

Puppy Love

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Newsletter of *Belle Amore Dachshunds*

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I'm Back...



Everyone knows fleas are a formidable enemy, but sometimes we don't realize just how menacing and dangerous these small brown, wingless bugs can be. When a flea's skin piercing mouth injects saliva into a dog it can cause a severe allergic reaction resulting in *Flea Allergy Dermatitis* (FAD).

A single bite from a single flea can trigger FAD. It is possible that a pet parent may never see a flea on their little doxie, but it can still contract FAD. A well respected theory is: for every flea you see there are fifty that you don't see.

The "flea zone" is most prominent at the base of the tail and lower back, but just one bite can cause your little doxie to itch all over. This severe condition can lead to skin inflammation, loss of hair, bacterial infections and an unpleasant odor in the affected area. Symptoms are often episodic but most dogs will have symptoms that worsen with age. This condition is extremely difficult to reverse but treatment to alleviate the symptoms is a possibility.

Prevention is the best plan to prevent FAD. There are topical and oral products available that are safe, easy to use, and the most effective method of flea control. Ask your veterinarian what products would be best for your little doxie. Other products such as flea collars, flea shampoos, etc. are not effective and should not be used as a viable source for the prevention of flea infestation or eradication.



Dawn Dish Soap Suds Work Miracle

This thick blue liquid has saved many animals victimized by worldwide oil spills. Thousands would have died, without the help of thousands of volunteers working unbelievable hours to decontaminate wildlife victims. This same blue bottle can help fight flea infestation. If you see even just one flea on your doxie give them a bath with Dawn dish soap ASAP. It kills fleas instantly. Dawn is the preferred tool of choice used by veterinarian offices and professional groomers. Dawn should not be used for a normal bathing regimen.

"Dachshunds are ideal dogs for small children, as they have already been stretched and pulled to such a length that the child cannot do much harm one way or the other." - Robert Benchley



Brice with his best buddy, Barley.