and to find less burdensome ways to achieve regulatory goals.

#### **List of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 101**

Animal biologics.

Accordingly, we propose to amend 9 CFR part 101 as follows:

#### **PART 101--DEFINITIONS**

1. The authority citation for part 101 would continue to read as follows:

*Authority:* 21 U.S.C. 151-159; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(d).

2. In Sec. 101.2, a definition of "dog" would be added in alphabetical order to read as follows:

*Sec. 101.2 Administrative terminology.*

*Dog.* All members of the species *Canis familiaris*, *Canis lupus*, or any dog-wolf cross.

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Done in Washington, DC, this 22nd day of September 1999. Bobby R. Acord, Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. [FR Doc. 99-25177 Filed 9-27-99; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

# Attacked by Razorback Hogs

By Patrick Campbell and Kim Miles

Dr. Patrick Campbell, a wildlife biologist, studies wildlife populations and evaluates the health of many diverse species of wildlife in the Oklahoma wilderness.

One late summer day in 1999, Dr. Campbell and his three canines set off to observe a population of deer in a rugged and heavily forested area. As was his usual routine, Campbell left the GPS coordinates of his destination with a friend, a wildlife Preserve Ranger.

Campbell set off on foot over the rocky, mountainous terrain with his German Shepherd, Farley, and his two wolves, Montana and Dakota. Campbell's destination was the high ground overlooking a streambed that promised to be an ideal spot for his deer observations.

Mid afternoon found Campbell and his canines in heavy brush, ascending the mountainside at a 60° angle. Farley and Montana had forged ahead, with Campbell and Dakota bringing up the rear.

Campbell and Dakota were the first to hear the pack of razorback hogs, which were snorting and moving toward them at a high rate of speed from the left. The incline of the mountain prevented them from dodging the hogs' mad charge.

As the hogs became visible, Dakota inserted herself between her owner and the hogs, preventing Campbell

from using the pistol he carries with him on these treks into the wilds.

The first hog charged Dakota, but she neatly sidestepped it, attacking it behind the head as it sailed past. Farley and Montana heard the snarling and growling and rushed back to the defense of Campbell and their pack mate, each tackling the two remaining hogs.

One hog broke away from Farley and charged Campbell, colliding with him and lacerating his left calf. The impact from the collision knocked him a few feet down the steep incline of the mountain, causing him to break his pelvis on the sharp rocks.

Before the hog could inflict more damage, Campbell shot it in the chest, slowing its charge. Farley then attacked the fatally wounded hog, killing it. Meanwhile, Dakota and Montana were occupied restraining the other two hogs.

Farley soon joined them, and working in tandem, the three canines finished off the remaining hogs. One would pose a diversionary attack from the front while the others would perform lethal strikes from the rear in a concerted team-assault effort.

None of the canines had ever been trained in defense or in assault, but the way in which they dispatched the threats to their beloved owner and to each other was an impressive testimony to the ca-

nine instinct for survival and defense.

After the attack, Campbell assessed the damage done to himself and to his companions. Montana had a superficial laceration to her chest, while Dakota had one on her nose. Farley was unscathed.

Campbell sustained the most injuries, with serious lacerations to his left leg and a broken pelvis. After bandaging his wounds, he assessed his situation. He knew that he was unable to make it out of the woods himself and that the most likely spot for help to find him would be along the streambed.

By dusk, Campbell had skinned and butchered a hog and had managed to edge his way 75 yards down the mountainside to the streambed, assisted by his faithful companions. There, he set up a makeshift camp, built a fire and cooked one of the hogs. The four then shared a wonderful meal of succulent pork.

Rescue efforts were successful the following evening at dusk, but Campbell was in a location that prohibited carrying him out. Extraction came by helicopter the next morning.

Campbell is home recuperating. He is still amazed at the impressive defense of his companions--amazed with and impressed by the loyalty and the concerted efforts that brought him and his animals together to defend and to protect one another.

# TickTalk: Follow these steps for tick infestation & prevention

By Dr. Marty Smith, DVM

Ticks have been in the news a lot lately, probably because of the new Lyme disease vaccine for humans. Dog owners, however, have had them on their minds for years—they make our pets uncomfortable and we know how they spread disease. Because of our pets' thick hair coats, ticks are difficult to detect and no pet owner actually takes pleasure in picking them off!

## Exactly what are ticks?

Ticks are not insects like fleas, flies, or lice. They are arachnids—like spiders and mites. They have three pair of legs during their immature stage and four pair as adults. They cannot fly.

There are 850 species and two structural classifications: soft-shelled ticks and hard-shelled ticks. The only soft-shelled tick, or Argasidae, that pet owners have to worry about is the ear tick. These are most common in the southwest. Hard-shelled ticks, or Ixodidae, are much more common and there are many different types.

