

CFSA Informer

ISSUE 3

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General Corner

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Royal Canin

Not only the backbone of CFSA show sponsorships, but also relentlessly dedicated to catering for each unique breed's needs!

The history of the world's most famous cat breed, the Persian, dates back to the 16th century. It all began when Pietro della Valle returned home to Italy from the Persian Empire. He brought back a wonderful souvenir, a magnificent long-haired cat. As they say, the rest is history!

Today's Persian is a playful, affectionate result of more than 300 years of loving and astute breeding. Over time, this breed has been moulded into a beauty of serenity and vigour. Breeders have maintained the balance of health, spirit and their gentle temperament, creating a breed that has such a devoted following of admirers.

At Royal Canin, we believe every cat is unique, especially pure breed cats. With such exceptional features and characteristics, the Persian also required a unique tailor-made nutritional diet.

Royal Canin offers a breed specific diet, scientifically formulated for the sensitivities and charac-

teristics of the Persian cat.

One of the most prominent characteristics of this breed is its brachycephalic jaw. This unique facial profile also means that Persians have sublingual prehension, and as a result they pick up food with the underneath of their tongue. The tailor made "almond-shaped" kibble makes it easier for them to grasp their food and also stimulates chewing. The texture of the kibble encourages maximum penetration of the tooth into the kibble. This mechanical brushing limits the formation of dental plaque, and therefore enhances oral health.

The second characteristic of the Persian is undoubtedly its beautiful long coat. This diet enhances the natural splendour of the coat with highly digestible proteins and amino acids that stimulate hair growth and strength. Suppleness and shine of the coat is reinforced by the addition of Omega 3 and 6 fatty acids, which play an important role as anti-inflammatories in the skin. These essential fatty acids, together with our patented PINCH cocktail, strengthens the skin's barrier role, reducing transepidermal water loss and penetration of possible allergens.

With this long and silky coat, the risk of hairballs is much higher than most other cats. Royal Canin's Persian diet makes the natural elimination of hairballs



Persian 30



Kitten Persian 32

Persian Kitten
Growth from 4 to 12 months

easier due to the selection of vegetable fibres which enhances natural peristalsis. Psyllium (fibre) absorbs excess water in the intestines which keeps the stool's consistency normal. These fibres also carry hair into the stools, naturally eliminating hairballs.

The diet is also enriched with prebiotics, MOS and FOS which work together to keep the micro flora population in the intestine balanced and healthy, ensuring digestive safety.

For the health and well-being of this exceptional cat, Royal Canin's Persian kitten and adult diets are the scientific, nutritional answer for the sensitivities and physical characteristics of this unique breed.

Written by, Dr. Marizaan Grobler

ROYAL CANIN

Health Corner: Another Big F-virus

FIV

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus

What is Feline Immunodeficiency Virus?

Virologists classify feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) as a lentivirus (or "slow virus").

FIV is in the same retrovirus family as feline leukemia virus (FeLV), but the viruses differ in many ways including their shape.

FIV is elongated, while FeLV is more circular.

The two viruses are also quite different genetically, and the proteins that compose them are dissimilar in size and composition. The specific ways in which they cause disease differ, as well.

How common is the infection?

FIV-infected cats are found worldwide, but the prevalence of infection varies greatly. In the United States, approximately 1.5 to 3 percent of healthy cats are infected with FIV.

Rates rise significantly—15 percent or more—in cats that are sick or at high risk of infection. Because biting is the most efficient means of viral transmission, free-roaming, aggressive male cats are the most frequently infected, while cats housed exclusively indoors are much less likely to be infected.

How is FIV spread?

- The primary mode of transmission is through bite wounds.

- Casual, non-aggressive contact does not appear to be an efficient route of spreading FIV; as a result, cats in households with stable social structures where housemates do not fight are at little risk for acquiring FIV infections.
 - On rare occasions infection is transmitted from an infected mother cat to her kittens, usually during passage through the birth canal or when the newborn kittens ingest infected milk.
 - Sexual contact is not a major means of spreading FIV.
- resulting in a generalized but usually temporary enlargement of the lymph nodes, often accompanied by fever. This stage of infection may pass unnoticed unless the lymph nodes are greatly enlarged.
 - An infected cat's health may deteriorate progressively or be characterized by recurrent illness interspersed with periods of relative health. Sometimes not appearing for years after infection, signs of immunodeficiency can appear anywhere throughout the body.
 - Poor coat condition and persistent fever with a loss of appetite are commonly seen.
 - Inflammation of the gums (gingivitis) and mouth (stomatitis) and chronic or recurrent infections of the skin, urinary bladder, and upper respiratory tract are often present. Persistent diarrhea can also be a problem, as can a variety of eye conditions. Slow but progressive weight loss is common, followed by severe wasting late in the disease process.
 - Various kinds of cancer and blood diseases are much more common in cats infected with FIV, too.
 - In unsprayed female cats, abortion of kittens or other reproductive failures have been noted.
 - Some infected cats experience seizures, behavior changes, and other neurological disorders.

What does FIV do to a cat?

Infected cats may appear normal for years.

However, infection eventually leads to a state of immune deficiency that hinders the cat's ability to protect itself against other infections.

The same bacteria, viruses, protozoa, and fungi that may be found in the everyday environment—where they usually do not affect healthy animals—can cause severe illness in those with weakened immune systems.

These secondary infections are responsible for many of the diseases associated with FIV.

What are the signs of disease caused by FIV?

- Early in the course of infection, the virus is carried to nearby lymph nodes, where it reproduces in white blood cells known as T-lymphocytes.
- The virus then spreads to other lymph nodes throughout the body,



"Knowledge is Power"
(Sir Francis Bacon)

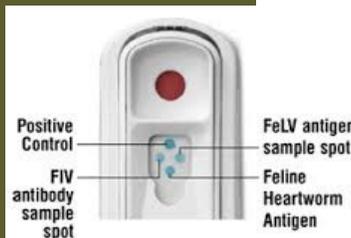


SPREADING

Health Corner: Another Big F-virus



“Better the devil that you know”
(Jack Heath)



TESTING

How is infection diagnosed?

Antibody tests detect the presence of antibody in the blood of infected cats.

Positive results

Because few, if any, cats ever eliminate infection, the presence of antibody indicates that a cat is infected with FIV. This test can be performed by most veterinary diagnostic laboratories and also is available in kit form for use in veterinary clinics. Since false-positive results may occur, veterinarians recommend that positive results be confirmed using a test with a different format. Infected mother cats transfer FIV antibodies to nursing kittens, so kittens born to infected mothers may receive positive test results for several months after birth. However, few of these kittens actually are or will become infected. To clarify their infection status, kittens younger than six months of age receiving positive results should be retested at 60-day intervals until they are at least six months old.

Negative results

A negative test result indicates that antibodies directed against FIV have not been detected, and, in most cases, this implies that the cat is not infected. Nevertheless, it takes eight to 12 weeks after infection (and sometimes even longer) before detectable levels of antibody appear, so if the test is performed during this interval, inaccurate results might be obtained. Therefore, antibody-negative cats with either an unknown or a known exposure to FIV-infected cats—such as through the bite of an unknown cat—should be retested a minimum of 60 days after

their most recent exposure in order to allow adequate time for development of antibodies. On very rare occasions, cats in the later stages of FIV infection may test negative because their immune systems are so compromised that they no longer produce detectable levels of antibody.

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are designed to detect short segments of a virus's genetic material. While antibody-based tests are ideal screening tests for infection, in certain situations (such as confirming infection in antibody-positive kittens or determining infection of cats vaccinated with antibody-producing FIV vaccines), PCR-based tests, in theory, would be superior. Although PCR testing methods offer promise and are being actively explored, at this time unacceptable numbers of false-positive and false-negative results prevent them from routinely being recommended.

How can I keep my cat from becoming infected?

- The only sure way to protect cats is to prevent their exposure to the virus.
- Cat bites are the major way infection is transmitted, so keeping cats indoors—and away from potentially infected cats that might bite them—markedly reduces their likelihood of contracting FIV infection. For the safety of the resident cats, only infection-free cats should be adopted into a household with uninfected cats.

