

ProMeris Alert Email & Manufacturer's Reply

You may have received this email alert already... we are printing it here just in case. And following the email is a response from Fort Dodge, the manufacturer of ProMeris. If you use or are considering using this product, please decide on this issue for yourself. **Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado neither denounces or endorses this product.**

"This is a very important message to my family & friends who have dogs-cats--and to alert you to the hazard of using a new Flea & Tick Preventative called ProMeris (<http://www.promeris.com/consumer/>) .

This is a new product designed to be a more effective product than other flea/tick treatments that was just released this year. It is available thru a vet and not currently on-line. I got ProMeris this week for my 7 dogs (6 Huskies & 1 Golden-Airedale) , and the results were debilitating for nearly all of them-including me. Since my incident this week, my vet has pulled it from distribution and alerted the manufacturer, Fort Dodge.

Here are my results: Within less than 2 hours after applying, 4 of my dogs had vomited from 2-4 times, 3 were disoriented and stumbling, 1 was dragging his back leg, 1 was salivating. I had very similar symptoms like an allergic reaction-my lips were swollen, eyes very red, mucous membranes such as eyes, nose, and mouth were stinging. I was very disoriented-dizzy equilibrium and not able to drive. To make this a short story-all 7 of my dogs were admitted to the hospital for veterinarian care, and 3 of them remained for care, IV fluids and observation for 24 hours. I was in the emergency room. I'm home now and so are the dogs. We're all feeling much better. Vet bills were over \$2,500 and Fort Dodge is paying for these. Not only can the product cause this reaction, it has a highly noxious odor that permeated the house and is just starting to dissipate after 3 days.

Your dogs/cats might not have the same reaction, but given my experience-I wanted to help you all become well-educated about the product.

Kathryn L. Leinthall, Kalein T Welsh Terriers"

Response by Fort Dodge:

As you may be aware, a message regarding a ProMeris adverse event is being forwarded through e-mail and posted onto Internet message boards. Based on the high number of e-mail forwards and Internet postings, it may appear there are multiple adverse events being reported. However, based on our research, it appears that all of this online activity stems from a single case.

Unfortunately, reports on the Internet have caused some confusion and concern among pet owners and the veterinary community. To help ensure you receive all of the proper information, here are the relevant details about the situation:

- At Fort Dodge Animal Health, we are committed to providing the safest and most effective products possible to help ensure the health and well being of all animals.

- Fort Dodge Animal Health's Professional Service Department was contacted on Friday, April 11, by a veterinarian reporting an adverse event involving six Siberian Huskies and one mixed-breed dog that live in the same household. The report states that several hours after ProMeris administration, the dogs exhibited vomiting, lethargy, pruritis and behavior change.

- Fort Dodge is currently evaluating this report and working directly with the veterinarian to collect all information related to this situation. Once all details have been gathered, the Company will take appropriate action.

- The report being discussed on the Internet appears to stem from a single case. The clinical signs reported are similar to those observed in dogs following deliberate oral exposure to ProMeris during safety studies. ProMeris contains a patent-protected formulation, which is designed to prevent absorption through the skin. It should not be compared with other amitraz formulations.

- As with any topical product, there may be some dogs that are uniquely sensitive to this product even after topical administration.

- Fort Dodge is continually monitoring the Internet for discussions about ProMeris and all of its products and will respond quickly and appropriately.

Please note the safety profile of ProMeris for dogs has been studied extensively. The safety of ProMeris for dogs was tested in 8-week-old puppies at 1X, 3X and 5X the labeled dose, at two week intervals and in very small dogs (Chihuahuas).

Fort Dodge Animal Health
Division of Wyeth

AKC Cautions Owners: Pet Theft on the Rise

Tuesday April 8, 2:20 pm ET

-- Dog Owners and Breeders Advised to Keep Dogs Safe at Home and on the Road --

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The American Kennel Club® is warning pet owners and breeders about an alarming rise in dog thefts in recent months. From parking lots to pet stores and even backyards, more dogs are disappearing. In the first three months of 2008, the AKC has tracked more than 30 thefts from news and customer reports, versus only ten for all twelve months of 2007.

Media reports have chronicled the escalation of these “dog-nappings” from all around the country. Incidents have included armed robbers entering a breeder’s home, tiny puppies being stuffed into purses at pet stores and most recently, purebred pets being snatched from cars in parking lots and even shelters.

“The value of pets in people’s lives has been on the rise for a long time and now we are seeing thieves trying to capitalize on this. Whether they seek to resell the dog, collect a ransom or breed the dogs and sell their offspring, thieves seem to be attuned to the increased financial and emotional value pets have in our lives,” said AKC spokesperson Lisa Peterson. “Losing a treasured family pet is devastating to the owner.”

