

## **Schnauzers**

### **Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)**

Owners can now check their breeding stock are clear of DCM (early on-set heart failure) which is an inherited condition found in (Standard) Schnauzers and is a severely life-shortening condition. Normally diagnosed in males between 10 & 18 months, the only treatment is extremely short-term palliative care (death normally occurring within 5 - 8 weeks of diagnosis). Females can also be found to be affected (between 10 & 30 months)

This DNA test could assist breeders in eradicating this terminal condition within a (breeding) generation. The test identifies whether a dog is a 'Clear', a 'Carrier' or 'Affected'. The American Schnauzer Club and both UK clubs are supporting calls that all breeding stock are tested.

For details of testing (which can be done simply with cheek swabs) search in *Health Matters Updates* via <http://www.schnauzerclub.co.uk/health.php> Cost of the test is \$60 (about £46)

Need further information about either test? Contact the breed health coordinators: Tony McDermott (email: [Lichstone@aol.com](mailto:Lichstone@aol.com)) or Christine Ellingworth ([donclev@me.com](mailto:donclev@me.com))