- Vaccines to help protect against FIV infection are now available. However, not all vaccinated cats will be protected by the vaccine, so preventing exposure will remain important, even for vaccinated pets. In addition, vaccination may have an impact on future FIV test results. It is important that you discuss the advantages and disadvantages of vaccination with your veterinarian to help you decide whether FIV vaccines should be administered to your cat.

I just discovered that one of my cats has FIV, yet I have other cats as well. What do I do now?

Unfortunately, many FIV-infected cats are not diagnosed until after they have lived for years with other cats. In such cases, all the other cats in the household should be tested, as well. Ideally, all infected cats should be separated from the non-infected ones to eliminate the potential for FIV transmission. If this is not possible—and if fighting or rough play is not taking place—the risk to the non-infected cats appears to be low.

How should FIV-infected cats be managed?

- FIV-infected cats should be confined indoors to prevent spread of FIV infection to other cats in the neighborhood and to reduce their exposure to infectious agents carried by other animals.

Health Corner: Another Big F-virus

FIV



“Knowledge is Power”
(Sir Francis Bacon)

- FIV-infected cats should be spayed or neutered.
- They should be fed nutritionally complete and balanced diets. Uncooked food, such as raw meat and eggs, and unpasteurized dairy products should not be fed to FIV-infected cats because the risk of food-borne bacterial and parasitic infections is much higher in immunosuppressed cats.
- Wellness visits for FIV-infected cats should be scheduled with your veterinarian at least every six months.
- Although a detailed physical examination of all body systems will be performed, your veterinarian will pay special attention to the health of the gums, eyes, skin, and lymph nodes.
- Your cat's weight will be measured accurately and recorded, because weight loss is often the first sign of deterioration.
- A complete blood count, serum biochemical analysis, and a urine analysis should be performed annually.
- Vigilance and close monitoring of the health and behavior of FIV-infected cats is even more important than it is for uninfected cats. Alert your veterinarian to any changes in your cat's health as soon as possible. There is no evidence from controlled scientific studies to show that immunomodulator, alterna-

tive, or antiviral medications have any positive benefits on the health or longevity of healthy FIV-infected cats. However, some antiviral therapies have been shown to benefit some FIV-infected cats with seizures or stomatitis.

How long can I expect my FIV-infected cat to live?

It is impossible to accurately predict the life expectancy of a cat infected with FIV.

With appropriate care and under ideal conditions, many infected cats will remain in apparent good health for many months or years.

If your cat has already had one or more severe illnesses as a result of FIV infection, or if persistent fever and weight loss are present, a much shorter survival time can be expected.

My FIV-infected cat died recently after a long illness. How should I clean my home before bringing in a new cat?

Feline immunodeficiency virus will not survive outside the cat for more than a few hours in most environments.

However, FIV-infected cats are frequently infected with other infectious agents that may pose some threat to a newcomer.

- Thoroughly clean and disinfect or replace food and water dishes, bedding, litter pans, and toys.
- A dilute solution of household bleach (four ounces of bleach in 1 gallon of water) makes an excellent disinfectant.

- Vacuum carpets and mop floors with an appropriate cleanser.
- Any new cats or kittens should be properly vaccinated against other infectious agents before entering the household.

Can I become infected with FIV?

Although FIV is a lentivirus similar to HIV (the human immunodeficiency virus) and causes a disease in cats similar to AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) in humans, it is a highly species-specific virus that infects only felines.

A number of studies have failed to show any evidence that FIV can infect or cause disease in people.

Why should I have my cat tested?

Early detection will help you maintain the health of your own cat and also allow you to prevent spreading infection to other cats.

Under what circumstances should FIV testing be performed?

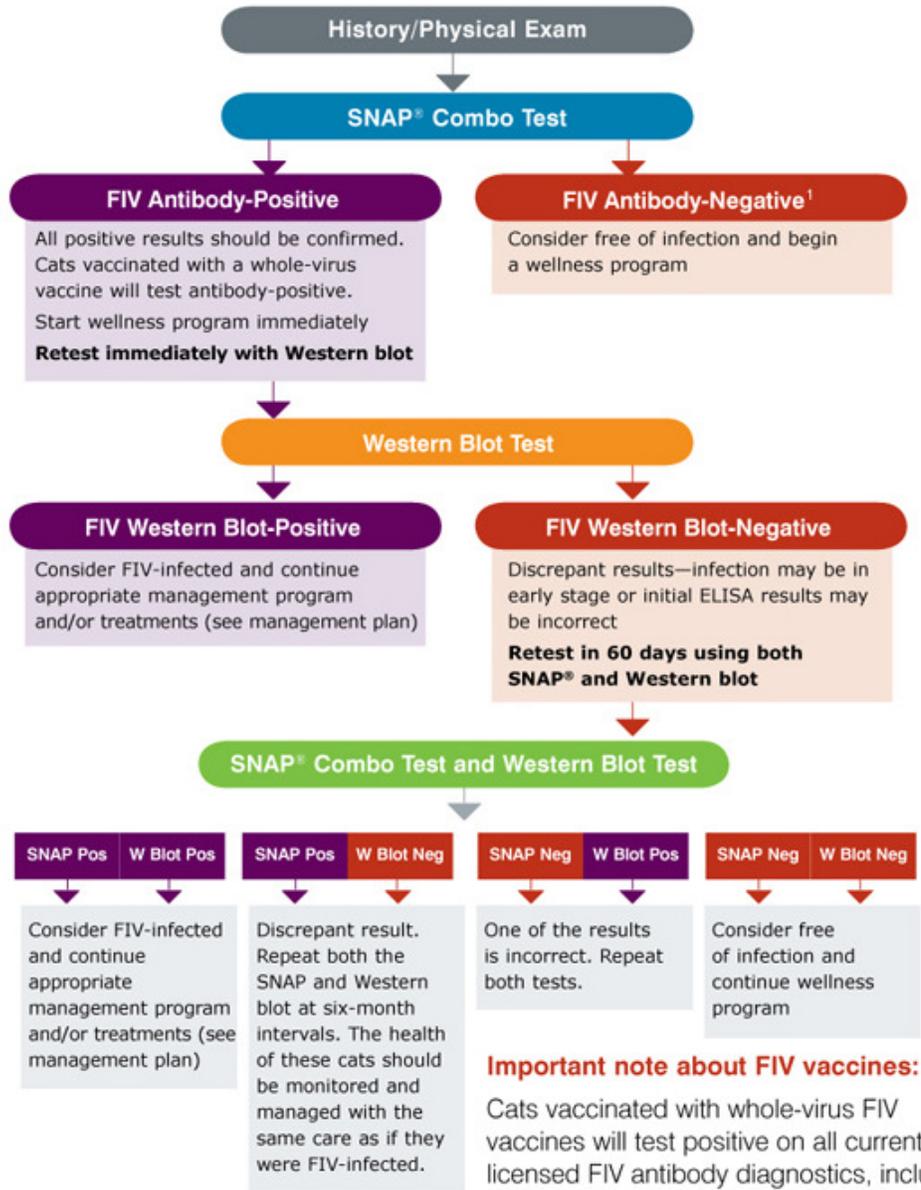
- If your cat has never been tested.
- If your cat is sick, even if it tested free of infection in the past but subsequent exposure can't be ruled out.
- When cats are newly adopted, whether or not they will be entering a household with other cats.
- If your cat has recently been exposed to an infected cat.