“Criminals look for weaknesses and exploit them. They know pets can’t protect themselves, so that means owners need to be alert,” said Lt. John Kerwick, a law enforcement K-9 handler and the President of the U.S. Police Canine Association, Region 7. “Be wary of anyone who approaches you and asks too many questions about your dog or where you live. This is a red flag that they may be out to snatch your pet.”

Peterson added that “These ‘dog-nappers’ are misguided and naïve. They’re stealing living beings, not jewelry that can be pawned. Plus, it’s unlikely that they can sell the dogs for high prices without proper registration papers, and these inept criminals are not realistically going to collect a ransom. Caring for a dog -- and especially breeding -- is a time consuming endeavor that requires a lot of knowledge. Thieves will find themselves with a frightened and confused animal that needs a lot of care.”

The AKC offers the following advice to prevent your “best friend” from being a target of a crime:

At Home

- * Don’t let your dog off-leash – Keeping your dog close to you reduces the likelihood it will wander off and catch the attention of thieves. A Saint Bernard that had wandered away from his owner in Nebraska was snatched up right off the road.
- * Don’t leave your dog unattended in your yard – Dogs left outdoors when no one is home for long periods of time can be potential targets, especially if you live in a rural area and the fenced-in yard or dog runs are visible from the street.
- * Keep purchase price to yourself – If strangers approach you to admire your dog during walks, don’t answer questions about how much the dog cost or give details about where you live.
- * Breeders need to be aware of home visits by potential puppy buyers – Criminals posing as would be “puppy buyers” have visited breeder homes to snatch dogs, while other homes have been burglarized when the owner was away. From Yorkies in Los Angeles to Bulldogs in Connecticut, thieves have targeted young puppies of these highly coveted breeds.

On the Road

- * Never leave your dog in an unattended car, even if it’s locked – Even if you are gone for only a moment, an unlocked car is an invitation for trouble. Also leaving expensive items in the car such as a GPS unit or laptop will only invite thieves to break and possibly allow the dog to escape.
- * Don’t tie your dog outside a store – This popular practice among city dwelling dog owners can be a recipe for disaster. Reports have surfaced of such thefts in Manhattan. If you need to go shopping, patronize only dog-friendly retailers or leave the dog at home.
- * Be vigilant when entering or leaving establishments or venues catering to dogs such as grooming salons, veterinarians, doggie day care or hotels – Be aware of your surroundings, such as slow moving vehicles, or people watching you and your dog. Carry pepper spray as a precaution and, if possible, don’t walk alone late at night or stay in a well lit area.

Recovery

- * Protect your dog with microchip identification – Collars and tags can be removed so make sure you have permanent ID with a microchip. Keep contact information current with your recovery service provider. Several pets have been recovered because of alert people scanning and discovering microchips. For more information and to enroll your pet in a 24 hour recovery service visit www.akccar.org.
 - * If you suspect your dog has been stolen – Immediately call the police / animal control in the area your pet was last seen.
 - * Have fliers with a recent photo ready to go if your dog goes missing – Keep a photo of your dog in your wallet or on an easily accessible web account so that you can distribute immediately if your pet goes missing.
-

Rosa's Update

Obviously everyone (at least I hope everyone) who is reading this has heard of Rosa and her battles with the gunshot injury to her right front leg. I just wanted to update everyone on how she is doing... as we have stopped updating her page on the website. Hopefully you all know that the vet has recommended that we do NOT proceed with surgery to fix her leg as it had already started healing on its own and to do surgery would put her through more trauma than needed since she is able to walk on it a little bit and the bones had begun to fuse. He said the only problem she would likely have is a bit of a limp and her right leg would be slightly shorter than her left leg.

We raised, through your generous donations, nearly two-thirds of the money we needed. As pointed out in the follow-up emails, we have offered to return the donations of anyone who wishes... and each and every one of you did not surprise us. We have had no one ask for their donations to be returned!! Everyone basically shared the sentiment that we should keep the donation and use it where it would be best used... in the treatment of other dogs in or entering into the foster program! YOU GUYS AND GALS ROCK!!!!

Bits & Pieces

Dalmatian Myths Rebuffed: <http://www.dalmatiandirectory.com/DalMyths.html>

A New Mosquito Repellent Spray.....

