



## TIME TO DEWORM !

Four times a year we need to deworm internally all dogs in the Cantinho da Milu's shelter. That means we have to distribute pills to each of the 500 dogs. It is a very important task, as dogs need to be protected against internal parasites.

This Saturday (the 25th of January) we have gathered a record number of volunteers and the dogs were dewormed in half a day!

Do not forget that this task is also a big financial effort for Cantinho da Milu and Dogs of Portugal. The amount of pills distributed depends on the weight of each dog. On the average calculating the whole shelter we are talking about 10 000kg of dogs. So your sponsoring is very needed!



## WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF...

- Deworming tablets
- Spot-on against fleas and ticks such as *Advantix* and *Frontline* and also *Advocate* for dogs with skin allergies
- *Scalibor* collars
- *Actidox* and *Becozyme* for treatment of tick fever and *Conofite* and *Oridermyl* for treatment of ear infections
- Medication with *Allopurinol* as an active ingredient

## DONATE IN ORDER TO ADOPT!

Usually when you adopt a pet, you are invited to make a certain minimum financial donation. Each charity or person has its own policy regarding that amount but in all cases the principal objective of the donation is to cover a part of expenses related to the animal in question since the moment it was rescued until its rehoming. This is also so the charity or the person could continue to rescue more animals.

In case of adoptions intermediated by DOP those expenses include the cost of the stay in the shelter where the animal has been (or in a temporary home), food, medical expenses, internal and external deworming, vaccination, sterilisation, microchip, blood tests if needed (obligatory when the animal is rehomed abroad) and transport to the new home. Those expenses may vary depending on the shelter where the animal has been (among the shelters, associations and temporary homes that DOP works with), size of the animal, gender (i.a. neutering of a female is more expensive than of a male), health condition and last but not least the distance to the new home and the mode of transport.

One thing is certain: with all those expenses, rarely the minimum established donation manages to cover them all. So why not ask for more? Well, because it is not only about covering expenses. The requested donation is also means of selection, a way of reassuring that the adoptant has a financial capacity, willingness and availability to spend some money in the future if the pet is in need, for example in case of unexpected medical necessities.

If we wanted to cover the exact value of expenses related to each animal then the donations would have to vary noticeably from one pet to another and moreover, some of them might become only accessible to a very limited group of persons. This is why we decided to keep the requested donations at a reasonable and relatively low level (lower than the expenses) so there would be more candidates for adoptions and so there would be more dogs and cats adopted to good homes, even if not always luxury homes. In relation to the rest of the expenses, we are trying to collect donations for sterilisation projects, vaccination projects, various surgeries, purchase of medications, so all the pets adopted with the intermediation of DOP would go to their new homes healthy, vaccinated, dewormed, neutered, chipped, etc. And in the meantime we also try to improve the life of the others, those that are still in the shelter and that have not found forever homes yet.



## LAST MONTH ADOPTIONS

In January 2014 a total of 15 animals were adopted!

The lucky ones were: Bernard (now Bingo), Dario, Gabriel, Inês, Isolda, Jóia, Maçã (now Lara), Madalena, Nancy, Noel, Serapintas (now Angelica), Speedy (now Diesel), Ziggy, Zurich and Iris (now Ruby).

If you have adopted a dog or a cat from us, give us news!



## WE NEED FLIGHT SPONSORS...

We're always needing volunteers to help out at the shelter. But you can also volunteer occasionally as a **flight sponsor!**

What does it mean? Well, if you go on holidays and fly to the locations where we have homes for our dogs you can take a dog with you. We take care of the organisation of everything on both ends, you simply need to transport the dog.

We are looking for flights from Lisbon to: Oslo, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Brussels, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Milan.



## DOP PHARMACY - MANGE

Mange is a group of skin diseases caused by infection with parasites (mites), which are characterized by skin lesions, itching and hair loss. The mites invade the skin, digging beneath the epidermis where females host eggs; these new larvae will arise and feed from this epidermis, causing the typical peeling / thickening of the skin and intense inflammation. There are several different types of the disease, the two most common being demodectic mange (not transmissible to humans) and sarcoptic mange (also called scabies, transmissible to humans).

The demodectic mange is caused by Demodex mite, naturally present in the skin of dogs. Demodex is transmitted from mothers to children who are breast-feeding in the first 2 - 3 days and only causes disease if there is an hereditary deficit of defences against this organism, or general decreased of immunity (because of a serious illness or if the immunity has not yet been established, as in the breastfeeding offspring). By this means of transmission, generally there are some manifestations of infection in dogs nose, but in adults it can be generalized or localized mainly in the head, trunk or forelimbs.

Mites are housed mainly in hair follicles and sebaceous glands, causing lesions of varying aspects from minor injuries or hair drop to discoloration of the skin with bleeding or infected plates. Early lesions do not itch (unlike scabies), but if there is no suitable treatment, these get inflamed and infected and then itching can be very intense. This mite infection, if it is localized and if the dog is in good state of health, can heal spontaneously, but if it is expanded, the cure may not be possible or may be very time-consuming, requiring appropriate treatment.



Scabies is very a contagious condition to other animals and to humans. Due to the close proximity between animals, the shelters, kennels or even veterinary clinics are places of high risk for infection with this pathology. The lesions first appear on the head, around the eyes, ears and muzzle, extending thence to the body and legs. Like most mites, it gives an intense itching (caused by digging mite)

causing peeling, thickening of the skin, scabs and hair fall at the affected areas (which may even be generalized). The dog has an obvious stress by the need to scratch and this may cause the appearance of new lesions or worsen those caused by the mite. Scabies is curable, but it is essential to comply with specific treatments adapted to each dog.

The diagnosis of scabies should be done by a veterinarian, by collecting the medical history of the animal and evaluating the symptoms and the signs present (including the itching and lesions' characteristics). It is necessary to make the differential diagnosis with other skin conditions, such as allergies or bacterial infections. With the suspicion of scabies, confirmatory testing may be performed by scraping the skin with direct visualization of the mites or eggs under a microscope.

Treating scabies can be done in the form of bath using acaricides, applying treatment liquids on the skin, or other medications in accordance with the assessment of severity of disease by the vet. Depending on the severity, the treatment may be long and the animal may have to be quarantined to prevent infection of others. If your dog has skin lesions and you suspect of scabies or other skin condition, consult your veterinarian.

