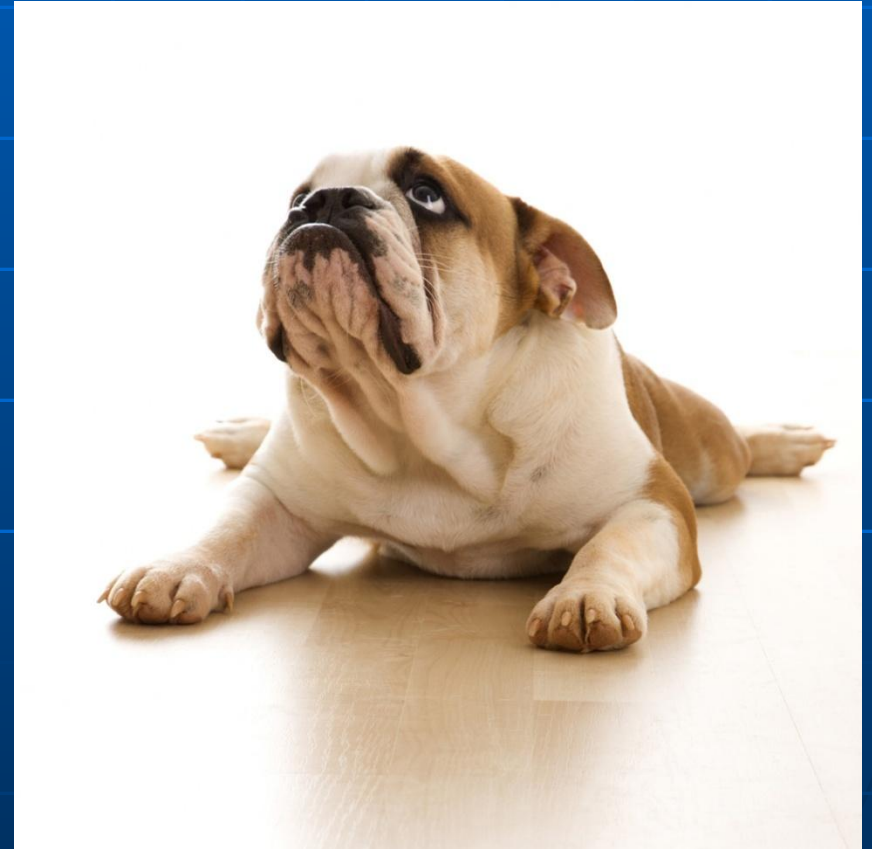


# Canine Reproduction and Breeding



# Factors to Consider Before Breeding

- Availability of a good home
- Health Status
- Hereditary Disorders
- Behavioral problems
- Registration



# Reproductive Tract of Female

- Ovaries
- Oviducts
- Uterus
- Cervix
- Vagina
- Vulva



# Reproductive Tract of Male

- Testicles - Bulbus Glandis
- Epididymis - Prepuce
- Vas deferens - Scrotum
- Prostate
- Urethra
- Penis
- Os Penis

# Estrous Cycle of the Female

- Sexually mature when they exhibit their first heat period.
- Reach sexual maturity at 6-16 months of age depending on the breed and size.
- Typically come in heat twice a year
- The average estrus period lasts 9 days, but can range from 2-21 days.

# Estrous Cycle of the Female

- All mature large dog breeds ovulate more eggs than smaller breeds.
- Eggs are fertilizable for 12-72 hours after they are released.



# Reproductive Cycle of the Male

- Male dogs reach sexual maturity at varying ages, depending on breed and size, just like females.
- Most males are sexually mature and can produce sperm at 10 months.
- Testosterone (male hormone) is responsible for the development and maintenance of male sex characteristics, sexual behavior, and spermatogenesis.

# Mating

- Both the male and female dog should be 18-24 months of age before
- Ovulation usually occurs on the second day of estrus
- Dogs can be artificially inseminated
- Sperm can live and be viable for up to 7 days



# Pregnancy

- Fertilization takes place a few days after mating.
- Gestation period lasts between 56-66 days and the average is 63 days
- Ultrasound should be performed at 20-30 days.
- Birth is known as whelping

# Whelping

- A week before the estimated due date, the female should be introduced to the whelping area and the whelping box.
- This area should be dry, warm, draft-free, secluded, and quiet.
- Supplemental heat may need to be provided.
- This process usually does not require assistance.

# Whelping

- About 12-24 hours before labor begins the rectal temperature drops from a normal 101.5 to less than 100 F
- She loses her appetite, becomes restless and lethargic, and her abdomen becomes very extended.

# Postpartum Care

- Female will return to normal habits 24 hours after whelping.
- Puppies must get colostrum within 12-24 hours!!



# Common Reproductive Problems

- Silent heat
- Prolonged heat
- Vaginitis– infection of vagina
- Cryptorchidism- one or both testicles are held in the body cavity
- Orchitis- infection of the testicles
- Dystocia- difficult labor