I was at a deck party awhile back, and the bugs were having a ball biting everyone. A man at the party sprayed the lawn and deck floor with Listerine, and the little demons disappeared. The next year I filled a 4-ounce spray bottle and used it around my seat whenever I saw mosquitoes. And voila! That worked as well. It worked at a picnic where we sprayed the area around the food table, the children's swing area, and the standing water nearby. During the summer, I don't leave home without it.....Pass it on.

OUR FRIEND'S COMMENTS:

I tried this on my deck and around all of my doors. It works - in fact, it killed them instantly. I bought my bottle from Target and it cost me \$1.89. It really doesn't take much, and it is a big bottle, too; so it is not as expensive to use as the can of spray you buy that doesn't last 30 minutes. So, try this, please. It will last a couple of days. Don't spray directly on a wood door (like your front door), but spray around the frame. Spray around the window frames, and even inside the dog house.



Jiggy, Jan & Chiclet

Announcing a Joint \$35,000 Matching Gift to the Rabies Challenge Fund

Jan Rasmusen, author of the national-award winning book, *Scared Poopless: The Straight Scoop on Dog Care*, and two anonymous dog lovers announce a combined \$35,000 matching gift to The Rabies Challenge Fund. Jan's gift is being made on behalf of her dog, Chiclet, in honor of Chiclet's companion, Jiggy, who developed autoimmune liver disease after a rabies shot.

Jan Rasmusen says, "By helping to fund the Rabies Challenge studies, we have the chance to help better the lives of, not just hundreds of dogs, or even thousands, or even hundreds of thousands of dogs. We can potentially help to improve the health of every pet dog in America. How exciting is that!"

The anonymous donors add: "We are totally dedicated to the Rabies Challenge Fund and its mission and are so pleased to be able to support it with this matching gift of \$25,000."

From May 1st to August 31st, for donations of \$100 or more, Jan and the anonymous donors will match \$1 of every \$2 donated up to \$35,000, and Jan will send an autographed copy of her book for donations above \$500 as well. Also, Chiclet has enlisted the support of canine movie star, Benji, who says "This important study is long overdue. I give the Rabies Challenge study four BIG paws up!"

"Donations from our team of dedicated supporters, like Jan and the anonymous dog lovers, along with steady grass-roots public contributions have launched our second year of fund-raising with a bang!" responds Fund Co-Trustee, Dr. W. Jean Dodds.

Funded by grass-roots donations, the rabies challenge studies began in November 2007 with the goal of extending the required interval for rabies boosters to five, and then seven years. Dr. Ronald Schultz, Chair of the Department of Pathobiology of the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, is conducting the... (Continued next page)

(Continued from previous page) studies according to USDA vaccine-licensing standards. Previous French research on the rabies vaccine demonstrated a minimum of five years duration of immunity by challenge. American serological studies showed a minimum duration of immunity of seven years.

"It is so exciting and important to get support for the Rabies Challenge Fund from as many dog owners as possible. The very generous combined \$35,000 matching gift from Jan Rasmusen and the anonymous donors will go a long way to provide the funding required for these critically important rabies vaccine studies," comments Dr. Schultz.

Fund founder, Kris L. Christine, says, "We're thrilled about these generous gifts and Benji's endorsement, which will make a huge difference in helping us meet our second year's budget for the studies!"

Find more information on the matching \$35,000 gift to The Rabies Challenge Fund at our website designed by Andrea Brin www.RabiesChallengeFund.org and on Jan Rasmusen's Truth 4 Dogs website at www.Truth4Dogs.org.

A Letter From A Dog...

How could you?

When I was a puppy, I entertained you with my antics and made you laugh. You called me your child, and despite a number of chewed shoes and a couple of murdered throw pillows, I became your best friend. Whenever I was "bad," you'd shake your finger at me and ask "How could you?" ...but then you'd relent and roll me over for a belly rub.

My housebreaking took a little longer than expected, because you were terribly busy, but we worked on that together. I remember those nights of nuzzling you in bed and listening to your confidences and secret dreams, and I believed that life could not be any more perfect.

We went for long walks and runs in the park, car rides, stops for ice cream (I only got the cone because "ice cream is bad for dogs" you said), and I took long naps in the sun waiting for you to come home at the end of the day.

Gradually, you began spending more time at work and on your career, and more time searching for a human mate. I waited for you patiently, comforted you through heartbreaks and disappointments, never chided you about bad decisions, and romped with glee at your homecomings, and when you fell in love. She, now your wife, is not a "dog person", still I welcomed her into our home, tried to show her affection, and obeyed her. I was happy because you were happy.