Health Corner: Another Big F-virus



“Better the devil that you know”
(Jack Heath)

- If your cat is exposed to cats that may be infected (for example, if your cat goes outdoors unsupervised or lives with other cats that might be infected).
- Your veterinarian may suggest testing periodically (yearly) as long as your cat is exposed to potentially infected cats.
- If you're considering vaccinating with an FIV vaccine.
Article courtesy of, The Cornell Feline Health Centre

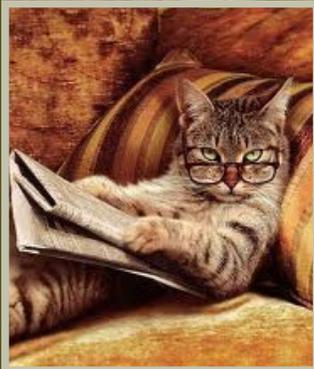


Important note about FIV vaccines:
Cats vaccinated with whole-virus FIV vaccines will test positive on all currently licensed FIV antibody diagnostics, including SNAP® FIV/FelV Combo, PetChek® FIV Ab and Western blot. **Therefore, if choosing to vaccinate, test immediately prior to administration.**

¹ Cats receiving negative results should be retested a minimum of 60 days after their last potential exposure to allow FIV antibody to reach detectable levels.

Health Corner: The Big Parasites

Ticks



“Knowledge is Power”
(Sir Francis Bacon)

Ticks are blood sucking ectoparasites (a parasite that lives on the exterior of an animal). There are hundreds of species of ticks worldwide. Australia has around 70 species of ticks.

Paralysis ticks (*Ixodes holocyclus*) affect cats in Australia. They live on the east coast from North Queensland to Northern Victoria. In northern parts of Australia, ticks can be found all year around. In the cooler southern areas, tick season is generally from spring through to late autumn.

What do paralysis ticks look like?



- Egg
- Larva (6 legged)
- Nymph (8 legged)
- Adult (8 legged)

What do Paralysis Ticks do?

The tick attaches to the cat and borrows its mouthparts into the skin. It sucks the blood and injects a neurotoxin called *Holocyclotoxin*, which causes paralysis. It is usually

the female tick who attaches to animals, the male actually parasitises the female tick. The tick is fairly small when it attaches to its host, growing in size as it consumes more blood. Illness doesn't occur quickly, as it does with animals such as snakes and spiders, it can take hours or even days before symptoms of poisoning become apparent. That's not to say that ticks aren't as deadly as other poisonous animals and it is advisable you take your cat to a veterinarian, just to be on the safe side.

What is a Neurotoxin and what does *Holocyclotoxin* do?

A neurotoxin is a toxic substance which damages or destroys the cells of the central nervous system.

*** *Holocyclotoxin* is a neurotoxin which is excreted from the tick's salivary glands into the cat. *Holocyclotoxin* inhibits release of *acetylcholine* in neurons.

Other examples of neurotoxins are:

- Botulinum toxin from bacteria, this blocks acetylcholine release.
- Apamin from the honey bee, which blocks potassium channels.
- Versutoxin from the funnel web spider, which opens sodium channels.

How do Paralysis Ticks get onto cats?

Stimuli such as heat and movement alert the tick to a potential host. They climb onto vegetation and when an animal passes, it waves its forelegs (known as questing) until it makes contact with the host.



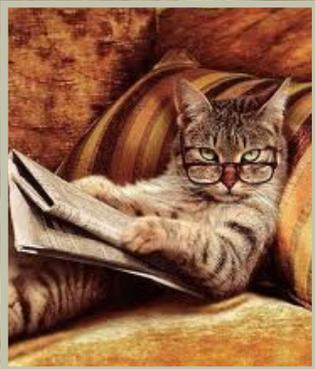
What are the signs of tick poisoning in cats?

- Symptoms of tick paralysis include;
- Loss of appetite.
- Vomiting or dry retching.
- Excessive salivation.
- Difficulty swallowing.
- Change to meow.
- Coughing.
- Noisy Panting.
- Difficulty swallowing.
- Dilated pupils.

As symptoms progress you may notice:

- Limb weakness, starting in the hind legs, progressing to the front legs, appearing wobbly and uncoordinated, falling over, paralysis.
- Incontinence.
- Laboured breathing.
- Coma.

Health Corner: The Big Parasites



“Better the devil that you know”
(Jack Heath)

What to do if your cat has been poisoned by a tick?

Try to keep yourself and your cat as calm as possible. Remove food and water as poisoning can prevent the cat from swallowing properly, which in turn could lead to choking. Take it to the veterinarian as soon as possible. The longer you delay taking your cat to a vet, the worse the symptoms will become, which may lead to death.

Removal of ticks:

It is recommended you wear a pair of latex gloves while removing a tick. Using tweezers or a tick remover (you can purchase these for a few dollars from your veterinarian) firmly grasp the tick's head, as close to the cat's skin as possible. Be extremely careful not to squeeze the body of the tick as this will inject more poison and pathogens into the cat's system. You can also kill the tick while it's still on the cat by using an appropriate insecti-



cide, such as Frontline spray.

What products can you use to prevent ticks?

Frontline Plus Top Spot, Frontline Spray, Fidos Fre-Itch Rinse Concentrate, Proban Tablets or Oral Liquid.

How do you prevent tick poisoning?

Check your pet thoroughly every day for ticks. Start from the tip of the nose and work your way right down to the tail. Ensure you check between the toes, inside the ears (be careful).

What treatment will be performed on a cat who has been poisoned by a tick?

Treatment depends on the severity of the symptoms, and is different from case to case. The greater the severity, the more care the animal will need and mortality rate increases, which is why it's so important to seek veterinary care as soon as you suspect tick poisoning. Symptoms may include pneumonia, high blood pressure, heart problems, vomiting and respiratory difficulties.

If it is having difficulty breathing, it may be given oxygen. It may also be put on a drip to prevent dehydration.

Your pet will almost certainly be hospitalised and given antiserum. This serum (the clear part of the blood which contains antibodies) is obtained from dogs that have been made hyperimmune via repeated exposure to paralysis ticks.

Recovery is dependent upon severity of symptoms. Generally veterinary treatment takes 2+ days. You will be required to care for your cat for some

time after it has been discharged from the hospital also.

Do paralysis ticks affect other animals?

Yes, ticks affect native animals too. Including marsupials, reptiles, birds and dogs. The Bandicoot is a particular favourite.

What is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is the *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria which is transmitted via tick bites.

Does Lyme disease affect cats?

Yes, although it has yet to be proven that the Paralysis Tick passes on Lyme disease to cats in Australia. Lyme disease is passed on via the Deer Tick, also known as the Black Legged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*) in North America. You cannot catch Lyme disease from your pet, but it is possible for humans to become infected from ticks.

Can ticks affect humans?

Yes they can. Most tick bites cause few problems to people, however there is a serious danger if the person has a severe allergic reaction to the tick bite or is paralysed by the toxins. Humans can also catch diseases such as Queensland Tick Typhus from ticks.

Disposing of Ticks

Once removed, save the tick by placing it in a jar of methylated spirit or alcohol so you can take it to your veterinarian



for identification.

Alternative Corner: Herb Solutions

Natural Tick Repellent The Herbal Solution

How to make a Tick Repellent Spray?

1. Add 1 cup of water to a spray bottle
2. Add 2 cups of distilled white vinegar.

Ticks hate the smell and taste of vinegar, and will be easily be repelled by this ingredient alone.

3. Then, add two spoonful's of vegetable or almond oil, which both contain sulfur (another natural tick repellent).

Spray onto the pet's dry coat, staying away from sensitive areas including eyes, nose, mouth, and genitals.

When outdoors for an extended period, spray this solution on two to three times per day.

When pets are outdoors generally to use the restroom only, spray the solution onto the animal's coat once per day.



Water + White Vinegar + Vegetable OR Almond oil

How to make a Tick Repellent Dip?

Mix 30ml neem oil with 120 - 300ml of sesame, sweet almond or olive oil. Massage into skin and fur. Leave on for about 1/2 hour and wash with a mild shampoo.



NEEM + Sesame OR Almond OR Olive oil

How to make a Tick Repellent Dip?

1. Mix equal parts of rosemary, tansy, pennyroyal (**don't use this if your pets or humans in the home are pregnant**), eucalyptus, or lavender herbs (four from this list will do).

2. Add boiling water to activate the oils.

Use as a wash on your pet's fur. Allow to air dry and re-apply every two to three days until the pest problem is gone.



Water + Rosemary + Tansy + Pennyroyal + Eucalyptus + Lavender oil

Oral Treatment?

