



The Hunter's Blind

About NEFHRC Newsletter

This monthly newsletter is to help members keep updated on our club events, achievements, or other announcements that may be of interest. Please call or e-mail Karen VanDonsel at (828) 877-3254 or karenvandon-sel@gmail.com if you have anything you would like to submit. Alternatively, you may contact Tom Gaddis at (904) 699-3084 or President@nefhrc.net.

Please feel free to submit pictures, announcements of events, brags, sale of dog or training equipment, litters, or any other announce-

ments for club members! The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

If you have an idea for

a recurring feature article, please let us know. This newsletter is for you, our members. We want to include what you want. So, please

help make this a great newsletter. Submit your articles, pictures, stories and ideas. We want to



Dog and Puppy Points

Please take the time to send your dog/puppy points to our Webmaster, Karen VanDonsel. You can send the information to Karen via e-mail at karenvandon-sel@gmail.com. Be sure to include the following information in the e-mail:

owner's name, dog's call name, dog's date of birth, points earned only in the current calendar year and total points earned in all years. Alternatively, you can fill out the form on the club website at <http://www.nefhrc.net/club->

information/submit-your-dog-points/.

NEFHRC recognizes the top dog and top puppy each year. In this context, a "puppy" is defined as a dog aged 24 months and younger.

NEFHRC

Coming Events

- 08/19/2017 NEFHRC Training Day
- 09/09-09/10-2017 Big Elkins Creek
- 09/09-09/10/2017 North Georgia HRC
- 09/16/2017 NEFHRC Training Day
- 09/16-09/17/2017 Old South HRC
- 09/25-09/30/2017 Fall International Grand

Due to small number of summer events, a separate calendar page will not be attached this month. We will resume the calendar next month!

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Kennel Cough (Infectious Tracheobronchitis) in Dogs

'Kennel Cough' is the term that was commonly applied to the most prevalent upper respiratory problem in dogs in the United States. Recently, the condition has become known as tracheobronchitis, canine infectious tracheobronchitis, Bordetellosis, or Bordetella. It is highly contagious in dogs. The disease is found worldwide and will infect a very high percentage of dogs in their lifetime.

Infectious agents involved

There are many different agents that can cause of tracheobronchitis. The most common are parainfluenza virus, Bordetella bronchiseptica, and mycoplasma. Canine adenovirus type 2, reovirus, and canine herpes virus are thought to possibly contribute to the disease, as well. Although any one of these organisms can cause symptoms of the disease, the majority of cases are the result of more than one organism.

The most common viral agent is parainfluenza virus. This common virus will cause mild symptoms lasting less than 6 days unless there is involvement of other bacteria, as is usually the case. Most 5-way vaccines and 'kennel cough' vaccines offer some protection against this virus.

Bordetella bronchiseptica is the most common bacteria isolated from dogs with tracheobronchitis. Clinical signs of infections occur 2-14 days after exposure, and if uncomplicated with other agents, symptoms will last around 10 days. However, after the infection has been resolved, the affected animal will continue to shed the bacteria for 6 to 14 weeks and can spread the disease to other susceptible animals during that time. Bordetella is one of the agents protected against through the use of intranasal 'kennel cough' vaccines. Parainfluenza and Bordetella most commonly appear together in infectious tracheobronchitis, creating a disease that normally lasts from 14-20 days.

Symptoms

The most common symptom is a dry hacking cough sometimes followed by retching. Many owners describe the cough as having a 'honking sound.' A watery nasal discharge may also be present. With mild cases, dogs continue to eat and be alert and active. Many times, there is a recent history of boarding or coming in contact with other dogs. In more severe cases, the symptoms may progress and include lethargy, fever, inappetence, pneumonia, and in very severe cases, even death. The majority of severe cases occur in immunocompromised animals, or young unvaccinated puppies.

Diagnosis

Diagnosis is usually based on the symptoms and a history of recent exposure to other dogs. Bacterial cultures, viral isolation, and blood work can be performed to verify individual agents of the disease, but due to the characteristic nature of the symptoms, these tests are not routinely performed.

Treatment

There are two treatment options depending on the severity of the disease. In the most common mild (uncomplicated) form of the disease, antibiotics may or may not be used. Treating the mild case does not shorten the length in which the animal will be a potential spreader of the disease. In addition, bronchodilators like aminophylline or cough suppressants may also be used in treatment of mild cases.

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In more severe (complicated) cases where the animal is not eating, running a fever, or showing signs of pneumonia, antibiotics are often used. The most common ones are doxycycline or trimethoprim-sulfa. However, many other choices are also available. Steroids or cough suppressants are not usually recommended because of the risk of immunosuppression with steroids and the need to continue to clear extra fluid or mucous in pneumonia patients. Bronchodilators and even aerosol therapy can be used. In moderate or severe cases, veterinary care should be instituted, as the resultant pneumonia could become life threatening if not treated properly and promptly.

Because pressure on the throat and trachea can make coughing worse, it is recommended that dogs with a cough should wear a head collar or harness instead of a regular neck collar.

Vaccination and prevention

The best prevention is to not expose your dog to other dogs, especially young puppies. If this cannot be avoided, then proper vaccination is the next best option. Chances are that if your dog is regularly vaccinated with a standard 5-way or 7-way vaccine, he is already being protected against several of the agents causing tracheobronchitis, mainly parainfluenza and adenovirus. However, these vaccines alone rarely provide protection against contracting the disease, although they will help reduce the severity of the disease if the animal becomes infected.

There is an injectable Bordetella vaccine, and one that is given intranasally (squirted into the nostrils). Neither vaccine will totally prevent infection with Bordetella. For the injectable vaccine, 2 doses must be given 3-4 weeks apart, and protection does not occur until 1-2 weeks after the second injection.

