Experts in herbal pet care

Nothing beats having a healthy, happy dog. We know that because we love dogs as much as you do. For over 70 years we've been breeding, working and showing dogs, and applying our knowledge of herbal medicine to their health and nutritional needs. We're now in our third generation at Dorwest, where our insights have made us the UK's leading provider of canine and feline herbal treatments – and the only manufacturer of herbal medicines authorised by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate.

In more than 20 countries around the world we're helping dog and cat owners keep their pets healthy and content. They come to us for herbal treatments that work in harmony with their dogs – the young and the old...glossy show dogs and lovable crossbreeds...active, outdoors types and contented, fireside stay-at-homes.

Dog lovers with pharmaceutical standards



A commitment to medicinal rigour underpins everything we do. We prepare our treatments to pharmaceutical standards using active ingredients taken from the whole plant. No second-stage extracts for us: ours come directly from the leaves, stems, roots and first pressings of oil – and only from herbs that meet our own stringent quality standards. The result is a comprehensive range of herbal veterinary medicines, herbal dietary supplements and homeopathic remedies that help keep your dog or cat's life in balance.

Away from the lab and the white coats, we're typical dog lovers – keen to chat with fellow dog owners and delighted to offer advice on anything from supplements for an active lifestyle to treatments for travel sickness, phobias or ageing joints. We love being part of that great dog-owning community, and feel privileged to be able to share our expertise with fellow dog enthusiasts.

Should you require further information on other leaflets in our range or require advice either:

Ask at your local stockist to speak to the Dorwest trained member of staff.

Call Dorwest direct on 01308 897272 to speak to an expert advisor (9am – 4pm Monday to Friday)



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Fertility, whelping and false pregnancy

Your guide to managing your pet's health



Fertility, whelping and false pregnancy

Owning a female dog can raise different gender specific issues depending on your decisions. If you have decided to breed a litter from your bitch, this is certainly not something to take lightly. Once health checks are undertaken and a suitable sire is found, then the planning should start. It can be a stressful time for you as their owner so be prepared and keep as calm as possible around the bitch and ensure her welfare is paramount.

On the other hand, if you have an entire (Non-neutered) bitch and she has not been mated, you may notice that following her season she starts exhibiting some unusual behaviour. False pregnancies are surprisingly common and herbal medicine is perfect to use, it helps to reduce symptoms in a natural way.

Remember we are not vets and do not diagnose. You should always consult a vet if you are concerned about your pets health.

"THANKS SO VERY MUCH"

A HUGE thumbs-up for Raspberry Leaf Tablets in preventing a phantom pregnancy! This was the third season of Yamanja's that we have used them (she had two utterly miserable phantom pregnancies before we found Dorwest), and I was totally on the ball with timing and amount, and she sailed through her season with no symptoms beyond the normal ones!

Thanks so very much from us both!

Celia Gunn

Follow the chart to find the best Dorwest product for your pet

Whelping & maintaining fertility

Planning is the key, even before mating, to make sure the bitch is in the best possible health as this will affect the overall fitness and health of the mother and her pups later on. We recommend the following products if you are planning a litter.

Wheatgerm Oil

Wheatgerm Oil Capsules or Wheatgerm Oil Liquid are the perfect supplement to support the fertility system. This natural source of Vitamin E helps maintain fertility and provides support to the foetuses during the important first trimester. Start giving one week prior to mating and continue until three weeks after mating. Give double the quantity to males and females the day before and the actual day of mating to provide an extra boost of Vitamin E.



Raspberry Leaf Tablets

Raspberry Leaf Tablets have been a part of herbal tradition as a birth aid for centuries and are still recommended by veterinary and healthcare professionals today to help reduce the likelihood of problems occurring during whelping. Raspberry Leaf extract helps to tone the smooth muscle of the uteri to prepare it for whelping. They are an especially good choice for bitches that may have experienced a difficult delivery in the past or one is anticipated, but every in whelp bitch will benefit from having Raspberry Leaf during this period. Start giving three weeks after mating and continue until one week after whelping.



False pregnancy

Phantom, pseudo or false pregnancies in bitches usually start after their first or second season and unfortunately those that have a tendency to these, will suffer season after season often with increasing severity. Symptoms can vary from mild unsettled behaviour to more extreme nestina habits such as carrying toys around, looking for pups and even depression. Physical signs can be a change in physical outline, enlarged teats and sometimes even milk production.

Raspberry Leaf Tablets

Prevention of this condition is strongly advised and consistency is the key for a successful outcome. Raspberry Leaf Tablets are an effective aid in either totally preventing a false pregnancy occurring or reducing the symptoms. Give the recommended dose from the first sign of coming into season and continue for the full 12 weeks which is when she would have whelped had she been mated. Ensure you continue to use in this way for every season unless she is being mated.



Scullcap & Valerian Tablets

The psychological effects of a false pregnancy can be upsetting for both owner and dog. They can become anxious, confused, unsettled and clingy to their owner. The best way to help, apart from reassurance and lots of cuddles, is to give Scullcap & Valerian Tablets. Given daily they reduce anxiety and stress, so it will help her to feel more calm and relaxed, and she will be noticeably less fretful and worried by the condition.