## What are the different kinds?

The *Amblyomma* group consists of southern ticks: the Lone Star tick and the Gulf Coast tick. Their nicknames indicate where they reside.

The *Dermacentor* group has three common species: the “Winter” or “Elk” tick, found in northern and western U.S. and Canada; the Rocky Mountain Spotted tick, which is named after the disease it transmits; and the American Dog tick, which lives in the entire eastern two-thirds of the United States.

*Rhipicephalus sanguineus* is the Brown Dog tick, not because it feeds on brown dogs, but because its color is brown. It is also seen in most of the U.S. and is one of the most troublesome ticks.

*Ixodes scapularis* is the tick everyone is talking about these days. It is the tiny deer tick (also called bear tick) and it transmits Lyme disease.

## How do they live?

Most ticks have a life cycle

that takes three years. It consists of four stages and requires three hosts. The first stage is the egg, which the adult lays on the ground in the spring. Usually in late summer, the eggs hatch into larvae, which find an animal, live on its blood for several days, and then detach.

They then molt into nymphs, which emerge the next spring to find an animal to feed on. The well-fed nymph falls off, molts and metamorphoses into an adult. Adults feed on yet a third host and mate throughout that second fall. Then the cycle begins again in the spring.

## How do I keep ticks away?

There are several things you can do to keep ticks from becoming a problem. First, spray your backyard and kennel areas. A good, environmentally safe spray is Drs. Foster & Smith Premium Lawn Spray.

The best time to spray is in the fall since that is when tick numbers are greatest. You can also remove leaves and clear brush from around the house and kennel areas.

Ticks are outdoor creatures, but the Brown Dog tick can sometimes be found indoors. If you perceive an indoor tick problem, you can use an indoor fogger or powder like Multi-Stage Plus Fogger or Flea and Tick Carpet Powder. It's a good idea to regularly wash your pet's bedding.

## How do I keep ticks off my pet?

During the feeding stages in their lives, ticks will attach themselves to pets. You need some sort of repellent and there are many choices.

**Collars:** Each collar has a different duration of effectiveness, so check labels carefully. Some common ingredients in tick collars are permethrin, pyrethrin or Amitraz. Both Preventic and Drs. Foster & Smith Flea & Tick Collars are good examples. It is important to fit the collar correctly. This means that you should be able to get two fingers between the collar and your pet.

Watch for irritation under the collar.

**Once-a-month Topicals:** These are applied to a small area on your pet's back, are easy to use and generally last the longest. Always check labels because some only kill fleas. Bio Spot for Dogs (with permethrin) and Frontline Top Spot (with fipronyl) are both good choices for your dog. Bio Spot for Cats is a safe alternative for felines.

**Sprays and Powders:** You have your choice of aerosol or pump spray, which cats prefer. Be sure to mist all parts of an animal. A cloth or cotton ball sprayed with the product can be used in the facial areas. Drs. Foster and Smith have two appropriate products: Multi-Stage Plus Flea & Tick Spray and Natural Pyrethrin Flea & Tick Spray. Follow your veterinarian's and manufacturer's guidelines for how often to spray. Powders are generally easy to apply, but they must be used in a well-ventilated area and are sometimes messy. You can also try Drs. Foster & Smith Flea & Tick Powder.

**Dips and Shampoos:** These are all applied to the entire animal. The difference is that dips must be left on the animal to dry and shampoos may be rinsed off after 10 minutes. Your veterinarian can recommend a product for your particular pet. Examples of dips are Drs. Foster & Smith Flea & Tick Dip and Vet-Ken Paramite Dip. A suitable shampoo would be Drs. Foster & Smith Flea & Tick Shampoo. Before using either product, make sure to protect your pet's sensitive eyes with ophthalmic ointment and the ears with cotton balls.

## What if a tick attaches itself to my pet anyway?

We recommend using a pair of fine-tipped tweezers or a special tick removal instrument like the Tick Puller to dislodge the tick. Grab the tick by

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the mouth or head and pull directly outward. Place the tick in a jar of alcohol to kill it. The important thing is to do it so as not to crush or irritate the tick into releasing harmful bacteria into your pet's bloodstream. Cleanse the bite wound with a disinfectant like *Nolvasan* and apply a small amount of triple antibiotic ointment. A small local reaction that could take up to a week to resolve may occur. Remember to wash your hands thoroughly after you remove this tick.

