

PRA IN GORDON SETTERS

The Gordon Setter breed clubs have recently been notified by a breeder that the breed suffers from the late onset form of PRA.

Owners of all Gordons [show, working, pet] are being encouraged to use the BVA/KC Eye Scheme to ascertain how widespread the problem is. Any dogs diagnosed with PRA have mouth swabs taken to send to the Animal Health Trust [AHT], which will shortly begin research to find the mutant gene responsible for the condition, with the hope of producing a DNA test for Gordon Setters. This research is partly funded by the breed clubs who are taking an active role to deal with this matter.

I would urge any vets who see a Gordon Setter with suspected or confirmed PRA to consider sending a DNA sample to the AHT. They provide a submission form and the mouth swabs and can be contacted at dnatesting@aht.org.uk.

It was proposed at the recent BVA Eye Panellists meeting to place Gordons on the Eye Scheme Schedule B. This will be confirmed at the November meeting and will come into effect from January 2010.

For further details please contact me by email:

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