

Preference for breed and feeding practices for dog rearing in Nagpur city of Maharashtra

A.D.Sawaimul, S.S.Ghule, S.Z.Ali, M.G.Sahare, L.V.Patil

Department of Animal Genetic and Breeding
Nagpur Veterinary College, M.A.F.S.U.Nagpur-440006 (M.S)

Abstract

The present investigation was carried out to study, preference of breeds and feeding practices for dog rearing in Nagpur of Maharashtra. The result revealed that German shepherd is the most popular followed by Great Dane. Mostly mix feeding for 2 and 3 times daily was practiced in the city. Vaccination of dog found to be a routine practice, in city.

Keywords: Preference, Dog breed, Feeding practices, Dog rearing, Nagpur.

Introduction

The association of human beings with dogs is well known since domestication and now dog keeping has status symbol. Selectiveness in choosing the pet and their feeding practices depends upon the knowledge and interest of dog lovers. Vijay Kumar *et al.*, (2004) and Cole *et al.*, (2004) describe the importance of selection and genetic diversity in dog rearing. The present study was undertaken to know the preference of breed and feeding practices for dog rearing in Nagpur (emerging metro city) of Maharashtra, so that the dog breeders can plan the strategy for further breeding.

Materials and Methods

Total 50 dog keeper belonging to Nagpur city of Maharashtra State were surveyed in the form of questionnaires for the preference to different breeds, sex, registration and feeding practices. The collected data were subjected to percentage analysis and chi-square test (X^2). (Snedecor and Cochran, 1994).

Results and Discussion

The dog breeds identified in Nagpur city are German shepherd, Labrador, Great Dane, Pomerian, Doberman, Boxer and Golden Retriever and others (Non-descript, lyass) however overall percentage differs (Table 1). It is observed that the overall 28 % preference is for German shepherd, 20 % for other breeds followed by 16% for Great Dane. This indicates that 44% of dog owner preferred German shepherd and Great Dane. Whereas, very less preference for remaining breeds. The dog owners mostly prefer the German shepherd and Great Dane that are medium and large breed. Vijay

Kumar *et al.*, (2004) also reported that about 42% of the dog owners preferred medium and small breed in Central Kerala. Our result are in concurrence with the study with Nassar *et al.*, (1984) and Vijay Kumar *et al.*, (2004) that the German Shepherd is most commonly adopted breed.

The various parameters with respect to age, sex, pedigree, registration, training, feeding, housing and vaccination indicated that the dog keepers preferred young, male, pedigreed, registered, trained and bred in India dog for rearing.

Regarding housing and feeding most of breeder (54%) housed the dog their homes and mostly provides them the mix (Veg + Non-veg) diet 2 to 3 times a day. Vaccination of dog found to be a routine practice, in city. The chi-square value for training and feeding indicated the significant difference while non significant for sex and housing. Similar finding are found by Vijay Kumar *et al.*, (2004) with respect age, sex, feeding, housing and health care. However, the finding differs with respect to pedigree and registration.

Table-1: Percentage of preference for breeds in dog rearing in Nagpur District.

Breed	No	Percentage
German shepherd	14	28
Labrador	5	10
Great Dane	8	16
Pomerian	4	8
Doberman	4	8
Boxer & Golden Retriever	5	10
Others (Non-descript, other)	10	20
Total	50	100

Table-2: Percentage of preference for in dog rearing in Nagpur District.

Factor	Part	Percentage
Age	Less than 6 month	8
	1-2 year	50
	2-4 Year	22
	4 and above	10
Sex	Male	44
	Female	56
Pedigree	Yes	96
	No	4
Registration	Yes	96
	No	4
Training	Trainer	24
	Self	64
	No training	12
Origin	Imported	0
	Bred in India	100
Feeding	Veg	16
	Non veg	32
	Mix	52
Frequency of Feeding	2 time	34
	3 time	38
	4 time	8
	adlib	8
Housing	Within house	54
	Separate house	46
Vaccination	Done	100
	Not done	0

References

1. Cole.,J. B.,Franke.D.E. and Leighton.,(2004): Population structure of a colony of dog guide. *J.Animal sciences* 82:2906-2911.
2. Nassar,R., Mosier,J.E. and Williams,L.M.(1984): Study of Feline and canine population in the greater Las Vegas Area.*Am.J.Vet.Res.*45 (2):282-287.
3. Snedecor G.W. and Cochran W.S.(1994): statistical methods 9th edition . Low state university press Ame. Lova.
4. Vijay Kumar,P.,Xavier Francis and Leena Anil.(2004): Soci-economic profile, selection, training and constraints of dog keeping in Central Kerala.*Indian J.Animal Production and Management* 20(1-4):52-56.
