

A PHILOSOPHY OF BREEDING:

- 1... PUPPIES TEND TO RESEMBLE THEIR TOTAL PEDIGREE MORE OFTEN THAN THE IMMEDIATE SIRE AND DAM. THE MORE INTENSELY BRED LINE WILL DOMINATE.
- 2... IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO UP-GRADE QUALITY THROUGH ONE OUT-CROSS BREEDING. IT TAKES SEVERAL TO THE SAME LINE.
- 3... THE BEST LITTERS ARE PRODUCED THROUGH HALF-BROTHER TO HALF-SISTER BREEDING, DOUBLING UP ON THE PARTICULAR DOG OR BITCH YOU ADMIRE AND OUTCROSSING ON THE DAM.
- 4... OUT-CROSSES ARE USUALLY BIG DISAPPOINTMENTS; HOWEVER, IF THE OUT-CROSS IS SOUND AND FREE OF MAJOR FAULTS, IT SHOULD BE KEPT AND BRED BACK TO THE INDIVIDUAL LINE YOU WISH TO COPY.
- 5... OUT-CROSSING MUST BE MADE EVERY FEW GENERATIONS BUT ONLY TO KEEP THE VIGOR OF THE LINE. THE MORE OUT-CROSSING, THE LESS CHANCE OF UNIFORM QUALITY.
- 6... EVERYTHING IS INHERITED -- TYPE, PERSONALITY, MARKINGS AND SHOWMANSHIP. IF YOU HAVE A DOG OR BITCH THAT CARRIES SOME TRAIT YOU FEEL SHOULD BE STAMPED OUT AND YOU CAN'T STAND THE IDEA OF HAVING A KENNEL FULL OF THE SAME, DON'T BREED THAT ONE!!!
- 7... UNDESIRABLE QUALITIES ARE NEVER TRULY BRED OUT...THEY ARE MERELY HIDDEN OR BURIED. THEY WILL REAR THEIR UGLY HEADS WHEN LEAST EXPECTED, TO HAUNT YOU OVER AND OVER AGAIN FOR YEARS TO COME. YOU WILL WONDER WHY YOU EVER TOOK THAT FOOLISH STEP!
- 8... ALL DOGS CARRY A RECESSIVE FOR NEARLY ANY FAULT YOU CAN NAME...IT MIGHT TAKE GENERATIONS FOR IT TO APPEAR AGAIN, BUT IT IS THERE!
- 9... THERE IS NO PERFECT DOG. NO PERFECT BREEDING... MOTHER NATURE HAS A TIGHTFISTED WAY OF DOLING OUT IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES!
- 10... HOW THEN, CAN WE MOVE AHEAD? LET YOUR CONSCIENCE BE YOUR GUIDE, USE ONLY THE INDIVIDUALS YOU FEEL ARE WORTHY OF DUPLICATING, KEEP ONLY THE ONES POSSESSING THE QUALITIES YOU WANT, AND VERY SLOWLY THE IMPROVEMENT WILL SHOW UP.

(This article is from the Chicago Sheltie News, by Alice Swiderski, and was sent in by Alicia Rescek.)