

CFSA Informer

ISSUE 4

OCTOBER 2013

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General Corner

COTY 2013



By the blink of an eye, the 2013 show season has come to an end and COTY 2013 is in the past.

A special COTY News will be circulated soon, in celebration of all our gorgeous winners, their loyal "subjects" and special awards.

Also checkout the up-dated CFSA web site



www.catfederationsa.co.za

IMPORTANT

31 October '13

is D-day !

Proposals for amendments to the CFSA Constitution and Show & Registration Rules

We herewith invite all members of CFSA to submit their proposals for changes/amendments as per

Point 14.1 of the Constitution

Proposals for amendments to this Constitution and the CFSA Rules shall be submitted through the Executive Committee, NCBC, NCCE, NCJE, NCIE, and NCR.

Members of the Federation may submit their suggestions for amendment through these official departments.

and Rule 5.3

The CFSA may amend and/or alter these Rules at an Annual General Meeting.

All bodies and persons who, in accordance with the Constitution of CFSA, may make proposals to amend the Rules of CFSA must submit such proposals supported

by motivation to the CFSA Secretary before **31st October** in any one calendar year.

The CFSA Secretary, after receiving such, shall collate all submissions and present the full lists to all relevant bodies and persons for discussion and input, the responses to which must be in the hands of the CFSA Secretary by 30th November of the same year.

All proposals for amendment shall be deliberated and decided upon by the CFSA Executive Committee.

The proposals that are accepted shall be placed before the next AGM for ratification.

Please make sure you submit your ideas and proposals before 31 October 2013!!

**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT
YOU SUBMIT YOUR IDEAS
AND PROPOSALS TO
THE CFSA SECRETARY AT
cfsasec@gmail.com**

**BEFORE
31 OCTOBER 2013!!!**



"Knowledge is Power"
(Sir Francis Bacon)

SO, with the show season behind us, we thought it would be a good idea to dedicate this issue of the INFORMER on Breeding and since we have a couple of new registered breeders, we will also cover some basics.

BREEDING

Health Corner: Breeding 101



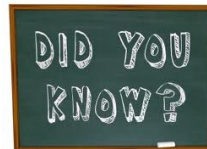
1. What happens when a female "calls"?

Females come into "heat" or "calls" (oestrus) many times a year. Each oestrus lasts approximately 1-week and if the female is not mated she will usually return to oestrus from as early as a couple of days later, to 2-weeks later.

This cycle will continue for several weeks, or until the female is mated. The signs of oestrus in a female is are mainly behavioural. They become very affectionate and vocal, demand attention and roll frequently. When stroked they normally raise their rear quarters and tread the ground with their hind legs (peddle).

These behavioural changes can confuse the inexperienced

owner, who may misinterpret them as pain or illness.



When a female comes into oestrus is controlled by the season of the year (length of the days). Other influential factors are also the particular breed and body-type.

2. What does mating entail?

Queens are reflex ovulators, i.e. they ovulate in response to mating. For the optimal results it is best to present the queen to the stud on the second to third day of oestrus.

The queen is normally taken to the stud, as most males

prefer to perform in familiar surroundings. Most queens require 3-4 matings, within a 24-hour period for ovulation to occur.

When mating, the stud traditionally holds the queen's scruff in his teeth and on his ejaculation the queen cries out, swears and frequently becomes aggressive. This is normal. The queen will then wash herself, wait a while, then start "asking" again. Once ovulation has occurred, the queen will go out of heat in a day or two.

3. How long is the gestation period?

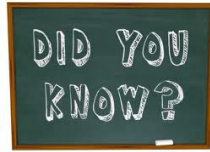
Pregnancy ranges from 60-67 days; usually 63-65 days. The date on which the mating occurred should therefore be recorded. 21-days after the mating the



Health Corner: Breeding 101



"Better the devil that you know"
(Jack Heath)



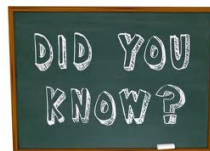
queen will pink up.

Ovulation COULD take up to 48-hours from mating. This should be taken into consideration when you calculate the due date.

4. Do expecting queens require a special diet?

During pregnancy a queen's food consumption will reach 1.5 times her pre-pregnancy level. By the time of weaning it may exceed 2 times her pre-pregnancy level.

Thus it is necessary to increase the number of meals given and/or feed a diet formulated for kittens, since



this will provide the extra nutrients required for pregnancy and nursing.

Many balanced food brands have looked into the additional nutrients required by expecting queens and have developed special food formulas to cater this need.

5. Do expecting queens' behavior change?

Yes, if you know your cat, you'll be able to detect a distinct change her behavior. Normally, expecting queens become extra "lazy" and more loving (needy).

However, some queens can become irritable and even a little aggressive towards other cats invading her private space.

During the final week of pregnancy the search for a suitable kitting place becomes the dominant objective. Again 2 types of behavior tends to be seen; the independent cats will go to extreme lengths to hide away from human and/or other feline contact; while the dependent cats will go to equal lengths to seek the comforting of their humans and/or other cats.

Queens should be confined during their last week of pregnancy, so owners can accurately observe their behaviour and timeously attend to their needs.

6. What to prepare before kitting?

The kitting area should be a balance between confinement and freedom within the confined area.

The bed should be warm, cozy and private, but it also needs to be observable. If the bed is too exposed the queen may become anxious and not settle and once the kittens are being born she might try to move them to a new or more secluded area.

The breeder should observe the queen to identify abdominal distension, movement of fetuses, slackening of pelvic muscles, etc.

Emergency numbers for a registered Veterinarian should be kept close-by.

7. What to expect when birthing begins?

FIRST STAGE

This is essentially the relaxation of the cervix and vagina and the start of intermittent contractions of the uterus.

Uterus contractions must be interrupted by periods of relaxation, otherwise the fetal blood supply is cut off.

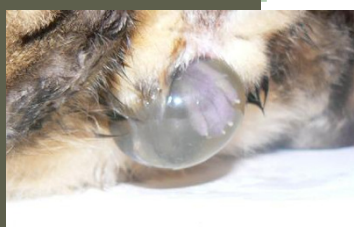
The pelvic muscles slacken and the perineum (the area between the anus and the vulva) becomes looser and longer.

At this stage the uterine contractions are not straining yet, although movement of the foetuses may be seen and felt through the abdominal wall. Some scratching up and bed-making

Health Corner: Breeding 101



"Knowledge is Power"
(Sir Francis Bacon)



may occur at this stage and some queens will start panting.

The queen normally stop eating 24-hours before labour and her body temperature will drop below 38 degrees.

Vaginal discharge may also be visible at this stage.

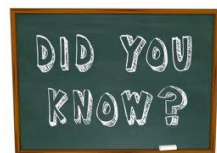
SECOND STAGE

During the second stage of labour, stronger and more frequent contractions of the uterine muscles will occur.

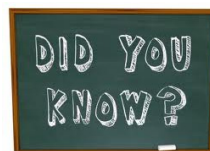
As each foetus enter the pelvis, the outer layer of its membranes appears briefly at the valve as the "water bag", which bursts and is cleared up by the queen.

The inner membrane remains around the foetus and act as a lubricant. As the foetal head passes into the pelvis, its pressure causes the commencement of voluntary straining using the abdominal muscles.

The "bearing down" helps to move the foetus through the pelvis. Straining will now be very visible. Normally the delivery of a kitten from the beginning of the second stage can take from 5-30 minutes.