### What diseases do ticks carry that I should worry about?

There are several diseases that ticks can carry. Diseases of the blood include those caused by the *Haemobartonella* micro-organism, the *Babesia* parasite, and *Ehrlichia rickettsia*. (A "rickettsia" is a microbe that is somewhere between a bacteria and a virus.) Symptoms of these blood-borne diseases include anemia and weight loss. Treatments run the gamut from antibiotic therapy to blood transfusions for

the most severe cases.

A more common disease is the Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, also transmitted by the American Dog tick. The microbe that actually causes the disease is also a rickettsia called *Rickettsia rickettsii*. The disease is often manifested by neurological signs (dizziness, seizures), as well as muscle and joint pain. There is an antibiotic treatment for this disease, but dogs with severe neurological problems may not recover completely.

The disease that everyone is hearing about these days is Lyme disease, named after the town in Connecticut where it was first diagnosed in the 1970s. A tiny common deer tick is the *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria-carrying culprit that causes this disease. The good news is that the deer tick must be attached to the host for a full 48 hours for the bacteria to be transmitted. But unfortunately symptoms do not usually appear for two to five months post-exposure.

Lyme disease responds readily to antibiotics, but damage to joints can be permanent. There is a vaccine avail-

able, but it does not ensure total protection.

All in all, it is much simpler to prevent ticks from attaching to your pet or to be diligent about removing them when your pet is in high tick areas such as forests and fields.

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*"I've seen a look in dog's eyes,  
a quickly vanishing look of  
amazed contempt, and I am  
convinced that basically dogs  
think humans are nuts."*

*-John Steinbeck*

## Health: Seizures and Anesthetics/Sedatives

By Kim Miles

Frequently, anesthetics and sedatives may trigger seizures in canines; therefore, pet owners should avoid sedating their own canines at home unless the animals have previously taken the medication with no adverse reactions.

Although there are several anesthetic protocols considered safe for canines prone to seizures, ketamine and phenothiazine tranquilizers (e.g., acepromazine) are generally avoided.

Dr. W. B. Thomas, DVM and specialist in canine neurology, claims that for seizure-prone and epileptic canines, many veterinarians may use isoflurane (an inhalant anesthetic), propofol (an injectable anesthetic) and/or thiopental (a barbiturate anesthetic).

Most veterinarians have certain protocols for sedating and anesthe-

tizing their patients. While pet owners should consult their veterinarians about the particular sedation methods used on their canines, they should be cautious about demanding a certain anesthetic protocol.

Dr. Thomas clarifies that "the least safe anesthetic is the one the veterinarian is unfamiliar with" and that "the most important aspect of anesthesia is not the particular drug used, but rather adequate monitoring during and after the procedure."

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The following is a list of drugs that, according to Dr. R. McGucken, have a greater or lesser capacity for inducing seizures in most mammals:

- Drugs that tend to increase the sei-

zure threshold are Isoflurane (though commonly administered), Benzodiazepines, and Barbiturates (except methohexital);

- Drugs that tend to decrease the seizure threshold are Methohexital, Etomidate, and Enflurane (most especially in children);
- Drugs with no effect or mixed results on the seizure threshold are Ketamine, Fentanyl, Sufentanil, Alfentanil, and Propofol (though the latter could possibly increase the seizure threshold).

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*Special thanks to W.B. Thomas, Ph.D., DVM, and to R. McGucken, Ph.D., for the information provided in this article.*

# The Wolfdog Rescue Roster

By Kim Miles & Beth Palmer

**Prophet** was 7 months old in September (DOB: 2-23-99). He is a



playful and energetic high-mid content wolfdog (approximately 70% wolf and 30% Siberian Husky). He is neutered, weighs 73 pounds, and is current on all shots and heartworm prevention.

Although he is a submissive pup who gets along well with all dogs, he will need someone with experience as he will test the boundaries of what is allowed. He can only go to someone experienced and who can provide him with constant companionship (either human or canine). He is a jumper and digger and will go over 6-foot fencing if it doesn't have lean-ins or electric wire at the top and bottom.

**CONTACT:** Beth Palmer at (850) 539-0460 or at wflzrd@nettally.com.

**Sequoia** (which means "Big Tree" in Cherokee) is a mid-content Malamute/wolf. He will be four years

old in December (DOB: 12-10-95). He is house trained and loves being inside. He is currently a thin 97 pounds and will probably be 120-130 lbs at peak condition. He is neutered and is also current on all shots and is on heartworm prevention.

He does not get along with other male dogs as he is dominant, but Sequoia loves puppies (male or female) and gets along with adult females. Sequoia is a digger and would do best in a situation where his human companion is home all the time and he could live inside.



**UPDATE:** Sequoia has been successfully placed with a man who works flex time from home and who was looking for another inside companion as his previous wolfdog of 13 years recently passed away.

