

# BREEDING

If you are interested in breeding your own litter, firstly talk to the breeder from whom you purchased your pup and ask their advice.

Never breed your bitch on her first season even if she is 12 months of age.

To my mind, that is just an indication that she is possibly slow maturing.

Your bitch should be of a good quality, healthy and strong.

Choose your stud dog well, bearing in mind his virtues, his faults, your bitches virtues and faults and preferably choose a dog with similar breeding in his background to your bitch.

Remember, the best show dog is not always the best stud dog for your bitch, But a litter brother is not a good choice for her. The stud dog and bitch should compliment each other.

Try to find a dog who has not got the same faults as your bitch or in his background, if possible.

Ask any questions of the stud owner that you feel are pertinent and usually they will be obliging, but they also are entitled to ask about your bitch.

Keep in touch with your stud dog owners and let them know when your litter is born, most will show a keen interest in the puppies. If you are contemplating breeding for monetary gain, I advise you to reconsider. If you breed conscientiously to improve your stock, and for the betterment of the breed, taking the best of care of mother and pups, you will be lucky to break even: financially, most probably you will sustain a loss.

One could write volumes on breeding; line breeding, in - breeding, out -crossing, genetics etc.

This is just a very short resume on breeding but there are some excellent books available that cover all aspects of this subject.

A. ROHDE. A.S.T.C. of QLD.