Once the head is out of the vulva, one or two strains should complete the passage of the narrower remainder of the kitten's body.



Delivering of a kitten from the beginning of the second stage of labour should not exceed 60-minutes. If it does, the queen is most likely in trouble.

THIRD STAGE

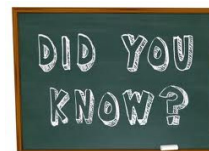
During the third stage of labour is seen as the passage of the membranes, complete with the mass of separated placenta (after-birth).

Membranes are normally passed immediately after each kitten, although it is possible for a second kitten to follow so quickly that the membranes that the membranes from the first is tapped temporarily.

As each kitten is born the queen will tear open the membranes and clear the mouth and nose area of the kitten.

The queen will also crew off the umbilical cord and most queens will eat the after-birth.

Intervals between kittens vary, on average from as little as 10 minutes, to an hour.



It is crucial to make sure that a after-birth is passed for each kitten born, as retaining an after-birth is possible and dangerous for the queen.

After-births should be pink-healthy looking in appearance. Eating the after-birth is good for the queen. However, ff an after-birth is e.g. greenish, the queen should not be allowed to eat it.

8. What problems can arise?

- Primary inertia (failure of uterine contractions).
- Uterine torsion or rupture.
- Secondary inertia (uterine tiredness).
- Obstructive dystocia.
- Foetal malpresentation (posteriorly presented).



- Foetal malposition (normally occurs when the kitten is stillborn).
- Foetal malposture (e.g. breech posture).
- Inhibitory behavior.

Information courtesy of:
+v.e.t.s

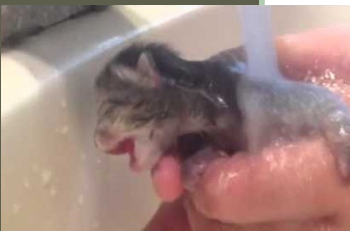
<http://www.v-e-t-s.co.uk>

Health Corner: Reviving Kittens



"Miracles come in moments. Be ready and willing"

(Wayne Dyer)



1. Tear the membranes from the nose, wipe the nose and open the mouth, tilt the kitten head down and clear away any fluid.

2. If the cord has not broken on delivery, tear it an inch from the kitten and remove the wet, sloppy bulk of the membranes.

*Complicated cutting and tying of the cord are not necessary. The queen would chew it through, providing a blunt crushing action to prevent bleeding; you can tear it between your first two fingers and thumb, which has the same effect.

3. If the kitten is not breathing, or if it was delivered tail first and possibly inhaled fluid, it is necessary to clear debris and fluid from the air passages. Take the kitten lying in the palm of the hand, its back towards the palm and neck between forefinger and third finger, its head protruding between the fingers. Enclose the kitten in the fingers and, turning the hand palm downwards with the arm extended; give a sharp swing several times. Make sure that you are not near a table or other protruding edge when swinging the kitten. The swing will have the effect of forcing fluids out of the

air passages and a further wipe of nose and mouth will clear it away. The swing will also serve to stimulate respiration.

*If the kitten is receiving sufficient oxygen the tongue will be pink, if not it will have a bluish tint.

4. Next, stroke or rub the kitten with a clean towel and make sure that the kitten is completely dry. If the kitten is still not breathing, some further form of artificial respiration may be necessary.

Of these, mouth to mouth resuscitation is probably the most useful if carried out carefully.

Firstly, it is no use blowing fluids and debris further down the respiratory tract. These secretions must be cleared by the swing method and/or gentle shaking of the kitten in the head-down position.

Secondly, the capacity of kitten lungs compared to the human is quite minute. Blow very gently and allow a pause for expiration.

Repeat this cycle every three to five seconds. Ideally, use a short drinking straw to blow through since this is more hygienic and reduces the risk of damaging the kitten's lungs by over-inflation.

5. Warmth is a primary essential for the newborn. The kitten cannot react to cold by shivering and cannot control its own body temperature.

A newborn wet kitten loses heat very rapidly, hence the brisk rub dry.

If the mother is ill or uncooperative, gently lay the kitten in contact with a warm, well-covered hot water bottle and conserve heat with a covering blanket. Great care must be taken not to inflict contact burns by having the bottle too hot.

An acceptable alternative is the infra-red lamp. Its disadvantages are that many cats dislike the open bed required for its use, and that it may make both mother and kittens too hot and lessen the close normal nursing contact. Ideally the temperature in the bed should be maintained at 29.4-32.2 degrees).

The box should be large enough for the kittens to move away from the heat if they become too hot.

The temperature can be gradually reduced to 26.7 degrees by 7-10 days and to 22.2 degrees by the end of the first month.

Health Corner: Hand Rearing



“It’s better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret”

(JJackie Joyner Kersee)

A number of different situations may lead to kittens requiring extra care, eg, death of the mother, rejection of the kittens by the mother, ill health in the mother, or the production of too large a litter for the mother cat to care for.

When the mother cat is only temporarily ill, the kittens may only need to be hand fed for a few days, while in other situations the kittens may need to be fed by hand until they are weaned. In the case of a very large litter, where the kittens are gaining some milk from their mother, they will only need supplemental feeding.

Should any kitten be hand reared?

In some circumstances the person who is responsible for the kittens may be faced with difficult decisions regarding the kittens. There are some cases where it is best for the kitten not to try and keep it alive because of serious problems and it needs to be euthanased to prevent further suffering.

No list can be exhaustive, but as soon as possible a check should be made with the following defects in mind:

- Severe hydrocephalus (build up of fluid inside the skull) as shown by enlargement of the skull.
- Anasarca – general and severe accumulation of fluid in the tissues.

- Cleft palate. If severe this will lead to the inability to suck and dribbling of milk down the nose.
- Imperforate anus. This may be obvious with the entire absence of an exit for the bowel, or occult (when the exit leads into a blind sac within the body). An affected kitten may live some weeks but will fail to thrive and will never be seen to pass a motion. In the occult case, the true condition can only be found on close examination by a veterinarian.
- Hernia or incomplete development of the body wall. A small ringed umbilical hernia is a slight defect, but some kittens have virtually no abdominal musculature and should not be kept.
- Spina bifida or incomplete development of the back.

Gross deformity or absence of limbs.

Many serious inherited abnormalities are not obvious at birth; and abnormalities of sight and hearing fall into this category. Suspected abnormalities of joints and limbs should be viewed with caution unless utterly self-evident, such as severe shortening of a limb. Joints at birth are very incomplete structures and most apparent double-jointed or rota-

tion of limbs right themselves by the time the kitten is really mobile.

The most difficult decision usually concerns the kitten persistently rejected by its mother, despite its apparent normality to the human eye. The choice in this case lies between hand rearing, fostering or euthanasia. The decision can only be made by the breeder after full consideration of the circumstances.

An additional consideration is that the rejected kitten may well be a defective kitten (mother may know best) in which case hand rearing may not be successful.

If there is a potential surrogate mother available, with kittens of a similar age, then this would always be the ideal option – kittens are usually well accepted at this time and reared as part of the surrogate mother’s litter.

What are the basic considerations when hand rearing kittens?

There are several basic functions to be addressed when hand rearing kittens. These include the provision of a suitable clean, warm environment, a suitable feeding regimen, attention to urination and defecation (emptying of the bowels), and attention to general health.

Health Corner: Hand Rearing



“It’s better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret”

(Jackie Joyner Kersee)

The major problems encountered when trying to hand rear kittens are chilling, dehydration and starvation (resulting in hypoglycaemia – low blood sugar levels).

