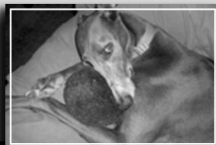




FOREVER HOME GREYHOUND ADOPTIONS



PROUDLY SERVING THE ENTIRE NORTHEAST REGION!

TIMING HEARTWORM PREVENTATIVE

This is not an in depth explanation of why it is best to avoid giving heartworm pills during times when they are not necessary although it is common sense that you would not want to give medication to your dog if they do not require it. Many other sites discuss the side effects that can be associated with these types of preventatives. This page will provide you with the information you need so that you can estimate, based on your geographical area, which month you should begin/stop giving heartworm preventative. Even if you do not live in the United States you can still figure it out simply by using the temperature recommendations.

In a study entitled "Seasonal Timing of Heartworm Chemoprophylaxis (Heartworm Meds) in the United States", Dr. David Knight and James Lok of the American Heartworm Society have taken the guesswork out of when to start and stop heartworm prevention. It was found that specific conditions must exist in order for the larvae in the mosquito to move on to stage L3, allowing the mosquito to pass on heartworm through its mouthparts. The larvae require approximately 30 consecutive days of 60-degree weather where the temperature does not dip below 57F (14C) in order to reach this condition.

Simply put, it must stay above 60 degrees for 30 consecutive days AND nights for the larvae to progress to stage L3 and be passed through the mouthparts of a mosquito to a host animal. If the temperature dips below 57F the maturation is retarded and cannot continue. This process would become accelerated if there were two weeks of temperature at or above 80F (27C), days AND nights. As a result, heartworm disease is not only geographically limited, but also seasonally limited. For many of us this means that year round heartworm prevention is totally unnecessary. In fact, in my area of the country, I would not even need to begin giving heartworm meds until the first of June and would give their last dose of the year on the first of November. I feel very strongly that the dogs should only have to take heartworm meds for the months that they are truly at risk. Click on the link below to view maps from the study that give you a guideline of when to begin and stop heartworm medication.

See maps on next page.

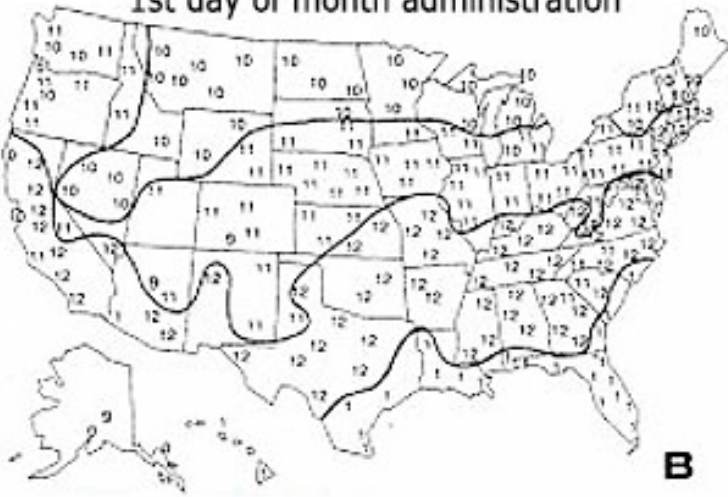
This information is designed to provide valuable information about caring for your Greyhound. Questions and concerns may be directed to either Paula 518-261-7025 or Martha 518-883-5554. Remember be kind and be patient and you will discover a joy beyond belief as you watch your new Greyhound blossom and flourish under your loving guidance.

macrolide heartworm
chemoprophylaxis estimated
timing of last monthly dose
1st day of month administration



BEGIN HEARTWORM

macrolide heartworm
chemoprophylaxis estimated
timing of last monthly dose
1st day of month administration



END HEARTWORM

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