Garlic is an excellent flea and tick repellent. Combined with brewer's yeast it is even more effective.

Add a pinch of fresh, minced garlic and a pinch of brewer's yeast to your small pet's wet food each day during tick and flea season.

IMPORTANT:

There is conflicting information about giving pets garlic. If you are concerned, check with your vet before feeding garlic to your pets.



Wet Food + Garlic + Brewer's Yeast

GENERAL WARNING:

Some essential oils are extremely toxic to cats. While essential oils are natural, it doesn't always mean harmless. **So please do not get too 'creative' before you do your research or consult with your Veterinarian.**



Show Result Corner: CCC Results (29-06-2013)

(Sponsored by Hill's)

BEST IN SHOW

Lamaska She Of Seven Veils
Owner: M. Burger



PET OF THE DAY

Dexter
Owner: J. Blonk



PERSIAN / EXOTIC

Best Kitten

Purr-n-Meow Molinard
IlesD'Ore
Owner: E. Bester & C. Bekker

Best Neuter



Cracker Unbelievable
Owner: R. van Wyk

Best Female

ShakesPURR's Such A Jewel
Owner: L. van Aarde

Best Male

Brettachtal's Maserati of the
Catwalk (S7611)
Owner: S. Marsh

SIAMESE / ORIENTAL

Best Kitten

Lamaska Dottie With Spotties
Owner: M. Burger

Best Neuter

Westwood Apollo
Owner: H. Griffiths

Best Female



Lamaska She Of Seven Veils
Owner: M. Burger

Best Male

Lamaska Aurora Borealis
Owner: M. Burger

FOREIGN

Best Kitten

Pearl Caramello Koala
Owner: P. Steyn

Best Neuter

Kisamee Damon Salvatore
Owner: N. Strydom

Best Female



Ally's Cat Maid of Gossamer
Owner: P. Steyn

Best Male

Prazlin Azora of Awesome
Bengals (S7553)
Owner: L. Kennard

MEDIUM HAIR

Best Kitten

Colorkats Leo
Owner: D. Le Roux

Best Neuter

Geedee Cardinal De Richelieu
Owner: S. Prinsloo

Best Female

Swagger Coons My Lady Soul
Owner: S & N Prinsloo

Best Male



S*Just Catnap's Lotus
of Geedee (S7488)
Owner: A. Caw

SPECIAL CLASSES

Triple Supreme Entire

Kisamee Delfi, NQ
Owner: N. Strydom

Triple Supreme Premier

Tres Jolie Bella-Donna, NQ
Owner: C. Danziger

Veteran Entire

Brettachtal's Aida of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

Veteran Premier

ShakesPURR's Lord Benedick
Owner: H. Röhrs

Super Pet

Tinkerbelle
Owner: J. May

Show Result Corner: KZNCC (Show 1) Results (27-07-2013)

(Sponsored by Royal Canin)

BEST IN SHOW

Spandau La Paloma Blanca
Owner: W. Hyman



PET OF THE DAY

Tristan
Owner: J. May



PERSIAN / EXOTIC

Best Kitten

Purr-n-Meow Madonna Truth or Dare
Owner: E. Bester & C. Bekker

Best Neuter

ShakesPURR Kiss'd the Wild Waves
Owner: Visser-Family (Caitie)

Best Female

Brettachtal's Miss South Africa of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

Best Male



Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

SIAMESE / ORIENTAL

Best Kitten

(No Nominations)

Best Neuter

LaMaska Othello
Owner: R. Smith

Best Female



Lamaska She Of Seven Veils
Owner: M. Burger

Best Male

LaMaska Aurora Borealis
Owner: M. Burger

FOREIGN

Best Kitten

(No Nominations)

Best Neuter

(No Nominations)

Best Female



Spandau La Paloma Blanca
Owner: W. Hyman

Best Male

(No Nominations)

MEDIUM HAIR

Best Kitten

(No Nominations)

Best Neuter

(No Nominations)

Best Female

(No Nominations)

Best Male

(No Nominations)

SPECIAL CLASSES

Triple Supreme Entire

Jalbertus Alexander McQueen of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

Triple Supreme Premier

ShakesPURR's Lord Benedick
Owner: H. Röhrs

Veteran Entire

Brettachtal's Aida of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

Veteran Premier

ShakesPURR's Lord Benedick
Owner: H. Röhrs

Super Pet

Kiyana
Owner: L. Moodley & S. Singh

Show Result Corner: KZNCC (Show 2) Results (27-07-2013)

(Sponsored by Royal Canin)

BEST IN SHOW

Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh



PET OF THE DAY

Tinkerbelle
Owner: J. May



PERSIAN / EXOTIC

Best Kitten

L'Exquisite Incroyable
Owner: B. Neukircher

Best Neuter

Chattapaws Honeybee
Owner: S. Beesley & M. Findlay

Best Female

ShakesPURR's As It Is
Owner: H. Röhrs

Best Male



Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

SIAMESE / ORIENTAL

Bets Kitten

LaMaska Return to Innocence
Owner: M. Burger

Best Neuter

(No Nominations)

Best Female



Lamaska She Of Seven Veils
Owner: M. Burger

Best Male

LaMaska Aurora Borealis
Owner: M. Burger

FOREIGN

Best Kitten

(No Nominations)

Best Neuter

(No Nominations)

Top Female



Spandau Fudge Parfait
Owner: W. Hyman

Best Male

(No Nominations)

MEDIUM HAIR

Best Kitten

(No Nominations)

Best Neuter

(No Nominations)

Best Female

(No Nominations)

Best Male

(No Nominations)

SPECIAL CLASSES

Triple Supreme Entire

Jalbertus Alexander McQueen of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

Triple Supreme Premier

ShakesPURR's Lord Benedick
Owner: H. Röhrs

Veteran Entire

Brettachtal's Aida of The Catwalk
Owner: S. Marsh

Veteran Premier

ShakesPURR's Lord Benedick
Owner: H. Röhrs

Super Pet

Tinkerbelle
Owner: J. May

CFSA Corner: TOP 20s

Our current front runners, listed in alphabetical order, including the CCC double show (29-06-2013) and the KZNCC show (27-07-2013) results

KITTENS

Aluna Zeed Silver of C'Est L'Amour	- L. Moodley & S. Singh
Awesome Bengals Chesca-Belle	- L. Kennard
Brettachtal's Catwalk Queen of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Colorkats Leo	- D. Le Roux
Geedee Lilac Dawn	- A. Caw
L'Exquisite Apres-Vous	- B. Neukircher
L'Exquisite Cracker Jack	- D. Scheepers
L'Exquisite Incroyable	- B. Neukircher
L'Exquisite Jack Of Spades	- T. Atkinson
L'Exquisite Jumpin' Jack Flash of Tres Jolie	- C. Danziger
Pearl Caramello Koala	- P. Steyn
Purr-n-Meow Etienne Aigner Starlight of Tres Jolie	- C. Danziger
Purr-n-Meow Givenchy Xeryus	- E. Bester & C. Bekker
Purr-n-Meow Tristano Onofri Fiori	- E. Bester & C. Bekker
ShakesPURR's A Midsummer Night's Dream	- H. Röhrs
Shangri-La Etinoha	- V. Wright
Spandau Kali	- S. Fitz-Patrick & A. van Doornum
Spandau Vulcan	- S. Fitz-Patrick & A. van Doornum
The Catwalk Issey Miyake	- S. Marsh
The Catwalk Kenzo	- S. Marsh

NEUTERS

Achlin-Ve Xong Xong Blue	- M. Bornman
Cattilak James Bond of Chattapaws	- S. Beesley & M. Findlay
Chattapaws Honeybee	- S. Beesley & M. Findlay
Colorkats Key West	- D. Le Roux
Cracker Unbelievable	- R. van Wyk
Flamboyant Alvin L'Meur	- R. van Wyk
Geedee Cardinal De Richelieu	- S. Prinsloo
Kisamee Damon Salvatore	- N. Strydom
Lamaska Othello	- M. Burger
L'Exquisite Cracker Jack	- D. Scheepers
ShakesPURR's Kiss'd The Wild Waves	- Visser-Family (Caitie)
ShakesPURR's Lord Benedick	- H. Röhrs
ShakesPURR's Tybalt, Prince Of Cats	- C. Grobbelaar
Sha-Sume Geronimo of Chattapaws	- S. Beesley & M. Findlay
Sherada K's Philip The Red	- J. May
The Legend's Pearl Heart	- B. Smullen
Timshay Lady Clorinda	- K. Peplar
Tres Jolie Bella-Donna	- C. Danziger
Westwood Apollo	- H. Griffiths
Westwood Skyhawk	- G. Nel

