

Puppy Love

June 2014

Newsletter of *Belle Amore Dachshunds*

Volume 4, No.6

The Flea Factor



Is there only one species of fleas? No. There are 2000 known species, Only one flea species - the cat flea - accounts for most of the flea cases found in the U.S.

Do fleas have wings? No. They have flexible, densely armored, paper-thin bodies that are perfect for "swimming" quickly through thick hair.

Can fleas jump? Yes. Fleas have incredible "spring loaded" legs allowing them to leap over 200 times their body link.

Do fleas like sugar? Yes. For energy, both male and females feed on plant nectar, fruit juices and liquids that ooze from plants.

Do only female fleas bite the host? Yes. In order to reproduce female fleas feed on the blood of humans, birds, reptiles and wild and domestic animals, this includes your little doxie.

How much blood does a female flea drink? She drinks fifteen times her body weight in blood daily.

How many eggs does a female flea have? She can lay over 2000 eggs in her lifetime.

How long have fleas been around to pesture man and animals? Fleas have been on the planet for over 100 million years. We have only been around 200,000 years.

How Long Does it Take for One Flea to Develop into a Million Fleas?

Six weeks. In three weeks one flea can pass through its entire life cycle and can lay 1000 eggs. In another three weeks these eggs can hatch and lay 1000 eggs each, so within six weeks, it is possible to have a million new fleas.



"MAN! I'D SURE LIKE TO SEE THE FLEA THAT CAN WEAR ONE OF THOSE!"



Bathing with Dawn dish detergent kills fleas instantly. Preferred by professional groomers and vets.



The One Inch Rule

Fleas are visible to the naked eye but they are so small you could line up eight adult fleas, end to end, in a one inch long line. If you see one flea there are fifty you don't see.



All it takes is one walk in the park... fleas!