

SUPPLEMENTS for Gun Dogs

Nutritional and medicinal additives
for maintaining canine health.

BY JERRY THOMS

When Sarge, Dave Delbridge's eight-year-old yellow Labrador, started limping on his right rear leg and began to show signs of diarrhea, Delbridge was devastated.

This was the first week of the South Dakota pheasant season and Sarge was the main gun dog in Delbridge's guided hunting business. "Pretty much the same thing happened last year when Sarge hurt his left rear leg jumping off the tailgate of my truck. And he developed intestinal problems probably from drinking bad water out in the field," Delbridge recalls.

"I took Sarge to a local vet who gave the dog some prescription medicine for the pain and antibiotics for intestinal upset. The pain was relieved though the limping still persisted. I reduced Sarge's activity, but he was still showing symptoms six weeks later."

"Let's try some new treatments this time," the vet told Delbridge. "What we'll do is drop the prescription medications and try out some all natural nutritional and medicinal supplements. We'll be treating 'causes' with the nutritional supplements instead of 'symptoms' with medication. We'll be using glucosamine, chondroitin, and sulfate compounds to treat cartilage related joint defects. And we'll use probiotic products to treat bacteria-related digestive disruptions."

Glucosamine can encourage production of collagen in cartilage and inhibit inflammation. Chondroitin and sulfate can decrease the levels of destructive enzymes

and increase joint fluids.

Probiotic products can introduce natural bacteria into the digestive tract, reestablishing a natural bacterial balance.

"There has been much anecdotal evidence to indicate that for some dogs these natural supplements can be very helpful," the vet said.

Delbridge put Sarge on a month-long regimen of glucosamine, chondroitin and sulfate as well as a daily dose of probiotics. In time, Sarge's limp nearly disappeared and his intestinal upset completely disappeared. "I would like to think the apparent success of these nutritional supplements was more than just a coincidence," Delbridge says.

Here are some popular nutritional and medicinal supplements that gun dog owners can use when dealing with canine joint issues and intestinal problems.



CANINE ORTHOPEDIC SOLUTIONS (COS)

Canine Orthopedic Solutions (COS) is designed to decrease inflammation, joint pain and dramatically strengthen the cartilage of the bone. The makers of COS feel that this product helps decrease the discomfort associated with daily activities to maintain a mobile, pain-free dog. "You will be able to see very quickly that your dog is more active, much more comfortable and happier," COS staff say.

Ingredients consist of hyaluronic acid, silicon dioxide, sulfur, and micro-sized Isolates which are precursors to the active ingredients of chondroitin and glucosamine: glutamine, proline and glycine. The technology of micro-sized molecules (isolates) in COS result in superior assimilation and utilization of active ingredients. COS also provides the nutritional support to allow the rebuilding and normal self-repair of joints and bones. These key ingredients are also associated with the effective development of the skeletal system and the management of joint pain.

COS pellets support the bone and joint health of dogs in all stages of life. Bone continually undergoes remodeling, replacing, and repairing itself. "The relationship between nutrition and a supplement for the development of bone and joints for your canine pet is enormous," COS nutritionists contend. "OCD (Osteochondritis Dissecans), DJD (Degenerative Joint Disease), Osteoarthritis, HOD (Hypertrophic Osteodystrophy), Osteoporosis, and Hip Dysplasia are orthopedic conditions that affect the health of the bones and joints."

Building healthy bone requires the proper activity of bone-building hormones, cells, and nutrients. The dual-action nature of COS pellets supplies the building blocks necessary for the creation and maintenance of healthy cartilage (and bone). Inflammation interferes with bone building and accelerates



bone loss. "Corta-Flx, a clinically proven formula found in COS pellets, is a source of nutrients that addresses the inflammation in the joint. That is why COS Pellets are so effective. COS Pellets address not only the inflammation but also the main issue-the bone matrix and cartilage at a joint," COS nutritionists have found.

Studies demonstrate that chondroitin, glucosamine and hyaluronic acid (glycosaminoglycans-proteoglycans) are large molecules difficult to be absorbed. COS pellets do not rely on these large and difficult molecules for absorption. COS pellets formulation is a revolutionary formulation of micro-sized isolates comparable to the active ingredients of chondroitin, glucosamine, and MSM for better assimilation and absorption.

For these reasons, COS pellets address the daily nutritional requirements for the development, maintenance and repair of bone and joints. COS pellets are easy to feed and can be sprinkled over food or given as a treat. COS will not interfere with any complete feed or supplements.