FEMALES

Ally's Cat Maid Gossamer	- P. Steyn
Brettachtal's Aida of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Brettachtal's Marilyn Monroe of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Brettachtal's Miss South Africa of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Chattapaws Madame Butterfly	- S. Beesley & M. Findlay
Colorkats Just Perfect	- D. Le Roux
Jalbertus Donicea Eunice of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Kisamee Delfi	- N. Strydom
Kisamee Entourage	- N. Strydom
La Yen My Chika	- S. Venter
Lamaska Glitterati	- M. Burger
Lamaska She Of Seven Veils	- M. Burger
L'Exquisite Snowflake	- B. Neukircher
Li & Lo Patricia	- E. Bekker
Oakleys Angie-Lu of Tres Jolie	- C. Danziger
ShakesPURR's As It Is	- H. Röhrs
ShakesPURR's Such A Jewel	- L. van Aarde
Spandau Fudge Parfait	- W. Hyman
Spandau La Paloma Blanca	- W. Hyman
Swagger Coons My Lady Soul	- S. & N. Prinsloo

MALES

Achlin-Ve Diablo of Carmandale	- S. Armand & A. Nortman
Astrocatz Kufu of La Yen	- S. Venter
BluePoem's Uppercute of La Yen	- S. venter
Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Brettachtal's Rolex of The Catwalk	- S. Marsh
Doll Like's Eskimo of Carmandale	- S. Armand & A. Nortman
Ixidixi Brownie of L'Exquisite	- B. Neukircher
Lamaska Aurora Borealis	- M. Burger
L'Exquisite Jumpin' Jack of Tres Jolie	- C. Danziger
Prazlin Azaro of Awesome Bengals	- L. Kennard
Purr-n-Meow Absolutely Givenchy	- E. Bester & C. Bekker
Purr-n-Meow Guerlain Too Much? of Carmandale	- S. Armand & A. Nortman
RS*Rextasy Wanna Dance? of Kisamee	- N. Strydom
Rydell Athos	- J. Lewis
S*Just Catnaps Lotus of Geedee	- A. Caw
ShakesPURR's Every Inch A King	- H. Röhrs
Shangri-La Asani Rebel	- V. Wright
Tres Jolie Sweet Taboo	- C. Danziger
William Strieborna Ruza of El'Vee	- L. Venter
Zack Nova Axiz Star, CZ of Shangri-La	- V. Wright

CFSA Corner: TOP 20s

Our current front runners, listed in alphabetical order, including the CCC double show (29-06-2013) and the KZNCC show (27-07-2013) results

PETS

Alaska	- J. May
Camilla	- J. May
Dexter	- J. Blonk
Dinky	- L. Cronje
Duchess	- L. Moodley & S. Singh
Jasmine	- J. May
Jenna	- J. May
Kiyana	- L. Moodley & S. Singh
Lady Cara	- J. Blonk
Lucy	- J. May
Melody	- J. May
Meraiah Mechanic	- K. Pepler
Miss Marilyn Monroe	- L. Moodley & S. Singh
Occasional Lie	- J. Blonk
Richard Parker	-K. Pepler
Seun	- L & van Aarde
Tinkerbelle	- J. May
Tristan	- J. May
Webster	- L. Cronje
Yuki	- S. Venter

NEW Triple Supremes

(including CCC 29-06-2013 results)

Congrats

- The Legends Pearl Heart
- Jalbertus Donicea Eunice of The Catwalk
- Spandau La Paloma Blanca
- Brettachtal's Marilyn Monroe of The Catwalk
- Doll Like's Eskimo of Carmandale
- Brettachtal's Maserati of The Catwalk

Attention!

All CFSA Members are kindly requested to ONLY use the CFSA Registrar's email for registration matters.

Please DO NOT send any photo's or any other Non-Registration matters to the Registrar's email address.



Distinguish Merit Title

The Title of DM is awarded to a female cat with five progeny having the title of Supreme Champion or Supreme Premier or to a male cat with ten progeny having the title of Supreme Champion or Supreme Premier. The letters "DM" may then be included at the end of a cats' registered name. The Distinguished Merit status is to be claimed by the owner from the National Cat Registrar.

CH Mine D'Art Jewel of ShakesPURR

Bred by Josée Bilodeau; owned by Hannelie Röhrs

Qualified for the DM title after the FFC show, held on 15 June 2013.

Mojo's children who helped her earn this title are:

1. TSC ShakesPURR's To Be Or Not To Be, NQ
(Bred and owned by Hannelie Röhrs)
2. TSC ShakesPURR's Much Ado About Nothing, NQ
(Bred and owned by Hannelie Röhrs)
3. SC ShakesPURR's Jewel Of Their Souls
(Bred by Hannelie Röhrs; owned by Natalie Konrad)
4. SC ShakesPURR's Kiss'd The Wild Waves
(Bred by Hannelie Röhrs; owned by the Visser-Family (Caitie))
5. SC ShakesPURR's As It Is
(Bred and owned by Hannelie Röhrs)

Other Achievements:

Congratulations!

Jewel was imported from Canada. Shortly after arriving in South Africa she qualified for GARS and was selected as the 2004 Ruby Kitten and Ruby Cat of the Year.

She's been nominated 3 times for Dam of the Year and she was awarded the title of Dam of the Year in 2012. Her babies were also the 2012 Kitten Litter of the Year.



Breed Corner: Meet The Exotic

ELECTRIFYING EXOTIC

There is actually not much known about the origin of the exotic and the story ranges from Persians being outcrossed to British or the American Shorthair and even the Burmese.

They are generally a healthy breed with the most known issue being that of Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) which is a dominant gene and which can be tested for and bred out.

For many years the exotic was not considered to be a “true” or “pure” breed with many registries regarding the offspring of exotic to Persian matings as being an

Strange but true ...

Over the years, I have always had one or two exotics in my breeding program. In fact, my first stud male was a beautiful black bi-colour exotic and I still have his line in some of my present day cats.

But it is only in the last 4 years or so that I have really started to focus on breeding exotics.

Although many refer to them as the “poor man’s Persian” or the “lazy man’s Persian” because of their shorter coats, I prefer to call them my little “teddy-bears” because that is what they are.

But adding an exotic into my Persian program has thickened up my Persian coats and produced me the most incredible coats where the “coat factor” was already present and even (on occasion) where it was not.

Even within the exotic “breed” itself you will find coats which will have different textures. A lot of this has to do with the actual colour of the cat – which is also so for the Persian.

The factor that makes the exotic such a difficult cat to breed and show is that “what you see is what you get” quite literally –



SC L'Exquisite Taylor Made
Solid White CE Exotic
Bred by Brenda Neukircher



SC Ormeryds Sundover of L'Exquisite, NW
Solid Black Exotic
Owned by Brenda Neukircher

“exotic longhair” and although they could be bred from, they could not be shown.

This, however, has changed over the years with the most notable change occurring in CFA in the past 2 years where “exotic longhairs” are actually shown as Persians (although they will not have a Persian registration number).

Because of the Persian ancestry, the longhair gene is a recessive gene and the shorthair gene a dominant one ie whilst it takes at least one exotic parent to produce an exotic kitten, a PERSIAN kitten can be born from a mating between 2 exotics!

They are exactly the Persian standard in type with the sole exception of the shorter coat.

One fallacy that I can personally put to rest is the following: for many years Persian breeders would say that if you put an exotic into your breeding program, you will destroy the length and texture of your Persian coat.

