

ALAA Announcement

The ALAA Board has recently elected to strictly enforce the following rule:

A breeder must register all breeding dogs owned or leased that are used in their Labradoodle breeding program including: Labradoodles, Poodles, Labradors, Cockapoos and any derivatives. Dogs must be registered before they may be bred.

What will this mean for you?

1. If all of the dogs used in your Labradoodle breeding program are ALAA registered, enforcing the rule will have no impact on you.
2. If you are using dogs in your Labradoodle breeding program with Wheaten ancestry, we will allow you to continue using them only until they retire. No dogs of Wheaten ancestry born after 1/1/2011 may be used by ALAA members. In the interim, while you may continue to use these dogs in your breeding program, they are still not recognized by the ALAA as Australian Labradoodles. You must make it clear on your website that litters from these dogs will not be registered or recognized.
3. If you are using other dogs in your Labradoodle breeding program, for example, unapproved dogs with cockapoo ancestry or Australian Labradoodles from unapproved infusions or their descendants, you will not be able to continue using them and remain an ALAA member.
4. You may not have two Labradoodle breeding programs--one for registered dogs and one for un-registered dogs. The only exceptions will be the Wheaten dogs born prior to 1/1/2011 as mentioned in #2 above.
5. If you are using unregistered Labradoodles to breed Double Doodles, NAR, or any other breed, the rule prohibiting that is under review. We will send an announcement regarding the outcome of the review early in 2011.

Why enforce the rule now?

The rule has been part of our rules and regulations for a long time. However, some time ago we decided to allow exceptions for members who had dogs with Wheaten ancestry. The Wheaten has never been recognized as a foundation or parent breed of the Australian Labradoodle by the ALAA, ILA, IALA or ALA.

What has happened is that by allowing members to breed unregistered Wheaten descendants, the actual Wheatens in the pedigrees move farther and farther back. It is getting difficult to determine which dogs on a breeder's website are from Wheaten lines, and over time will not get any easier.

One gold paw breeder had only one registrable dog in a program with a number of unregistrable Wheaten descendants. We are concerned about endorsing breeding programs when they are not based on dogs with recognized foundation and parent breeds and when the dogs do not fall under our audits for testing verification.

We feel that in hindsight it would have been a better decision not to allow ALAA breeders to use dogs with Wheaten lines in their programs. We also feel that enforcing the rule will only impact a few breeders, and that since we will allow you to continue breeding dogs born before 1/1/2011, you have time to plan the future of your breeding program appropriately.

As far as breeders who have dogs from unapproved cockapoo infusions, it was never the intent of the ALAA to allow infusion dogs other than those that were used by the original breed developers and the dogs that have been approved under the ALAA infusion rules as set forth by an independent committee. Bypassing the ALAA to breed these dogs is not acceptable. We feel that there are only a few breeders doing this, and we want to make sure that you understand that the repercussions are that you cannot remain a member because you would have dogs that are not registered. That is a violation of the rule we have decided to enforce.

We hope you agree that the future of the Australian Labradoodle is contingent upon more than breeding great dogs. We are also recording the heritage of our breed, and it needs to be built upon a solid foundation to the best of our ability. If we have members who are breeding outside of the rules and regulations of the association, it weakens that heritage.

Thank you all for your support!