These three conditions are interrelated and close observation is necessary if they are to be noticed, and if occurring, for prompt action to be taken in time. Kittens are very fragile, hence they can become ill and die very quickly.

Total dedication and commitment is required by the breeder at all times.

- New-born kittens need at least 10–12 feeds in each 24 hour period.
- The breeder's life-style will need to be flexible. Kittens, like babies, need to be with you at all times, wherever you may be.
- The allotted interval between feeding times should never be exceeded. Kittens when hungry, will move about in search of milk. If left, they will soon get tired and fall asleep again. This is undesirable and certainly not to be recommended. It is important they are fed on time.

How should kittens be kept warm?

Warmth is a primary essen-

tial for the new-born. A kitten cannot react to cold by shivering and cannot control its own body temperature. In nature, warmth is obtained by direct body contact with the mother and conserved by the enclosed kittening bed.

A new-born wet kitten loses heat very rapidly, hence it is important that they are dried quickly. Kittens can be kept warm by lying them in contact with a warm, well-covered hot water bottle, an electric vinyl heat pad or a microwave heat pad. Heat can be conserved by covering them with a blanket. Great care must be taken not to inflict contact burns by having the bottle too hot.

Acceptable alternatives are veterinary heating pads, and infra-red lamps. The disadvantages of the lamps are that many cats dislike the open bed required for their use, and they may overheat the kittens.

The rectal temperature of new-born kittens ranges from 35–37.2 °C in the first week, to 36.1–37.7 °C in the second and third weeks, and reaches normal adult levels of 37.7–38.9 °C by the fourth week. It is important to warm up kittens slowly, since too rapid warming can be fatal.

The temperature in the kitten box (with no mother present) should initially be maintained at 29.4–32.2 °C, but the box should be large

enough for the kittens to move away from the heat if they become too hot. If the litter is large, the temperature can be reduced since by huddling together the kittens generate extra heat. The temperature can be gradually reduced to 26.7 °C by 7–10 days and to 22.2 °C by the end of the first month.

Kittens' bodies should be relaxed whilst asleep and feel pleasantly warm to the human touch. You should notice gentle body jerks as they rest. Keep control by using a maximum/minimum thermometer in the kitten(s) nest. Remember adjustments must be constantly considered throughout the day as nest temperature is directly affected by the room's ambient temperature.

Does humidity affect kittens?

When a low environmental humidity is combined with a lack of regular liquid intake the kittens are at risk of dehydration. An environmental humidity of 55–65 % will prevent the kittens' skin from drying out. Signs of dehydration include loss of skin elasticity and sticky mucous membranes (gums).

Where should kittens be kept?

If the kittens are being fed by their mother, even partially, then they should be kept with her.

Health Corner: Hand Rearing



"It's better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret"

(JJ Jackie Joyner Kersee)

If no mother is around then for the first three weeks of life it is useful to use a small cat-carrying basket with lots of cozy bedding, plus a soft toy to snuggle up to.

As they grow and become mobile, use a kitten pen or convert a baby's travel cot/play-pen. Use a velcro safety net to stop young kittens climbing and falling out.

What will make a good bed for kittens?

The easiest way to provide a clean, safe and warm nest is to take a cardboard box, line it with Vetbed, use either hot water bottles or a heating pad for warmth, and placing it away from draughts.

Vetbed can be easily cleaned, is warm and comfortable. If this is not available terry nappies or old towels can be used. Some people use plastic plant propagators as incubators; however, care should be taken to ensure the temperature within them is adequate.

What signs will indicate that the kitten is unwell?

Normal kittens should eat or sleep for 90% of the time for the first 2 weeks of their lives. If they cry excessively, or fail to suck, they are usual-

ly ill or receiving insufficient milk.

Since kittens can die very quickly, they (and their mother, if still present) should be examined by a veterinarian as soon as possible to ensure nothing serious is going wrong.

What should you feed a newborn kitten?

Do not use cow/goat's milk as protein and fat levels are too low. Only use a properly formulated replacement queen's milk formula available from veterinary practices or pet shops or found online.

How much and how often should a newborn kitten be fed?

When the milk supply is inadequate, supplemental feeding is recommended. Where the kittens have been orphaned or the mother is unable to feed them, they will need total replacement feeding.

There are several commercial formulae available which are designed specifically for kittens.

Make up milk replacement solution as directed using a

level measure, not heaped. They should be made up and used as per instructions, but a reduced volume is needed if the kittens are still gaining some milk from their mother (give perhaps 1/2 to 1/3 the volume). The amount on the label is usually given as 'per 24 hours'.

The quantities should therefore be divided into a number of feeds.

Kittens less than 2 weeks of age should be fed every 2–3 hours, while kittens of 2–4 weeks of age can usually be fed every 4–6 hours.

The milk should be warmed to 35–37.8 °C before feeding (about the same temperature as the skin of the human forearm).

Check the warmth of the milk on back of your hand. It takes just a few seconds to warm milk to blood heat.

How do I get the milk formula into the kittens?

1. Bottle Feeding

Baby bottles can be bought which are specially designed for kittens. The size of the hole in the nipple is critical.

If when the bottle is turned upside down the milk drips from the nipple, the hole is too large, and you risk drowning

Health Corner: Hand Rearing



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(JJackie Joyner Kersee)

the kitten.

If when the bottle is turned upside down the milk only comes out after considerable squeezing of the bottle, the hole is too small, and its use may result in the kitten becoming discouraged and refusing to nurse.

The correct size hole allows the milk to drip from the nipple with minimal squeezing of the bottle. As nipples are used the holes tend to enlarge, so new ones must be introduced.

Kittens tend to become fixated upon one particular nipple, so when changing from an old one to a new one they may show reluctance to feed. As the kittens grow the size of the hole in the nipple can be gradually enlarged.

2. Syringe Feeding

Feeding using a syringe may be considered but must be done properly and with care as it can be potentially lethal.

The problem arises when the plunger sticks and then gives way suddenly, squirting a large volume of milk into the kitten's mouth, risking drowning.

If using a syringe, practise first using water –

you need to feel confident at dispensing milk into a kitten's mouth. Fill a 10 ml syringe, place the index and middle finger each side of barrel wings and the plunger head into the palm of your hand.

Gently depress the plunger with the palm to give drip-by-drip. This allows the kitten time to swallow and breathe. It is good practice always to check the smooth running of a syringe this way.

Placement of the syringe is important! The hub of the barrel should be uppermost and inserted into the roof of the kitten's mouth. This allows the kitten's tongue to 'wrap' around the hub. This emulates the sucking of a nipple. This way the kitten does not take in unwanted air.

With the other hand hold the kitten over the back and raise the kitten under the fore-limbs at an angle of approximately 45°. This is comfortable and secure for the kitten and is a good natural angle for it to take the milk from a bottle/syringe.

Each kitten will naturally cease sucking when full and will pull away from the teat/syringe. Do not force a kitten to take

extra milk: it would be at risk of lung inhalation resulting in drowning. Remember consumption guidelines are a guide only. Often kittens will consume more; like us they all are individuals, and will let you know when they are full.

3. Tube Feeding

Due to the complexity and risks involved in tube feeding, we've decided to dedicate a separate article to the subject. Please refer to the "Health Corner: Tube Feeding" article of this issue 4 of the INFORMER.

4. Spoon or Dropper Feeding

Spoon feeding is slow and requires great practice. Each spoonful must be gently poured into the kitten's mouth. The kitten's head must not be elevated since new-born kittens do not have a well-developed gag reflex, and the lungs can easily be filled with milk.