This is simply untrue! Firstly I have learned that “coat factor” is, by and large, a genetic issue with things like environment and nutrition simply enhancing these traits.

there is no wealth of coat to hide any fault and no amount of grooming is going to pull the wool over any judge’s eyes...so a good exotic is actually, in many cases, an exceptional cat indeed. Added to the issue of good type the coat factor is also difficult.

Sometimes judges will complain that a particular exhibit’s coat is “too long”...what this means I have yet to understand – if it is not long enough to “flow” then it is an exotic coat.

Different coat colours result in different coat textures AND shortness of coat...

Breed Corner: Meet The Exotic Breed *(continued)*



Purr-n-Meow Tristano Onofri Fiori
Blue Tortoiseshell Exotic
Bred by Etrecia Bester and Christo Bekker



Purr-n-Meow Guerlain L'Instant Magique, NQ
Blue Tortoiseshell Exotic
Bred by Etrecia Bester and Christo Bekker

The exotic, I have found, is slightly different in personality to my Persians. My exotics are a little busier: they are the first to open eyes, the first to get up on wobbly paws, the first out of the box, the first to explore and the first to eat.



Purr-n-Meow Alain Delon Shogun
Black Bi-Colour Exotic
Bred by Etrecia Bester and Christo Bekker

They are cute little clowns but they are also very human bound. They want nothing more than to be close to their human companion.

And don't be fooled into thinking that the shorter coat does not require grooming – it does!

The standard calls for a "dense and plush" coat so when an exotic sheds it's a true nightmare! The hair is everywhere and you can groom 3 or 4 times a day and it STILL will not be enough!

The big coat shed takes place just before winter and then (and this one is the worst of them) just as winter ends around August/September. Two lighter

shed occur at season changes during the year but they are really very minimal.

To ensure a clean and healthy coat, you should run a comb through the coat every 2-3 days and bath every 2-3 weeks; and at coat shed times comb at least twice a day and bath once a week. You can also shave down for summer as you would a Persian. Also, and as with the Persian, their eyes require daily cleaning.



SC L'Exquisite Piccola
Black Tortoiseshell Exotic
Bred by Brenda Neukircher

The exotic epitomizes everything a Persian must be with the sole exception of the coat.

Written by,
Brenda Neukircher
Owner of L'Exquisite Cattery

2010 CFSA Cattery of the Year
2011 CFSA Cattery of the Year

Seasonal Corner: Winter Challenges

The biggest winter challenge sees

• W I N T E R • W I N T E R •

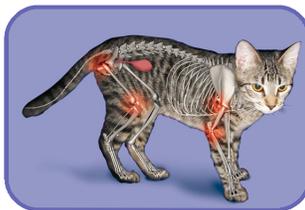
Arthritis



Many people with arthritis will testify that they feel **more pain during cold weather**. The problem is doctors have not found a reason for why this is. We assume that part of the cause is the drop in air pressure, which can allow the tissues to swell, or the effect that cold has on the muscles; a stiffening that can be uncomfortable even for those who do not suffer from joint issues. The same holds true for cats that suffer from the effects of arthritis. **We can see that they are feeling more pain when the temperatures dip**, but doctors cannot tell us why this is happening.

What is Arthritis?

The most common type, for both humans and cats, is the type that is related to age, or wear and tear. Called osteoarthritis, damage begins in the cartilage of the joint. Cartilage is a firm but flexible connective tissue that is found between the bones within the joints – including the joints of the knees, hips, and so on.



When the cartilage in the joints begins to erode over a cat's life, or when it is damaged due to injury to the joint, the bones in the joint are allowed to come into direct contact with each other, eventually resulting in the erosion of and further damage to the bone. The joints most likely to be affected are the weight bearing joints; those in the pelvis, knees, ankles and spine.

What may begin as mild discomfort for the cat over time becomes increasingly painful, and this is especially true for cats that are overweight, as the weight places excess pressure on the bones in the joints.

Although arthritis is a progressive disease without a cure, some of the pain can be alleviated; in some cases, the disease's progress can even be slowed. Treatment plans often include a healthy, reduced-calorie diet, therapeutic exercise, massage, and anti-inflammatory medications and/or supplements. For some cats, alternative therapies may also be considered.

Weight Control or Reduction

One of the best things you can do for your cat right now is to make sure you have it on a weight maintenance diet, since extra weight places a lot of extra pressure on the already stressed joints. If your cat is already overweight, you will need to start a weight loss diet.

However, before you make any drastic food changes - either in type or amount - you should check with your veterinarian. But do it as soon as possible. The

longer you allow your cat to remain overweight, the worse the arthritic pain will become. Given enough time, your cat will eventually not be able to move around except through a haze of excessive pain.

Needless to say, feeding your cat a quality, low-calorie, low-fat diet will help it to shed pounds and keep them off. There are even plenty of specially formulated cat foods designed for improved joint function in older cats. Some cat food companies will even send free samples. Do your research, talk to your veterinarian and try samples of different specialty foods until you find the perfect one for your cat.

Additionally, keep in mind that major changes in the type of food may upset your cat, and that some formulas may not be appropriate for your cat's age and health. Always check with your veterinarian first.

Activity and Exercise

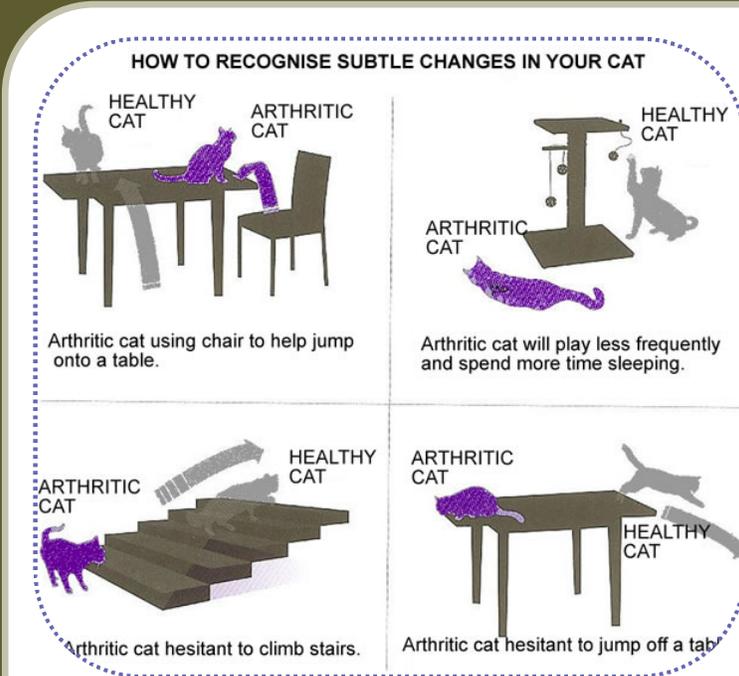
If possible, it is best to encourage regular exercise – get them off the couch. It is generally agreed that too little exercise is worse than none at all. If you are going to start an exercise plan with your cat, you will have to stick with it, and the more the better. Also, choose exercises that do not stress the joints too much, or you will have a reluctant cat who is too sore to exercise the next day.



Seasonal Corner: Winter Challenges

The big Winter Challenges

• WINTER • WINTER •



Medications and Supplements

There are some medications that may help your cat, depending on the severity of the arthritis. Your veterinarian can prescribe an anti-inflammatory or corticosteroid drug for your cat to reduce inflammation. There are also injectable medications for the promotion of cartilage repair and protection. Dietary supplements generally do not require a prescription. In fact, the most common ones, glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate, are widely used by humans for the management of joint pain.

While supplements are not designed or marketed as painkillers, they do work to repair and reform the cartilage in the joints. For example, glucosamine and chondroitin give the chondrocytes, the cartilage-forming cells, and the elements they need to manufacture new cartilage and

repair damaged cartilage. These supplements take some time to begin making an obvious effect, however, and need to be given for life to continue to be effective.

Other supplements that have proven useful for arthritis include green-lipped mussel extract, omega-3 fatty acids, MSM (methyl-sulfonyl-methane), ASU, and SAmE. Again, and as always, check with your veterinarian before giving your cat anything new and untried. Even simple supplements might complicate an undiagnosed, underlying health condition.