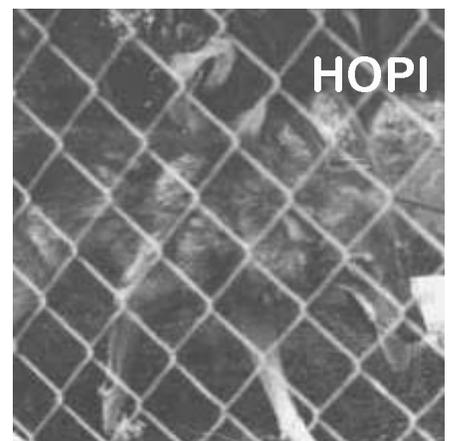
**Hopi and Nacoma** are a bonded pair in Texas and will ONLY be adopted out together as a pair. The owner recently lost his wife and is now wheelchair-bound and in poor health. The animals are in foster.

**Nacoma** is a 2 year old male, mid content. He has some Malamute



coloring but a wolfy build--long and lean. He is not people-oriented, preferring the company of his mate instead. He is standoffish, cautious of strangers but not overly skittish. He tolerates riding, doesn't climb, and isn't food or people aggressive. He has been bred once—to his mate, Hopi. He is intact presently, but will either be neutered or go out on a neuter contract.

**Hopi** is an F2 female and is 73% with Davidson lineage



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(DOB: 2/97). She is a very sweet, wonderful animal and loves people. She does not like riding and is not food aggressive. She is a climber, so she requires lean-ins and hot-wire. She has had one litter of pups (sired by Nacoma). She is intact presently, but will either be spayed or go out on a spay contract.

Both **Nakoma** and **Hopi** were raised with small girls; Nacoma is shy around kids, but Hopi loves them. They are both accustomed to a minimum 900-1000 square foot enclosure (approx 30' X 30'). They are current on vaccinations, including rabies (7/99). They are worm free and on heartworm prevention.

**CONTACT:** Kim Miles at 305-278-7022 or gwagedd@bellsouth.net.

**Nellie** is a little over one year old (DOB: 6-02-98). She is a low-content female at approximately 25%. She is Sequoia's daughter and is mixed with Siberian Husky on her mom's side



and Malamute on her dad's.

She is extremely sweet and is also submissive, but not shy; therefore, she is an excellent candidate for a first-time wolfdog owner. She is big boned, but very petite, weighing approximately 60 pounds. She is white with a black saddle and has a straight black-tipped tail. She is spayed and current on all shots. She is also heartworm negative and is on heartworm prevention.

**CONTACT:** Beth Palmer at (850) 539-0460 or at wflzrd@nettally.com.

## Summer Heat in Florida: Not Restricted to Summer

By Kim Miles

While it is technically no longer summer according to the "seasons," this is Florida—the land of sun and surf year round.

As we all know, summer brings with it the cooling, water-drenched clouds of the rainy season, which soon cause all of us Floridians to turn our eyes toward any developing activity of the tropics. But between the many bouts of summer thunderstorms, the shining sun continues beating down on us unrelentingly.

In the spring and autumn months, we still find little escape from the sun. In fact, the sun is as close to us in Florida during these seasons as it is to states in the central latitudes during the summer months. So problems arising from the heat and the sun are not restricted to the summer months for those of us living in Florida.

While many of us seek escape in the cool comfort of our air conditioned homes and vehicles,

how many of us have taken precautions for keeping our outside pets comfortable and safe?

Here are some considerations for all pet owners:

- Do not leave pets in vehicles with the windows up or even with the windows cracked. If the outside temperature is in the 90-degree range, the temperatures inside a closed vehicle can soar over 160 degrees within 10 minutes. Pets can die of heat stroke in such conditions—even if the windows are cracked.
- Be careful walking your pet during the hot hours of the day, especially if the sun is beating down. When outside temperatures reach 100 degrees, the asphalt temperatures can soar to nearly 150 degrees. The pads of your pets' feet can suffer second degree burns when walking

in such conditions.

- Do not shave your dogs as their coats act as insulation. They do not sweat like humans; they sweat by panting. Shaved dogs have a harder time regulating their body temperatures.
- Make sure that your pets have shady areas that they may relax in when outside. You may also want to provide them with sand or dirt mounds that they may dig in as freshly churned sand and dirt are cool.
- Check water bowls frequently as the heat causes water to evaporate rapidly. You may even want to provide a kiddie swimming pool (though it will probably be destroyed in short time) or a sturdier landscaping pond for them to cool off in. Both can be purchased at your local K-Mart, Wal-Mart, or other such store; however, the kiddie pool can only be purchased in the spring and early summer months.