Understanding JLPP - THE FACTS

There are some breeders of Rottweilers (some registered with ANKC and some not) who will try to tell people looking to buy one of their puppies that Juvenile Laryngeal Paralysis and Polynueropathy (JLPP) is not a common problem in our breed. We are not hearing of NRC(a) breeders behaving this way, but regardless of this buyers need to be aware of what JLPP is and what to ask the breeder.

We are hearing of breeders who are saying things such as...

“JLPP is no more prevalent in our breed than any other breed.”

FALSE - JLPP only exists in the Rottweiler, Russian Black Terrier and Leonberger.

“Breeders would know if their dogs were JLPP Carriers because they would have seen signs”

FALSE - JLPP Carrier dogs do not exhibit any signs of illness at all. They are a perfectly healthy dog and live a perfectly normal life. It is only when two of these Carrier dogs are mated together that affected puppies can/will be born in a litter.

“Breeders would know if their breeding dogs were Carriers because they have bred with them previously and all of the puppies were fine”

FALSE - Some breeders do not keep in touch with their puppy people and would not know if they started exhibiting signs of JLPP a month or more after the puppy left. Also given the mode of inheritance of JLPP and the fact that some unborn puppies can die in utero, it is possible that all of the litter ended up being JLPP Clear or Carrier and therefore healthy.

“Educating the public on such diseases in breeds like JLPP is scare mongering”

FALSE - JLPP is real, it exists. We are finding more and more JLPP Carrier dogs becoming apparent within Australia almost every day, as well as around the world. This is a good thing because ethical breeders will use this information to ensure their breeding practises are eliminating any risk at all of producing affected off spring.

“Vets and specialists around Australia say that JLPP is not a problem in the Rottweiler because it is so rare”

FALSE - Most vets and vet specialists around Australia are still not aware of JLPP. Breeders of Rottweilers are taking this opportunity to educate their vets by way of passing on information to them and encouraging them to find out about this disease.

We cannot express more strongly the importance of asking the breeder you are making inquiries with what the JLPP status of both parents of your puppy is. Insist on seeing the certificates that show this status. Ensure your puppies parents are either both JLPP Clear or only one of them is a JLPP Carrier.

Do not be afraid or embarrassed to walk away from a breeder who will not provide you with the information you are asking to see. There will be another breeder with a lovely puppy who will be
forthcoming with JLPP certificates plus all the required health certificates and clearances you are being advised to ask to see.

Original taken from the group “Rottweiler Puppies from NRCA ANKC Registered Breeders” and written by Meg Lewis.