Alternative Healing

Along with the growth and acceptance of alternative healing techniques for humans, there has been a subsequent rise in the availability of alternative care for cats, too. Therapies such as massage, acupuncture and physical therapy can be very beneficial for

your cat. In some cases, such as with massage or herbal baths, you can provide the care at home. There may be cat massage classes in your area with instructors that teach the specifics of animal massage, or you can do your own research with books written on the topic – either bought from a bookstore or borrowed from a library.

Take note that it is important to know your cat well and know the correct techniques to use before attempting massage. An incorrectly placed “squeeze” could send your cat into spasms of pain and result in a bite on your end.

Stay Warm

Keeping your cat comfortable and warm is important during the cold season. Providing your cat with a well-padded bed in a warm indoor location or placing a heated blanket (make sure it’s cat safe) in its bed can make all the difference. Special equipment, such as ramps to go up and down stairs or onto higher furniture, can allow your cat the ability to move freely throughout the house and to go in and out of the house easier.

Clothing can also help to keep the joints warm. Wrap your cat in a specially designed cat sweater.



Creative Corner: Making A Cat Tree

How to make a cat tree

(Courtesy of WikiHow)

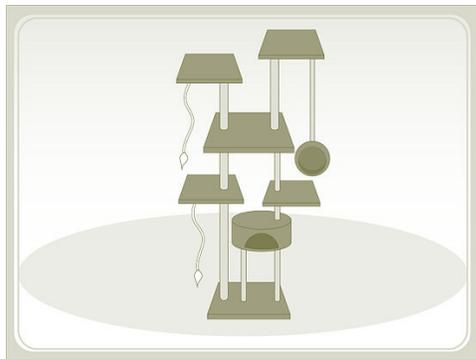
Cat furniture provides plenty of benefits for your pet cat. It provides the cat with needed exercise and stimulation, a surface to scratch on to relieve stress and boredom, and a high perch to escape to. Unfortunately, cat trees and cat "condos" can retail for an expensive amount. A good alternative is to build one yourself; this will save you money as well as giving you complete control over the furniture's appearance and function. You can make a cat tree yourself using a few readily available tools and materials.

1 Before purchasing materials or starting to build, you need a design plan, which you can sketch out onto paper to determine your material shopping list. There are several things to consider when designing your cat tree.

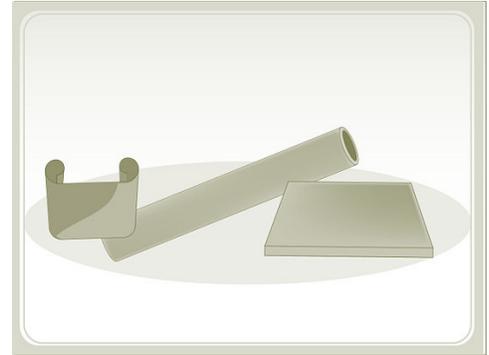
First, consider your space and aesthetic considerations. Determine where your cat tree will be placed, and how wide and high it should be to fit well into that space.

You should also consider your cat's preferred use of the cat tree. If your cat likes to climb, consider building a tall cat tree with several perches. If your cat would like a private place to sleep, consider building in a covered sleeping nook.

Finally, you should keep your own handiness in mind. If you are relatively inexperienced with building and using hand tools, keep your design simple so that you aren't overwhelmed.



2 Buy the required materials for your cat tree. Use your design plan to determine how many materials you will need. Plywood works well for horizontal platforms; dimension lumber and PVC pipe work well for vertical supports; carpet is ideal for covering the wood.

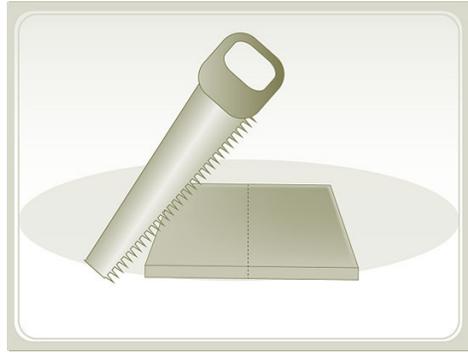


3 Cut all materials to size. Using your plan as a guide, cut all the plywood and lumber sections to size. A simple back saw is ideal for cutting dimension lumber, while a handheld circular saw is excellent for cutting sheets of plywood. Sand rough edges if desired.



4 Build the base of your cat tree. The tree needs a sturdy base, which should extend farther out than any other component of the tree. To make the base, a good option is to cut 2 squares of plywood to size and glue them together for extra thickness. A 24" (60 cm) square is an ideal size for a basic cat tree.

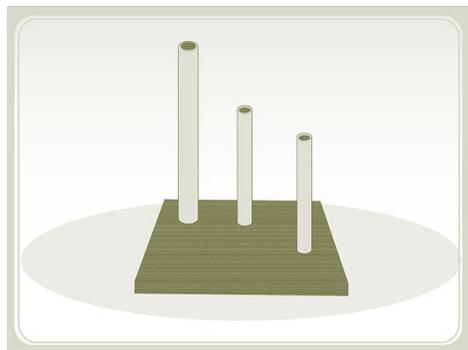
Creative Corner: Making A Cat Tree



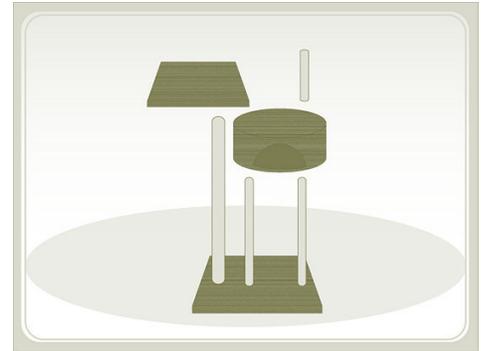
5 Cover the base in carpet. Before attaching any vertical supports, it's best to cover the base with carpet or a thick upholstery fabric. Cut the carpet to size, wrap its edges over the edges of the plywood base, and staple it in place with a staple gun.



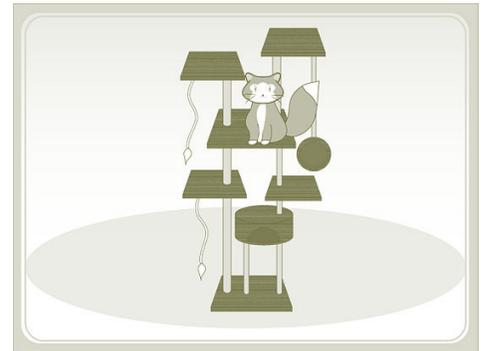
6 Attach the vertical support members to the base. The vertical supports can be attached to the base with screws, nails, or wood glue. You may want to wrap the supports in carpet before affixing them to the base.



7 Attach the horizontal perches to the supports. The plywood perches can be attached by screwing and gluing them to the tops of the vertical members. Wrap them in carpet or fabric after affixing them so that the screws aren't visible through the carpet.



8 Continue building according to your design. Continue to affix each component, referring back to your plan for measurements and placement. Adjustments to your design can be made ad-hoc to account for stability issues or mis-measurements.



YOU
CAN
DO
IT!

— ROB SCHNEIDER

Serious Corner: ENS or Early-Age Altering

Early Neuter/Spay Or Early-Age Altering The RESPONSIBLE way to breed!

As breeders, we must do our part to Limit the serious issue of surplus cats on the streets and in shelters.

By practicing early altering, we can ensure that our own kittens (not destined for breeding programs) will never reproduce.

First and foremost early altering is a safe and effective means of ensuring we do not inadvertently add to the burden of unwanted, neglected and abandoned cats.

Many studies conducted by the WINN Feline Foundation has proven that the early neutering or spaying of kittens are less dangerous and that the young kittens actually recover from the procedure far quicker than older ones.