More commonly, for best protection, an intranasal vaccine containing both parainfluenza and Bordetella is used. Intranasal vaccines create localized immunity that greatly reduces the incidence of clinical signs and illness. The vaccine may be used in puppies as young as 3 weeks of age, only one dose is necessary to provide protection, and protection occurs as early as 3-4 days following vaccination. There are several precautions and warnings that need to be observed pertaining to this vaccine. Some dogs will develop mild signs similar to tracheobronchitis when given this vaccine. Very often, the symptoms will last for several days and the dog will recover without treatment. Dogs that are vaccinated can also shed the virus and cause other dogs to become mildly infected and show mild signs. This shedding usually lasts less than 72 hours. In addition, it takes up to 4 days after vaccination for dogs to develop protection. When you combine these facts, you will see why it is strongly recommended that a dog not be given intranasal vaccine within 72 hours of coming into contact with other susceptible dogs. Do not give the vaccine the day before a dog show, boarding, etc. Try to give at least four days before contact with other dogs and preferably 7 days. This way you will protect your dog from becoming infected by other dogs, and protect those dogs from becoming infected by yours.

In kennels where tracheobronchitis is a problem, strict hygiene with thorough cleaning and disinfection of cages and food and water containers is essential. In addition, kennels that are indoors should have good ventilation with an air turnover rate of at least 12 times an hour. Agents causing tracheobronchitis can be transmitted on hands and clothing as well as through the air, so infected animals must be isolated and handlers should wear gloves and use proper handwashing to help prevent spread. Vaccination of all animals, especially puppies is indicated in problem kennels. After initial vaccination as puppies, a yearly booster is recommended. However, some dogs that are at very high risk are vaccinated every six months.

Human health risk

Until recently, infectious tracheobronchitis was considered to not be a human health risk. Recently however, research indicates that *Bordetella bronchiseptica* may cause disease in some humans, pri

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marily those with compromised immune systems. In normal, healthy adults there does not appear to be a risk, but young children and immunocompromised individuals should take precautions against coming into contact with animals that have symptoms of tracheobronchitis or animals that have been recently vaccinated with an intranasal Bordetella vaccine.

Summary

'Kennel Cough,' now more commonly referred to as 'infectious tracheobronchitis' is a widespread disease caused by several different viruses and bacteria. It is usually a self-limiting disease and most animals do not require treatment. Intranasal vaccines are effective, but due to some possible side effects are recommended for animals that are at higher risk. Infectious tracheobronchitis is a disease of dogs and wild canids, it does not appear to be a risk to healthy humans.

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Article	Issue
Living With a Blind Dog: Helpful Tips	03/01/2016
Ear Infections (Otitis Externa) & Ear Cleaning in Dogs	04/01/2016
Food Allergies and Food Intolerance	10/01/2016
First Aid for Snake Bites in Dogs	05/01/2016
Ruptured Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL)	08/01/2016
Burns: First Aid for Pets	09/01/2016
Choking: Using the Heimlich Maneuver in Dogs	11/01/2016
Dog Emergencies: Contact Your Veterinarian When Your Dog Shows These Signs	11/01/2016
An Evacuation Kit for Your Dog	06/01/2016
Heatstroke (Hyperthermia)	07/01/2016
Arthritis (Degenerative Joint Disease, Osteoarthritis)	12/01/2016
Causes and Management of Arthritis & Other Joint Diseases in Dogs	01/01/2017
Hip Dysplasia in Dogs: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention	02/01/2017
Heartworm (Dirofilaria Immitis) Infection & Prevention	04/01/2017
Benign Skin Tumors in Dogs	06/01/2017
Mast Cell Tumors	05/01/2017
Kennel Cough (Infectious Tracheobronchitis) in Dogs	08/01/2017

We're on the web!
<http://nefhrc.net>

NEFHRC is sanctioned by the United Kennel Club, Inc. We are a club devoted to the training of bird hunting dogs for the purposes of hunting and hunt tests. As the UKC says, we are a club "*Conceived by hunters for hunters.*"

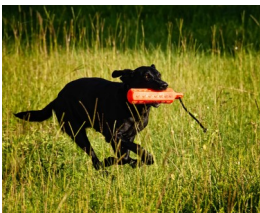
Always for the dogs!

Club Officers and Contacts

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- ⇒ Past President—Sherri Osborne
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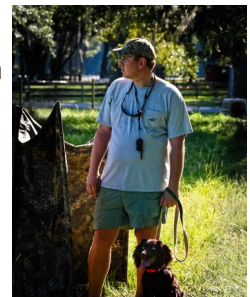


July Training Day and Awards



The Northeast Florida HRC held its annual meeting/training day July 22, 2017. Attendance was great ranging from some of our Founding members to new members joining the day of the event.

We had a training set up early morning with three marks and two blinds in a grown over pasture. Then we shifted to a nice pond to cool off the dogs and some shade for the handlers.



The meeting portion featured a brief explanation of the history of our club by Carolyn Abood, Betsy Reiney, Don Imfeld and Matt McKenzie.

Next was awards with Betsy Reiney being recognized as 'volunteer of the year', Richard Daniels getting puppy of the year, Tom Gaddis with dog of the year and Susan Howard new member of the year.

Elections then proceeded with the new club officers consisting of Barry Sales as treasurer, Nancy Refsnider secretary, Jenny Richardson elected Vice-President and Tom Gaddis as president. The agenda included a discussion of upcoming hunt tests, news from HRC national meeting, and letting members know of the new HRC club in Dublin, Georgia.

