

Each time you are expecting a litter of pups, you & they can easily contribute to the health of our Vizsla Breed's Future

It is EASY...

First get prepared...

1) If the Veterinarian will be docking your pups' tails **call their office ahead of time** to ask them to put a note on your record that you wish to identify & save the puppy tail tips for donation to the Vizsla Epilepsy Study. If you are docking the tails yourself, find ways to remind yourself by telling others etc...

If you are caught up in the puppies' excitement you may forget to save the tail tips when the time comes.... and the more people who know you plan to donate the puppies' tail tips ahead of time, the more likely the puppy tail tips with their very valuable DNA will get to the study.

2) **Gather together what you will need...** the plastic bags, fairly large labels & permanent markers. Print out copies of the needed forms & the puppies' pedigree **ahead of time**.

3) **Mark each of the plastic bags with each one of the puppies' information** that you already know:

date of birth

birth order

identifying collar color

sex of puppy

sire & dam's call names

Then when the puppies are ready for their tail docking...

4) Get your **sample bags ready and with you** when you start the process.

As each pup's tail tip is docked, put it into the plastic freezer bag that is already marked with that pup's sex, collar color, birth order etc, add the pup's call name if you know it & seal the bag. When you have all of the puppy tails **in their individual bags & labeled, put them in the freezer as soon as you can & relax.....**

5) Submit the AKC paperwork to the AKC to **register the litter with each pup in it's corresponding birth order so that when the pups' registration numbers comes back from the AKC you will know by their birth order which number goes with which pup's tail tip & then you will write their new AKC # on each pup's baggie with it's tail tip frozen inside.**

FYI -The study will gladly take the tail tips even if you are not certain that the tail tips are sorted out correctly because if later in life the pup develops a problem, or the DNA shows a problem the study can sort it out... but it would mean much more work for them and for the owner of the pup. It would be helpful if at least the sex of the pup is correct on the bag.

6) **Fill out the paperwork for the study** and send the paperwork with the bags of tail tips in a box with ice packs to **keep them frozen** according to the directions on the papers and forms. **Keep a copy of the paperwork** you have sent with the samples for your records.

When you know who will be the owner of each of the pups you will want to **send Dr Patterson a list of each of the pups and their owner's contact information (Name, address, phone #'s)**

& you will want to **give the owners the information about the Study including a copy of the paperwork for their records.**

Please tell the owners that any problems that the pup may develop should not only be told to you, as breeder, but also relayed to the study to make the pup's sample more valuable for the future of the Vizsla breed.

If either you or the owners **change your contact info or the pup is transferred to another owner**, it is important to the study to let them know the new contact information so they can find you to **update their info** when it is important to the work of the study.

You may also send a vial of both the dam and sire's blood along with the tail tips if the parents' blood has not already been sent to the study, as complete families are even more helpful for the study. The vials of blood need to be prepared as the forms direct, and must be kept cold but **not touch the ice packs** as the blood should not freeze during the trip to the lab. The blood vials can be wrapped in paper and kept from touching the ice pack by crumpled paper.

7) Once the package is ready please send the box of puppy tail tips by **overnight mail** to the lab **Monday through Thursday**. They **should arrive by Friday** so that they stay frozen, and do not defrost waiting over a weekend to be opened.

**Send to: Epilepsy Research Project
C/O Dr. Ned Patterson
Canine Genetics Lab
Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences
C339 Veterinary Teaching Hospitals
1352 Boyd Ave, St. Paul MN 55108**

IMPORTANT

KEEP YOUR RECEIPT from the Post Office when you have sent the package off!!! The receipt may be redeemed for your free "Vizsla Epilepsy Project Donor Owner pin" to wear proudly at all Vizsla events to show your support for our breed!

QUESTIONS?

Contact A. Land Harris at: alandmd@cox.net