Dropper feeding is similar to spoon feeding, but a little quicker and cleaner.

Information courtesy of:
International Cat Care
(formerly known as the Feline Advisory Bureau)
<http://www.icatcare.org>



**international
cat care**
FORMERLY FELINE ADVISORY BUREAU

Health Corner: Tube Feeding



"It's better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret"

(Jackie Joyner Kersee)

We have made this information available in case that you -for whatever reason- need to tube feed your kittens.

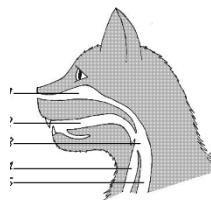
Feeding tubes and syringes (for instance 3 or 4 cc) can be obtained from your local vet or through the Internet. Feeding tubes are available in different sizes.



The first time that you insert a tube, it will be awkward and difficult. It will get easier with practice. If it is possible, please let your vet (or someone who is familiar with tube feeding) show you how you should insert the catheter. Tube feeding is something that you definitely can learn to do yourself, you really don't need help of a vet at each feeding time.

The esophagus lies behind - more towards the spine than - the trachea.

(See figure 1.)



When inserting the tube, just let the tube slide to the back of the throat and administer light pressure, and it is hard to miss the esophagus.



It works best when you dip the tube in a bit of water or the formula you want to give the kitten.

This acts as a lubricant, and the taste of the formula will encourage the kitten to swallow the tube.

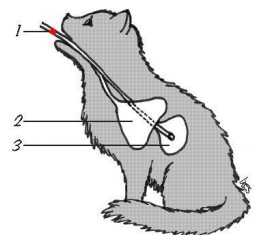
Likely, the kitten will resist the insertion of the tube, but as it will also try to swallow the formula, and thus swallow the tube, the kitten itself will guide the tube into the esophagus and not into the trachea.

Before you insert the tube, measure how much of the tube should be inserted to reach the stomach. You can do this by holding the tube alongside the kitten, and measure the length of tube needed: this is the distance from the tip of the nose to the last rib.



Use a piece of tape to mark the correct distance. The end of the tube is in the stomach when the marking has reached the mouth of the kitten.

(See figure 2.)



If by any chance the tube does start down into the trachea, the tube will not slide down up to the marking on the tube.



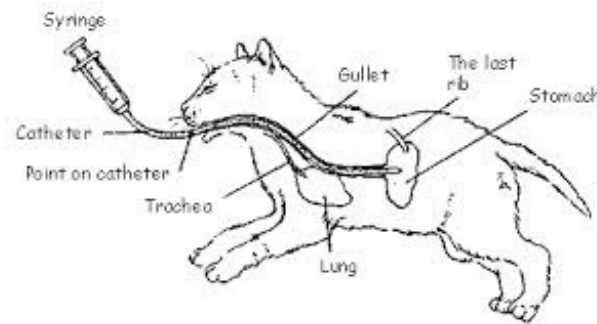
The tube will not pass the point where the trachea divides into the bronchi, which lead to the two lungs. If the diameter of the tube that you use is too small, it might be possible to slide it past this division into the bronchi, so make sure the diameter of the tube that you use is correct.

Health Corner: Tube Feeding



"It's better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret"

(Jackie Joyner Kersee)



If the tube won't glide in until the marking reaches the mouth of the kitten, or if you feel any resistance, take the tube out and try it again.

If you still have doubts whether the tube is in the esophagus, then pull very gently on the syringe to see if you feel a vacuum creating.

(Very gently please! You don't want to damage the wall of the esophagus.)

The wall of the esophagus is very elastic and can be sucked onto the end of the tube. It then closes off the mouth of the tube, and you cannot suck any more air out.



You will feel a vacuum.

The wall of the trachea is not elastic like the wall of the esophagus, but it is rigid, made out of ring shaped cartilage and thus it will not

be able to close off the end of the tube. Thus, you can continue to suck air out of the lungs of the kitten. So, please be careful!!



Whether or not the opening of the tube can be closed off the wall of the trachea or esophagus, also depends on the kind of opening of the tube.

With the opening in front of the tube, the wall of the esophagus will not be pulled against the tube as easily as when the tube has the opening slightly to the side.

When you are sure the tube is placed correctly and the tip of the tube is in the stomach, calmly empty the syringe.

If the mother produce milk, but not enough (for example with a very big litter), some additional feeding might be all that is needed.

Of course, mother's milk is

the best nourishment kittens can get.



As the mother is still feeding her litter, it is not necessary to feed all kittens with formula.



It is best to feed the largest and heaviest kittens with formula, and not the smallest kittens.

Especially the tiny kittens need the best milk, their mother's milk; the larger kittens will do just fine with some formula. When the larger kittens are satisfied, and have their stomach full with formula, the smaller kittens can nurse from their mom undisturbed. During the other feedings the larger kittens will make sure they get their share of the mother's milk anyway.

Health Corner: Tube Feeding



"It's better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret"

(JJ Jackie Joyner Kersee)

Handfed kittens are often also depending on you for the 'finishing touch'. The mother normally licks the area around the anus during and after the feeding of her kittens to stimulate defecation. Without this stimulus the kittens won't defecate.

So don't expect that all you need to do is sit down and wait until the kittens pee and poop, and all you need to do is clean up after them. You will have to stimulate the kittens to defecate, simulating the way their mother would. Sometimes the mother has no milk but she still takes care of her babies. Then you are in luck: you feed the kittens, and mom does the rest.

Using a warm, wet wad of cotton wool can stimulate the kittens to defecate. Place this wad on the abdomen between the hind legs. Burning marks can occur when you rub the cotton wool over the skin, so keep the wad of cotton wool on it's place and make a circular motion with your index finger on the wad. Be sure to stimulate the kittens after each feeding!

Remember, mom is none too gently herself! This procedure has been known to 'push' the balls out in little boys: this does no harm!

Newborns have to be fed every 2 hours, receiving 2 ml milk per feeding. After a week the time intervals between feedings and the

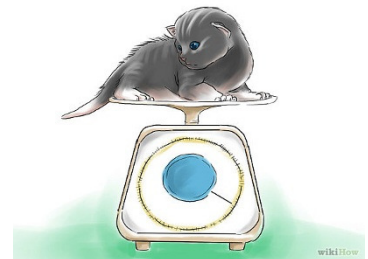
amount of formula per feeding can be increased. Keep an eye on the weight of the kittens, this shows you whether or not the amount of formula and the number of feedings is sufficient for the kitten to grow. (A rough indication for normal growth is the doubling of the weight in the first week.

Important things to remember when Tube Feeding:

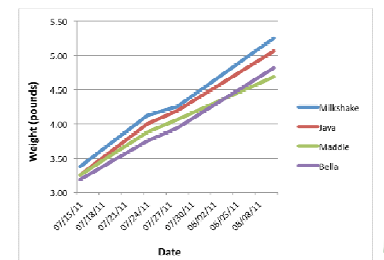
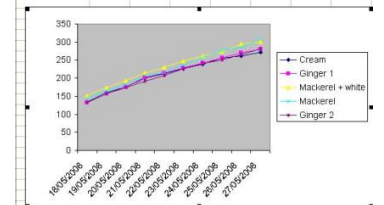
1. Make sure the formula is warm, very close to body temperature. This way the kittens don't have to waste valuable energy to regain their normal body temperature after a feeding of too cold milk, nor will they burn their mouth or esophagus when the milk was too hot. Kitten body temperature is around 38-39 degrees Celsius.
2. Don't turn the kittens on their back during feeding, this isn't a natural posture. A kitten that is nursing with his mother won't lie on his back, but it will lie on his tummy or sit up straight.
3. Insert the tube very gently and remove it quite rapidly, but not too fast as that will be painful. If the tube is removed too slowly there is a risk of some drops of formula that could leak from the tube and end up in the

lungs.

