Establishing Standards for Care & Welfare of Dogs in Commercial Breeding Facilities

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Aim: Create & test science-based care standards for dog well-being in commercial breeding (CB) kennels.

The Problem

- High US demand for purebred dogs
- Negative perceptions of CB
  - Lack of research to inform policy & best practice
  - Insufficient legislative emphasis on dog well-being needs

**Impetus to regulate**

Voluntary Standards Program

- Inclusive, science-based, scale-neutral
- Pilot test program (24 kennels)
- Implementation
- Welfare status of dogs
- Breeder Education
- 3rd party auditing & certification

Research Program

- Effects of flooring on dog foot health, kennel & dog cleanliness
- Prevalence and scoring of periodontal disease in CB facilities
- Field-ready behavior & welfare assessment metrics
- Assessment of fear & distress
- Management & rehoming practices
- Public perceptions of dog breeding, welfare, sources of acquisition

For more information:
http://vet.purdue.edu/CAWS/index.php
https://caninecarecertified.org/

Research Sponsors
- World Pet Association
- Pet Food Institute