Then the human babies came along and I shared your excitement. I was fascinated by their pinkness, how they smelled, and I wanted to mother them, too. Only she and you worried that I might hurt them, and I spent most of my time banished to another room, or to a dog crate. Oh, how I wanted to love them, but I became a "prisoner of love." As they began to grow, I became their friend. They clung to my fur and pulled themselves up on wobbly legs, poked fingers in my eyes, investigated my ears, and gave me kisses on my nose. I loved everything about them and their touch-because your touch was now so infrequent-and I would've defended them with my life if need be. I would sneak into their beds and listen to their worries and secret dreams, and together we waited for the sound of your car in the driveway.

There had been a time, when others asked you if you had a dog, that you produced a photo of me from your wallet and told them stories about me. These past few years, you just answered "yes" and changed the subject. I had gone from being "your dog" to "just a dog," and you resented every expenditure on my behalf.

Now, you have a new career opportunity in another city, and you and they will be moving to an apartment that does not allow pets. You've made the right decision for your "family," but there was a time when I was your only family. I was excited about the car ride until we arrived at the animal shelter. It smelled of dogs and cats, of fear, of hopelessness. You filled out the paperwork and said "I know you will find a good home for her." They shrugged and gave you a pained look. They understand the realities facing a middle-aged dog, even one with "papers." You had to pry your son's fingers loose from my collar as he screamed "No, Daddy! Please don't let them take my dog!" And I worried for him, and what lessons you had just taught him about friendship and loyalty, about love and responsibility, and about respect for all life.

You gave me a good-bye pat on the head, avoided my eyes, and politely refused to take my collar and leash with you. You had a deadline to meet and now I have one, too. After you left, the two nice ladies said you probably knew about your upcoming move months ago and made no attempt to find me another good home. They shook their heads and asked "How could you?" They are as attentive to us here in the shelter as their busy schedules allow. They feed us, of course, but I lost my appetite days ago. At first, whenever anyone passed my pen, I rushed to the front, hoping it was you that you had changed your mind-that this was all a bad dream...or I hoped it would at least be someone who cared, anyone who might save me.

When I realized I could not compete with the frolicking for attention of happy puppies, oblivious to their own fate, I retreated to a far corner and waited. I heard her footsteps as she came for me at the end of the day, and I padded along the aisle after her to a separate room. A blissfully quiet room. She placed me on the table and rubbed my ears, and told me not to worry. My heart pounded in anticipation of what was to come, but there was also a sense of relief. As is my nature, I was more concerned about her. The burden which she bears weighs heavily on her, and I know that, the same way I knew your every mood. She gently placed a tourniquet around my foreleg as a tear ran down her cheek. I licked her hand in the same way I used to comfort you so many years ago. She expertly slid the hypodermic needle into my vein. As I felt the sting and the cool liquid coursing through my body, I lay down sleepily, looked into her kind eyes and murmured "How could you?" Perhaps because she understood my dogspeak, she said "I'm so sorry." She hugged me, and hurriedly explained it was her job to make sure I went to a better place, where I wouldn't be ignored or abused or abandoned, or have to fend for myself-a place of love and light so very different from this earthly place.

Seeking Donations of Items For Auction – A Fund Raising Effort

We are seeking donations of items that we can use in a fund raising auction!

Take a look around your house and see if you have anything around collecting dust that would be of value to us in an auction, please help us out and donate it to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. We are currently accepting donations of items that can be auctioned on EBay or at an 'in person' auction to help bolster the treasury so that we won't necessarily have to 'beg' for help every time we have a special needs dog like Rosa. The items needn't be Dalmatian related. Items to be used on EBay should be small or light enough that shipping the item would not cost half the profit we raise on the item. For an 'in person' type auction, there would be no weight or size limit on the items as they will be taken by the winning bidder at the time of sale. To make arrangements to drop off your items, please contact Beth White (melodee101@msn.com) in Fort Collins or Karl Schill (dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net) in Colorado Springs. If anyone in the metro Denver area wants to volunteer to collect those donations, please let Karl know! Once we have enough items, I will collect everything here in the Springs and get the auctions started.

To give an idea of what can be donated/auctioned, we already have the following items donated: a Richard G. "Dick" Mason print poster; an autographed portrait photo of Mrs. Patricia Nixon; and a couple smaller sized figurines.

We will post a notice on our website and a special email will be sent out with the details of when the auctions will begin and end so that you may 'watch' them as they are being conducted (and who knows, you just might want to bid on something to replace your donated items!).