4. The tube can make breathing difficult, especially when the diameter is quite large. So don't leave the tube longer than strictly necessary in the kitten but remove it directly after the feeding.
5. Always follow the instruction on the package of the formula you are using! By adding too much or too little water problems can arise.
6. Remember to record the kitten(s) weight after every feeding. Kittens should gain at least 10% of their birth weight per day.



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	17-May	18-May	19-May	20-May	21-May	22-May	23-May	
Cream	132	134	160	176	200	212	226	
Ginger 1	126	132	156	176	202	214	226	
Mackerel + white	148	152	174	194	214	230	248	
Mackerel	136	144	166	182	208	216	236	
Ginger 2	124	132	156	174	192	208	226	





“It’s better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret”

(JJackie Joyner Kersee)

Kittening Box

What items are recommended?

A couple of years ago, a couple of breeders, belonging to the same International Breed List, put our head together and compiled a comprehensive list of items one should have in a Birthing Kit. It was both interesting and educational, so I thought I’d share the information.

Topping the list at number 1,

all around the world is a ...

BULB SYRINGE

for clearing new newborns’ airways.

Items for my Kitting Box

- **Bulb Syringe**
- **Heating Pad / Warm Water Bottle**
- **Clean / Sterilised Nappies**
- **Digital Scale**
- **Digital Thermometer**
- **Surgical Clamps** (*in case the cord is torn too close to the belly and then you can’t control the bleeding. The kitten could die of loss of blood.*)
- **Sharp / Sterilised Blunt Scissors**
- **Disposable Gloves**
- **Iodine** (*to stem the blood flow from the cord and to seal.*)
- **Waxed Dental Floss** (*to tie off umbilical cords.*)
- **Medicinal / Rubbing Alcohol**
- **Dopram** (*1 Drop under the tongue of a newborn kitten will assist with breathing.*)
- **Gauze Cloths** (*For getting a better grip on a stuck kitten.*)
- **Disposable Bag** (*For disposing of placentas, and bloody disposable bed sheets.*)
- **Clock / Watch**

- **Pen / Paper** (*to record birth date, time, weigh, as well as conditions and observations, e.g. difficult birth - bridged.*)
- **Nutri-Drops** (*an immediate source of glucose, B vitamins for weak kittens.*)
- **High Calorie Vitamin Paste or Hill’s a/d** (*For providing extra strength to the queen during delivery.*)

TIP: A spoon full of honey also works, if the queen will eat it off course.

Items to be kept close by:

- **Veterinarian’s number**
- **Travel Carrier**, line with clean / sterilized nappies (*During an emergency there is no time to look for extra nappies, etc.*)
- **Car Keys**

Reasons to call the Vet:

- Queen is crying and biting her vulvar area.
- Abnormal vaginal discharge. e.g. profuse haemorrhage, green discharge.
- Queen is more than one week overdue.
- No kittens produced after one or two hours of stage two of labour (active labour).
- Kitten / membranes are visible at the vulva for over 15 to 30 minutes with no progress.
- Strong contractions present for over 60 minutes with no kitten born.
- Any systemic illness of the queen.
- Failure to deliver all the kittens within 36 hours.
- More than three hours go by between kittens.



“From birth to weaning - a period to be monitored carefully”

“Every kitten has a different growth curve”

“Feeding a kitten well is crucial for development”

Nutrition: **ROYAL CANIN**



Royal Canin Queen 34 - Repro Precision -

Balanced and complete feed for cats. Specially for gestating and nursing queens: from the first day of heat until the end of lactation.



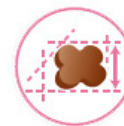
Royal Canin Babycat Milk - Complete Milk Replacer -

For steady, harmonious growth, the composition of Babycat Milk is as close as possible to queen's milk, with high energy and protein levels.



Royal Canin Babycat 34 - Building Natural Defences -

First-age kitten food, from weaning to 4 months and for gestating or lactating females /female cats/ queens. Thanks to a patented synergistic complex of antioxidants (vitamins E & C, lutein, taurine) and mannan-oligo-saccharides to stimulate the production of antibodies.



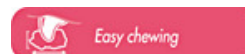
Royal Canin Babycat Mouse - 1st Age easy Start -

By utilizing Macro Nutrient Profile Science, Royal Canin has formulated BABYCAT INSTINCTIVE™ to be instinctively preferred by kittens. That means your kitten gets a formula it loves while getting the precise nutrition it needs at each and every feeding.



Royal Canin Kitten Instinctive - Nutrient Preference -

Small tender chunks for 2nd stage kittens. Also suitable for gestating queens. Kitten Instinctive has been perfectly formulated to match the optimal Macro Nutrient Profile instinctively preferred by 2nd age kittens.





“From birth to weaning - a period to be monitored carefully”

“Every kitten has a different growth curve”

“Feeding a kitten well is crucial for development”

Nutrition: **ROYAL CANIN**

Gauteng Offer

- Special Offer -

Gauteng Offer

**1
GREAT
DEAL!**

ROYAL CANIN

**BUY ONE BOX OF
BABYCAT INSTINCTIVE
AND RECEIVE ONE FREE!**



1 FREE!



Contact Natasha Greaves on 011 462 0462 for more information or place your order with telesales.

WHILE STOCKS LAST

Terms & Conditions: Promotional offer valid while stocks last. Not valid with any other promotions and special offers. Not interchangeable for other sizes or products. Applies only to orders quoting this special offer. This promotion is exclusive to the Royal Canin Distribution Centres. No credit notes will be passed for any existing stock currently held at distributors or practices. Note: The free BabyCat Instinctive is short-dated and stock may not be returned.

For more information please call our customer care line on 0800 43 98 43 or email info@royal-canin.co.za. Visit our website at: www.royalcanin.co.za and www.royalcanin.co.uk. Terms and conditions apply. Reg No 526175, Acc/507945



0800 43 98 43



“From birth to weaning - a period to be monitored carefully”

“Every kitten has a different growth curve”

“Feeding a kitten well is crucial for development”

Nutrition:



Science Plan™ Kitten Healthy Development™ Chicken

Hill's™ Science Plan™ Kitten Healthy Development™ Chicken is formulated to support immunity and digestive health, with clinically proven antioxidants and optimal levels of DHA from fish oil.



Science Plan™ Kitten Healthy Development™ Tuna

Hill's™ Science Plan™ Kitten Healthy Development™ with Tuna is formulated to support immunity and digestive health, with clinically proven antioxidants and optimal levels of DHA from fish oil.



Science Plan™ Kitten with Chicken

Hill's™ Science Plan™ Kitten Tender Chunks in Gravy Chicken is formulated to support immunity and digestive health, with clinically proven antioxidants and optimal levels of DHA from fish oil.



Science Plan™ Kitten with Ocean Fish

Hill's™ Science Plan™ Kitten Tender Chunks in Gravy with Ocean Fish is formulated to support immunity and digestive health, with clinically proven antioxidants and optimal levels of DHA from fish oil.



