

SIMKO DANES "COMMON ISSUES" GUIDE

CHERRY EYE– A disorder of the nictitating membrane (NM), also called the third eyelid, present in the **eyes** of dogs and cats. "Cherry eye" is most often seen in young dogs under the age of 2 years old. "Cherry eye" or Glandular hypertrophy is simply an enlargement of the gland of the third eyelid with resultant prolapse. Cocker spaniels and bulldogs seem to be predisposed to this disorder. "Cherry eye" is also commonly seen in Beagles, Bloodhounds, **Great Danes**, Lhasa Apsos, and Basset Hounds. *Your vet can assess whether the condition is severe enough to require surgery.*



KNUCKLING— Knuckling over is first noticed in the area of the front leg on a puppy, or the growth plate (wrist or carpal) area. The term coined by professional breeders for this condition is knuckling over, and it describes a condition where the front end assembly of the dog, the weight bearing part of the body, is unable to support the whole body weight of the puppy, due to a lack of integrity in the muscle, tendon and ligaments. It is my opinion this condition is not genetic - it is due to uneven growth patterns between the bone and tissue/muscle of the puppy and it is caused by dietary imbalances and/or missing micro-minerals and/or minerals that are not available to the body - difficult to assimilate. The condition of "knuckling over", can be very extreme, almost as if the legs are made of some malleable material - like rubber! Early knuckling over - under 8 weeks of age, is not a problem and very common because the large and giant breeds grow quickly during the early stages of development. There are many options including bracing the legs with spoons and vet wrap. If caught early, you can attempt to correct the issue by adding in 500MG Vitamin C twice daily. You can use human Vitamin C chewables, WITHOUT ROSE HIPS, the puppies generally love them. Many times this issue will start with inappropriate calcium and phosphorus levels. The proper level/ratio is: calcium 1.5% -phosphorus 1.0%