However, there are many more advantages to practicing early altering:

1. Reducing the risk of several forms of cancer and other medical problems.

- 1.1. By castrating a male kitten, the testicles are removed from the scrotal sac of the cat, which renders testicle cancer virtually impossible.
- 1.2. By spaying a female kitten, the ovaries, oviducts, uterine horns and uterus are removed.
- 1.3. As oestrogen is one of the primary causes of mammary cancer, spayed females rarely develop this malignancy.
- 1.4. Tumors can occur in the uterus and ovaries of females, but spay-

ing a female will eliminate any possibility of this happening.

1.5. Females also often develop severe (and sometimes fatal) uterine infections called pyometra, following their heat cycles. Spaying females will also eliminate this problem.

2. Reducing the tendency to spray, if done early enough.

2.1. Its also been proven that early altering often reduces the strong urine odour.

3. Reducing cats' tendency to flight.

3.1. Early altering combats sexually driven behaviours, such as: roaming, fighting and spraying.

3.2. Your cat will be less likely to need veterinary treatment due to cat fights, cuts, trauma and other hazards associated with roaming and fighting.

3.3. It will furthermore reduce the risk of certain diseases, like FIV, also known as Feline Aids, which can be transmitted by biting and/or fighting (discussed in the health corner of this issue)

4. Protecting females from uneducated owners having to assist with birth and endangering both the mom and babies' lives at risk.

How many time have you heard these words from a potential new owner: "I want my children to see the miracle of birth"; or "I'll have her spayed after one litter".

These statements SHOULD enrage any responsible breeder.

The facts are:

4.1. The best time to spay your female cat is before her first heat. Early spaying greatly reduces the incidences of mammary cancer.

Both pregnancy and birth can be very stressful for the cat, and inexperienced (first time) moms giving birth sometimes die from complications.

4.2. Frequently, animals go off by themselves to give birth, or do so during the night. While the birth of kittens may teach children a love of life and living things, this lesson can be taught in many other, more humane ways. It should never be taught at the expense of a mom and/or her babies.

Myths about ENS or EAA:

1. An animal's behavior changes drastically after surgery.

FACTS:

The only changes in behavior you'll see are positive ones.

Male cats tend to reduce their territorial spraying depending upon the age they are neutered.

If neutered young enough, before they begin spraying, they may never develop the behavior.

Neutered male cats fight less, resulting in fewer battle scars, contagious diseases and abscesses.

And since they aren't interested in pursuing females in heat, they also wander less, greatly reducing their chances of being hit by a car or getting lost.

Serious Corner: ENS or Early-Age Altering

- 2. Animals become fat and lazy after being spayed or neutered.

FACTS:

Fat animals are usually overfed and under-exercised. There can be a tendency for an animal to put on some weight after sterilization, but the surgery doesn't cause the condition.

Male cats, in particular, roam less and burn fewer calories.

If your companion animal shows signs of putting on a little weight, reduce his calories and increase his walks and play sessions.

- 3. I can find good homes for all the kittens.

FACTS:

Finding good homes for kittens is not easy. Many animals are discarded once they start to grow. In shelters nationwide, millions of animals are euthanized each year because there aren't enough homes for them.

Further, you cannot guarantee that these cats will be spayed or neutered, much less remain in the same homes throughout their lives.

For every kitten brought into the world by a well-meaning owner, another will die somewhere else, unwanted and homeless.

- 4. Early-age altering stunts growth.

FACTS:

Studies were conducted by the WINN Feline Foundation.

The kittens were divided into three groups:

- Group 1 (11 kittens) were neutered or spayed at 7 weeks of age.
- Group 2 (11 kittens) were neutered or spayed at 7 months.
- Group 3 (the control group of 9

kittens) were not neutered until maturity and after the completion of the first phase of the study at 12 months.

In particular, they looked at weight and body composition (i.e., percent of body fat); bone length and the age of physcal closure (the age when long bone growth stops); behavior; food consumption; development of the urinary tract; and the development of secondary sexual characteristics and degree of sexual maturity.

The results of the comparisons of weight showed some differences between the three groups. Males weighed consistently more than females, but this was uniform in all groups.

The studies of body composition and body fat indicated that Group 1 (neutered at 7 weeks) and Group 2 (neutered at 7 months) were identical and were generally fatter than Group 3 (neutered at 12 months, after they were sexually mature).

Investigators point out that by 12 months, the male cats in Group 3 were already exhibiting the normal adult male characteristics of decreased weight and the development of jowls, which accounts for some of the differences.

It has also been noted that in the course of follow-up, the differences between the weight in cats from Group 1 and 2 and Group 3 are becoming less apparent.

All these cats have been placed in selected and supervised pet homes and are more active than they were in the University facilities.

FACT:

If all breeders practices early altering, shelters wouldn't have to euthanized millions of cats every year.

So . . . let's talk straight . . .

The only "disadvantage" to practicing early altering is the cost of the procedure.

If money is the main objective to not practicing early altering, breeders should work the price into the purchase price of the kitten.

Come to think of it ... if money is the main objective to not practicing early altering, maybe it is time to reconsider breeding.

Yes, breeding is a hobby, but it is also a HUGE responsibility and a responsible breeder remains accountable for the kitten's wellbeing in the sense of ensuring that they have the best possible homes and head starts in life.

DON'T allow your kittens to become part of a statistic.

***BE RESPONSIBLE
Practice ENS / EAA***

*Written by,
The Straight-Talkers*



S
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The suspense starts building for



With only one qualifying show left on
10 August and less than 2 months before the
CFSA Day of the Cat !!



Be on the lookout

for more
COTY / GARS 2013

detail in our next issue!!!



Reminder!

10 August 2013
NCS Show, Boksburg Civic Centre
Sponsored by Royal Canin



COTY marks the occasion of celebrating the top forty pedigreed cats and top 10 domestic cats, that have qualified and are in contention for the much sought after "CAT OF THE YEAR" and "PET OF THE YEAR" titles respectively. Ten awards in each of the five sections will be presented.

The 28th of September proposes to be one of great excitement ... as the day draws near, exhibitors are anxiously awaiting the phone call to inform them that they have a finalist in for COTY 2013, and are to prepare for the most prestigious event of the year.

This is one moment that all have been steadily, throughout the year, preparing for – bathing, grooming and traveling great distances to and from shows to present their most prized possessions, our feline friends.

Important dates:

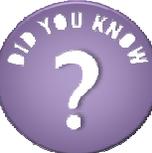
- 16-18 August – phone calls to announce finalists
- 19 August – dinner bookings open
- 19-23 August – invitations for COTY and GARS send out

Contact Etrecia on cfsainfo@gmail.com or Karen on cfsasec@gmail.com for any information regarding the event.

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Suggestion Box

Please forward your contributions to: cfsainfo@gmail.com
Cut-off dates for the next issue is 19 August 2013.



Purring Facts

A cat's purr is unique, and we are still not exactly sure how it works. It is believed that breathing in and out alternately tenses and relaxes the muscles of the larynx and diaphragm, creating pressure changes that result in turbulent airflow through the trachea. These cyclic and rapid pressure changes are superimposed on normal breathing and create the characteristic vibrations of purring. Other theories suggest that purring is a rapid contraction of muscles in the larynx and diaphragm in a constant rhythm.

Purring is instinctive. Kittens purr as early as 2 days of age.

Veterinarians suggest that this purr-

ing tells 'Mom' that "I am okay" and that "I am here." It also indicates a bonding mechanism between kitten and mother.

As the kitten grows into adulthood, purring continues. Many suggest a cat purrs from contentment and pleasure.

A common misconception about purring is that it always indicates a state of pleasure.

Cats also purr when they're injured and in pain. Dr. Elizabeth Von Mugenthaler has suggested that the purr, with its low frequency vibrations, is a "natural healing mechanism."

Purring may be linked to the strengthening and repairing of bones, relief of pain, and wound healing.

Cats have been known to purr just before dying. Some behaviorists believe purring is a signal to other cats and animals that they are not a threat.

Cat purrs are in the frequency range of 25 to 150 Hz. This frequency range is also considered to be beneficial to healing. So, perhaps cats are attempting to heal themselves at the cellular level.

Large cats such as lions do not purr well, but cheetahs can purr.