Key Benefits:

- Clinically proven antioxidants for a healthy immune system
- Sustains healthy vital organs with balanced sodium and phosphorus levels.
- Made with high quality ingredients for gentle, healthy digestion and great taste 100% guaranteed.

**HBA
NEWS Flash**

NEW Kitten 1st Nutrition Mousse

- The perfect complement to the existing Hill's Kitten Range.
- Supports kittens immature digestive systems and their transformation from mother's milk to real food.
- Based on Hill's a/d, therefore highly palatable for this sensitive period of feeding.
- High amount of animal protein to support optimal growth.
- Unique texture enables syringe feeding.



“From birth to weaning - a period to be monitored carefully”

“Every kitten has a different growth curve”

“Feeding a kitten well is crucial for development”



Special Offer

Exclusive to:

**Hill's
Breeder
Association
Members**

www.hill'sbreeders.co.za

Register NOW!

Nutrition:



Hill's go the extra mile for breeders with their new initiative



Litter Feeding Support Offer: Queens & Kittens



Step 1

Register a mating, by completing the **Litter Feeding Application Form**. Receive 10kg Hill's Kitten **FREE**, to feed your Queen during gestation.

Step 2

(If your queen is close to due date or you already have kittens on the ground at the time of applying, follow the process from step 2.)

Feed your queen and kittens Hill's Kitten. Purchase the extra Hill's product required to feed your queen during lactation and your kittens during weaning through your wholesaler (Lakato/Vetserv).

Step 3

Handout **Hill's Starter Kits** to your new kitten owners. Order Hill's Starter Kits through your wholesales (Lakato/Vetserv).

Step 4

Endorse only Hill's to your new kitten owners. It is important to have a nutrition discussion with your new kitten owners and endorse Hill's as your product of choice.

*All new owners will be joined on the **Hill's Best Start Program** and will receive coupons, news about kitten development, as well as a birthday card and many more things!*

Step 5

Send your new kitten owner names to breeders@hillspet.co.za or 086 274 6560. Complete the **Starter Kit Allocation Form**.

On completing steps 2-5, Hill's will **REIMBURSE** your Lakato/Vetserv account as follows:

- **R400** for feeding the queen during lactation
- **R100** per kitten for feeding during weaning

The reimbursement can be used for further Hill's purchases through Lakato/Vetserv.

Step 6

Hill's will randomly call your kitten owners to hear what they are feeding and what your endorsement was and give the litter an endorsement rating. For a positive endorsement, you will receive a further 100 points per kitten.

Seasonal Corner: **SUMMER** Challenges



The TOP 5

SUMMER

Care Tips for Cats

1 PROVIDE PLENTY OF FRESH WATER

This is always important, but truly essential in the summer month.

Make sure there is plenty of fresh cold water for your cats to drink whether they are indoors or outdoors.

Some cats have a tendency to not like drinking out of water bowls, there are a few tricks to ensure your cat gets plenty of water.

Provide indoor cats with a source of running water such as the kitchen faucet or a pet fountain.

You can also mix a spoonful of water into wet food before serving it.

Put ice cubes in the water.

TIP

Cats love to play with the ice cubes. Even if they don't play with the ice cubes it helps to keep the water cool.

2 HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES

Dehydration and heat stroke can plague cats. Although cats are less likely than dogs to be in situations where heat is an issue, cats can still get sick from heat.

Traveling or having to leave your cat outside for extended periods -- such as while you're having your house worked on -- could put your pet at risk.

Always make sure your cat has water and a cool place to rest.

Bushes and trees are a great cool place for animals to relax, but don't underestimate the power of a patio umbrella, tarp or even the shade thrown by chairs.

Also consider planting a small garden just for your cat, with cat-safe herbs and flowers.

Ideally, it will be inside an outdoor enclosure, but any corner of your yard will do, as long as your cat is carefully supervised while enjoying his own garden.

You haven't lived until you have seen a cat roll around in a fresh

bed of catnip or catmint or play with lavender!

If you have air-conditioning, keep it running during heat waves. If you don't have air-conditioning, turn on an indoor fan.

And if you're traveling by air with your cat, check the airline's policies about warm-weather travel.

3 TREAT PREVENTATIVELY FOR TICKS & FLEAS

These little pests can become a huge nuisance if not properly cared for, especially in summer.

Fleas thrive in summer heat and humidity.

Although over-the-counter products and flea collars may help, topical prescription medications offer the best protection, says Susan Nelson, DVM, clinical assistant professor at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

The medication is applied directly to your cat's skin to kill existing fleas and prevent future infestations. The length of time to apply this medicine depends on where you live, so be sure to consult with your veterinarian.

Flea medicine isn't just for outdoor cats, either.

Indoor-only cats should also be on flea prevention medication, as fleas could enter your home

TOP 5 CARE TIPS

• SUMMER • SUMMER •

Seasonal Corner: **SUMMER** Challenges

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on your shoes, clothes or via an outdoor pet's fur.



Several options were covered in issue 3 of the INFORMER.

Also take steps to treat the environment. If you see signs of flea dirt on your cats, buy some dichotomous powder to sprinkle in their favourite outside sleeping areas.

Make sure to check the directions, if it is safe to apply directly onto the cat you know it won't hurt the your cats.

4 BE ALERT TO SEASONAL ALLERGIES

Excessive scratching, biting at the base of the tail and red, inflamed skin are allergy symptoms.

The most likely triggers?
Fleas and pollen.

For allergies related to the latter, cut your cat's exposure to pollen by regularly changing air conditioning filters and washing your cat's bedding, dusting, vacuuming and keeping your cat inside at all times.

Your veterinarian may also prescribe medication or give allergy shots to treat pollen-related health problems in your cat.

5 INCREASE HAIRBALL CONTROL REMEDIES

Although spring is the main shedding season for cats, indoor cats also shed when it's hot, ingesting more hair and spitting up hairballs.

Frequently brushing and bathing your cat helps.

You can also investigate some of the hairball prevention products on the market, including flavored lubricants, treats and fiber tablets. It's a matter of finding one that both the cat and the owner agree upon.

6 GROOMING IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN SUMMER

Not only is it important to brush and bath your cat frequently to keep them clean and knot free, it is also important to tend to other grooming rituals, e.g.:

- Trim claws.
- Detangle mats (which should not be an issue if your cat(s) are bathed frequently).
- Routine brushing for prevention of hairballs
- Dental care products to help prevent tooth decay and loss
- Bathing regularly. It cats are going to get their coats in a mess, it will be more likely in hot weather, and they will greatly appreciate soothing baths, detangling,

and mat-free coats in the summer.

7 MONITOR APPETITES

Cats tend to eat less in the summer, just as humans do, and a small amount of seasonal weight fluxuation is perfectly normal.

But a very heavy cat who loses weight very quickly is susceptible to a condition called hepatatic lipidosis (fatty liver disease.)

So watch your cat(s) and rather coax a finicky cat to eat, before she reaches that stage.

8 DON'T FORGET PLAYTIME & EXERCISE

While cats may prefer to nap away during warm days of summer, they still need regular exercise to remain fit, trim, and alert.

Set aside 15 minutes or so in the early mornings and evenings, open windows to let fresh air in, and indulge in some interactive play with your favorite feline.

Don't allow your cat to get too tired, and follow playtime with a light snack for him, some iced tea for you, and some cuddle time for both of you. Your rewards will be priceless.