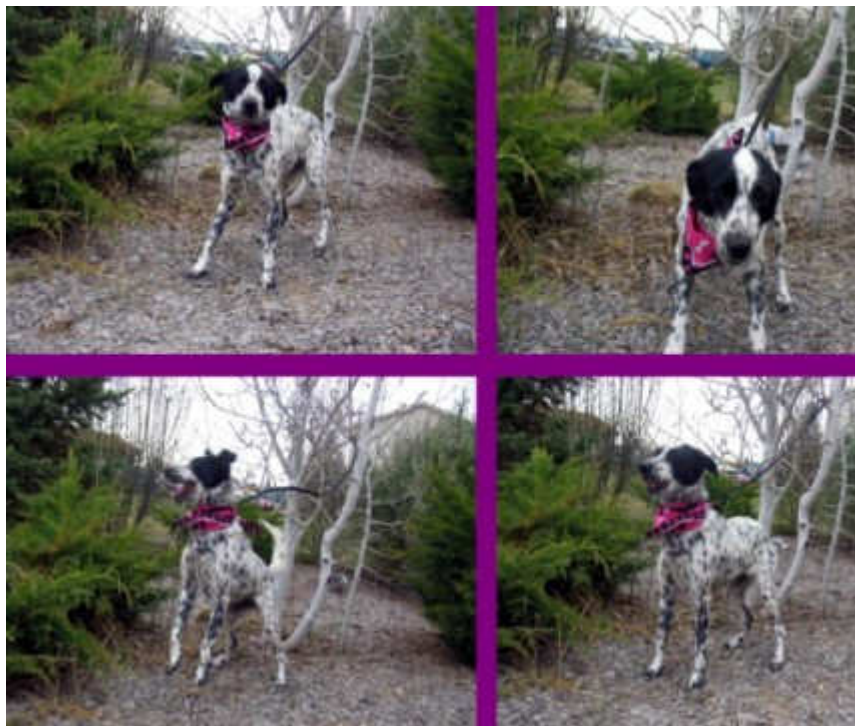
***** **FOSTER HOMES DESPERATELY NEEDED** *****

PLEASE, we need YOUR help!! Remember when your rescue Dalmatian came home with you, from the warmth of a loving foster family? If we hadn't had foster homes you probably would not have gotten your dog. PLEASE think about fostering a dog for Rescue so we can save lives like we saved your dog's life!! PLEASE give a warm home to a dog that can relax, show his true personality, enjoy a thick bed rather than a concrete floor in a shelter and be ready for a new home. PLEASE help us and the dogs so that others might have a dog that is well socialized, trained, and ready to love. PLEASE think about this.... Dalmatians are everywhere and are literally dying to meet you or someone willing to give them a "spot" to be until their forever home comes along. PLEASE be a spot for us... and for them?

We thank you and you know any dog you help us save will be eternally grateful! PLEASE submit a foster application if you can possibly help us and them! PLEASE take your cookie... good boy/girl!

In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatian

Dottie5



1 Year Old, Black, Female
Stray

Boulder Humane Society
2323 W. 55th Ave., Boulder, CO
(303) 442-4030
Mon – Fri: 11:00 – 7:00, Sat – Sun: 10:00 – 5:00

Dottie is likely a Dalmatian/Pointer mix who is about one year old. She is said to be a real sweetheart and wants more than anything to get out of the shelter where she's been for quite a while. We are getting some better pictures and more information on her personality soon. She can be a jumper, so a high fence would be required. Dottie is currently at the Boulder Humane Society in Boulder, CO. Dalmatian Rescue is brimming to overflow capacity right now so we have no place for her... do you?

Happy Beginnings Story - An Update!

Radar

Hello,

I am so excited to tell you, I went to pet therapy classes AND Guess What??? I GRADUATED!!! Yep, I AM just like my brother, Astro! Only now, instead of me staying home every Wednesday night, I get to go visit new old friends in a building with lots of wheelchairs. Although, some of my friends like to lie in bed – so I stand on my hind legs so they can see me. I love to get real close & SMILE! Sometimes, I hear them ask my mom if I'm going to bite them? I wonder what makes them think that? Well, I have to go & practice some new tricks. Good-bye everyone and thanks for reading my graduation story.

Love Radar



Please don't forget... if you haven't sent in your Happy Beginnings Story yet, why not do it right now while it's fresh in your mind! It's never too late to see your story in print!!

NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots will be the 25th of the previous month. Submissions received after the deadline may be delayed in publication until the following month, subject to the Editor's discretion.

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible!!

6828 Rim Rock Trail, Fort Collins, CO 80526 **Rescue Hotline: 303-281-8963** Fax: 970-377-9509

<http://www.dalmatianrescue.org>