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Serious Corner: A Breeding Plan

Setting your objectives

The vast majority of breeders just drift into breeding - some set out to have a bit of fun with one queen, some are intent on making money (I'd be very surprised if they ever opened a book on Feline Husbandry!), some have one litter more or less by mistake - and find they like it. Of those owners who rear one litter of kittens, less than 40% rear a second, and of all those who join a pedigree cat registration body only 20% are still breeding after 3-years.

One or Two litter breeders

The huge turnover in breeders has a multitude of causes, not least amongst them being "one litter for the children", or finding that they love rearing the kittens so much that they cannot bear to part with them (instantly their "Cat capacity" is all filled up).

Failing to achieve instant success on the show bench, sometimes because the breeder from whom they made their initial purchase misled them about the quality of the kitten, or because the other exhibitors at their first show were so horrid to them, also cuts short breeding aspirations.

A disaster with their first litter, through ignorance, lack of assistance, or through having being sold a kitten with a poor health prospect (e.g. flu, Coronavirus, leukemia, etc.); so that the first litter they attempt to raise has endless expenses and distressing problems is also a sure turn-off ... but unfortunately it is a reality for serious breeders and you'll find that the reputable breeders will invest additional money for blood tests, DNA tests, etc. to ensure that their breeding stock is healthy and that they do not breed potentially sick babies.

Or maybe their first litter had to be a C-section and the costs of a complicated caesarean section is very high. Not to mention the after effect of the queen most likely not being able to produce milk after a C-

section and they had to attempt to run a every 2nd hour feeding (24-hours a day) marathon for 2-weeks, before they properly learned how to crawl ...

Hitting the two year barrier

If you After 2-3 years, those breeders who have rapidly bred and kept a lot of kittens may beginning to have real health and management problems in their catteries. This is particularly so when insufficient time, thought and effort has been suspended in the establishment of pens, runs, proper housing, etc.

These problems cannot be solved without a serious analysis and honest assessment of the situation, not to mention the expenditure of money on better facilities and the accumulating costs on medical bills to sort out the health issues.

Sterilising the cats and finding homes for them is often the only solution to these problems. If you THINK you are approaching this "crunch" point ... start assessing your situation NOW and start to take action. The longer you wait the bigger the problems will become.

Objectives of a mating

What are the objectives of a mating?

It can obviously vary, but typical reasons to decide to do a particular mating, might include:

- To introduce a new colour, pattern, hair length, boning, etc.
- To test to see whether your cat is carrying a particular recessive, hair length, patter, colour, or even defect.
- To try to improve a particular characteristic (e.g. type, eye colour, ear placement, etc.).
- To produce better temperament kittens.
- Test mating with another line, with long term view to buy a stud, or to choose complimentary lines to broad-

en your own line.

- To correct a breed fault in your queen.
- To hopefully produce a show-winning litter, containing top show-and breed quality kittens.

Choices of mating which fulfill more than one objective are obviously most satisfactory, but don't be afraid to occasionally go for the wild-card mating- true, it might be disastrous, but it may also exceed your wildest dreams. Just be prepared to live and deal with the consequences!

Making things more manageable

If you find yourself with too many kittens, there are a couple of steps you can take:

- Buy a kitten pen, or if you are handy, build one.
- If you have started out with kittens of more than one breed, choose one. Sterilise the cats belonging to the breed you have less interest in, those you find hardest to sell, those you have learnt over time are not of show quality. If possible, find these cats good pet homes.

Simply try to reduce the population down to a size you are comfortable caring for. And LEARN from your initial over-enthusiasm - KNOW YOUR LIMITS!

- Ask for help! Not everyone in the Cat Fancy will be mean to you. Indeed many may see you as a potential sound breeder, who simply got a bit carried away.

There are appalling disasters every couple of years amongst new breeders - make sure that you don't become part of this statistic and think of the cats!

Planning to stay for the long term

If you are just setting out as a breeder, try to avoid ever reaching the "crunch" point,

Serious Corner: A Breeding Plan

make some ground rules for yourself to govern the growth rate of your cat population.

The following are some suggested rules which you might adopt, they may be modified or supplemented to suit your personal situation:

- **Decide what your maximum number should be.**

Work all your choices within this constraint, LESS ONE (in case you breed a kitten so stunning that everyone gets down on their knees to beg you to it!).

- **Don't buy a new kitten on impulse.**

All new stock purchases should be carefully consider - weighed-up to the SOP and their pedigrees should be intensely research to make sure that they will blend in well with your existing stock.

You also need to make sure that you buy the best quality you can afford.

- **Don't buy a new breed, unless you plan to change your main emphasis to a new area.**

A new breed almost invariably means that you can see ways that it can be improve, that you can breed a better specimen. This also means that your population will expand at a much faster rate.

- **Don't just have kittens for the sake of it.**

Plan every mating carefully. Make sure that the pedigrees mesh well. And to the best of your ability try to breed out faults and improve the breed.

- **If you are going to buy a new kitten, reassess your existing population.**

Is there a kitten at home which you don't need to keep, or a adult that no longer believe is "good enough"?

Aim to replace an existing breeding cat and find the retiring one a good home. This becomes an essential strategy when you are approaching you maximum number.

However, if your initial decision was to never rehome a adult, as they form part of the family - your reassessment and re-planning will need be even more in-depth ...

- **Never buy or breed a new kitten to keep without first deciding where it is going to live.**

Will the new addition make your queen colony too large?

What will you do if she turns out to be a "witch" that won't live with other cats and constantly causes stress in the queen colony?

Even more importantly, if it is a stud-to-be, do you have the money and the space to put up his stud house or room before he is 1-year old?

- **Never keep a small, specially appealing or runt kitten.**

Especially one you have hand reared ... no matter how much your heart aches.

There little fur-people tend to be very appealing to new kitten buyers, so look for the right home and rather include them in the sale of another full-priced sibling.

- **Each time your cat population increases for the medium term, buy an extra carry basket.**

This might sound silly, but you need to think about things like: What are you going to do when you have to evacuate?

- **Don't be afraid to run on a couple of promising kittens for a few months.**

But then CHOOSE one or neither - don't keep them both.

- **Remember to consciously reduce your numbers from time-to-time.**

By consolidating your line into two or tree cats.

If the line is worth having you will have sold progeny to other breeders, and the risk of loosing what you have achieved is reduced, as you can always buy/mate back into your own line - providing you sold the kitten with a buy/mate-back contract.

- **Tell yourself the truth.**

Be passionate about your achievements, if you don't win much at all, it isn't all the judges' bias ... it is very easy to hind behind these types of empty accusations.

Take a hard look at your stock and make sure that they are complying to the SOP and that you are actually trying to improve the breed.

Don't kid your that the poor brood queen will be "ok next time" - think about her health and spay her.

Count all the adult cats - don't let your eye skim past the 5 or 6 geriatrics out the back - they still have to be fed, medicated, groomed and properly cared for (feline old age can incur costs) - and they are still part of the total population count.

*Written by,
Truda M Straede
Author of "Cat Breeding: A Practical Guide"*

More to consider ... read "The Non-Profit Business of Cta Breeding", written by Liz Hansen

www.mcbfa.org/breedcats.html

Till next time - The Straight-Talkers

Alternative Corner: Herb Solutions

Lactation Problems

- Poor milk production -

Sometimes after giving birth, particularly after a caesarian section a bitch or queen can produce insufficient milk to feed her puppies / kittens..

Homeopathic remedies might just be the solution you've been searching for!

ANGUS CASTUS

Stimulates milk production, melancholy and apathetic.



ALFALFA

Stimulates milk production.



ASA FOETIDA

For the nervous, restless, almost hysterical bitch / queen , not knowing what to do with her puppies / kittens.



CHAMOMILLA

For the irritable bitch / queen who seems to withhold her milk when puppies / kittens are suckling . Give 6x 3 times a day for a week.



PHYTOLACCA

Good for stopping the development of nodules during milk production. Give 3x 3 times a day for a week. Many advise its use for ensuring milk production in maiden bitches / queens, by starting the medication from the week prior to delivery.



RASPBERRY LEAF

A licensed herbal medicine for the symptomatic relief of problems associated with whelping and kitting and an aid in the prevention of pseudo-pregnancy in dogs and cats.

Raspberry Leaf tones smooth muscle such as the uterus and so helps ensure an easy and straightforward delivery.

It has been known as a birth aid for hundreds of years and during the 60-years Dorwest has been producing this medicine they have reports of many bitches and queens who although experiencing problems with delivery in the past, have subsequently had normal easy births following the use of these tablets.

Continuing the dose of these tablets for a week following delivery is recommended to help ensure complete evacuation of the placentas. For bitches or queens

who are prone to phantom pregnancy Raspberry Leaf tablets have proven effective in preventing this condition occurring, when given at the higher dose rate.



The tablets may be crushed for easier administration.

Show Result Corner: COTY WINNERS



CFSA COTY 2013 - CAT OF THE YEAR

Kisamee Delfi

Cornish Rex, Blue Tortoiseshell Bi-Colour

Owner: N. Strydom



Top Male

Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk

Persian, Black Silver Shaded

Owner: S. Marsh



Top Neuter

Cracker Unbelievable

Persian, Black Self

Owner: R. van Wyk



Top Kitten

L'Exquisite Incroyable

Exotic, Black Tortoiseshell Classic Tabby

Owner: B. Neukircher



Top Pet

Melody

Tortie Tabby and White Short Hair

Owner: J. May

More photo and results to follow in a special COTY news, to be circulated soon!

Show Result Corner: KZNCC TOPCAT (05-10-2013)

Photos by, Theresa Fouché



KZNCC's Annual TopCat event has become a real institution and a stunning event to look forward to at the end of a show season.

Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk

Owner: S. Marsh



KITTENS



1. **The Catwalk Bette Davis**
Owner: S. Marsh
2. **La Yen Desert Rose**
Owners: H. & S. Kelly
3. **L'Exquisite Queen Of Hearts**
Owners: L. Moodley & S. Singh
4. **Purr-n-Meow Tristano Onofri Fiori**
Owners: E. Bester & C. Bekker
5. **L'Exquisite Jack of Spades**
Owner: T. Atkinson

JUNIORS



1. **The Catwalk Kenzo**
Owner: S. Marsh
2. **ShakesPURR A Mid-Summer Night's Dream**
Owner: H. Röhrs
3. **ShakesPURR Cobweb**
Owner: H. Röhrs
4. **C'Est L'Amour Ferrero Rocher**
Owner: L. Conjé
5. **LaMaska Return To Innocence**
Owner: M. Burger

Show Result Corner: KZNCC TOPCAT (05-10-2013)

Photos by, Theresa Fouché



NEUTERS



1. **Cracker Unbelievable**
Owner: R. van Wyk
2. **Flamboyant Alvin L'Meur**
Owner: R. van Wyk
3. **ShakesPURR Lord Benedick**
Owner: H. Röhrs
4. **L'Exquisite Cracker Jack**
Owner: D. Scheepers
5. **ShakesPURR Kiss'd The Wild Waves**
Owners: Visser-Family (Caitie)

FEMALES



1. **Brettachtal's Marilyn Monroe of The Catwalk**
Owner: S. Marsh
2. **LaMaska She Of Seven Veils**
Owner: M. Burger
3. **ShakesPURR Such A Jewel of Rock'n Purr**
Owner: L. van Aarde
4. **ShakesPURR As It Is**
Owner: H. Röhrs
5. **Brettachtal's Miss South Africa of The Catwalk**
Owner: S. Marsh

MALES



1. **Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk**
Owner: S. Marsh
2. **Astrokatz Kufu of La Yen**
Owner: S. Venter
3. **Purr-n-Meow Absolutely Givenchy**
Owners: E. Bester & C. Bekker
4. **ShakesPURR Every Inch A King**
Owner: H. Röhrs
5. **LaMaska Aurora Borealis**
Owner: M. Burger

PETS



1. **Yuki**
Owner: S. Venter
2. **Mystique**
Owners: L. Moodley & S. Singh
3. **Kiyana**
Owners: L. Moodley & S. Singh
4. **Duches**
Owners: L. Moodley & S. Singh
5. **Seun**
Owner: G. van Aarde



South African Companion Animal Council

SACAC Guidelines for Responsible Breeding of Dogs and Cats

The purpose of this guide: In this guide we outline some guidelines for those who breed pets. This is to help maintain standards of breeding and to ensure the welfare of the animals. It may also serve as a guide for buyers wishing to purchase pets from reputable breeders.

- Basic Requirements of Pet Breeding -

The 10 points of responsible pet breeding:

1. A Responsible breeder must be a responsible pet owner, following the 10 points of Responsible Pet Ownership with their breeding pets even if they are past breeding age.
2. Responsible breeders are registered and involved with a organized body.
3. Responsible breeders work closely with their veterinarians.
4. Responsible breeders should be knowledgeable and research the current breed standards and genetic information available in their aim to improve the breed.
5. Responsible breeders practice a high standard of kennel or cattery management as prescribed by their governing bodies.
6. Responsible breeders insures sires and dams are at the correct breeding age, body condition and mass before breeding and between litters.
7. Responsible breeders nurture and socialize the puppies / kittens.
8. Responsible breeders place puppies / kittens wisely and only at an appropriate age.
9. Only sell / place puppies / kittens that have been examined, vaccinated and de-wormed by a veterinarian.
10. Responsible breeders educate new owners in Responsible Pet Ownership.

What is the South African Companion Animal Council?

It is the only industry-wide non-profit organisation that has, as its core function, the promotion of socially Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO) in South Africa.



Because Issue 4 is dedicated to breeding and we wanted to feature a lot of various breeding issues, we ran out of space and a couple of regular topics had to be "benched".

We will resume the following articles in 2014:

- Viruses
- Parasites
- Breed
- Creative



Please forward your contributions to: cfsainfo@gmail.com
Cut-off dates for the next issue is 15 November 2013.

The South African Companion Animal Council members believe in the positive experience of owning a pet and that anyone who is able and willing to responsibly care for a pet should be given the opportunity to experience the many benefits that keeping a companion animal can bring to human beings.

- Basic Requirements of Pet Ownership -

The 10 points of Responsible Pet Ownership:

1. Make provision for the care of your pet for its entire lifespan.
2. Choose your pet carefully to match your lifestyle and home environment.
3. Interact positively with your pet every day.
4. Provide adequate shelter and protection from harm.
5. Feed a specialty prepared pet food to meet the pet's nutritional needs and provide fresh, clean drinking water.
6. Take your pet to a veterinarian for a wellness examination at least once a year.
7. Ensure that your pet receives regular vaccinations at your local veterinarian throughout its life.
8. Always choose a registered preventative treatment against external (fleas and ticks) and internal (worms) parasites and treat your pet regularly.
9. Responsible breeders register their breeding pets with a recognised breeders' association.
10. All male and female pets should be sterilised if they are not intended to be bred.

