



BENEFITS OF SPAYING AND NEUTERING COMPANION ANIMALS

Sterilization has many benefits, including improving the health of your companion, reducing undesirable behaviours and preventing unwanted litters.

Sterilizing male dogs and cats stops straying when females "in season" are in the neighbourhood and also reduces the possibility of the male getting into fights or being run over by a motor vehicle - which can prove to be costly in terms of veterinary fees.

It prevents mating with females "in season" in the neighbourhood, and minimises or eliminates the possibility of the male contracting sexually transmitted diseases.

A MALE CAN FERTILISE MORE FEMALES IN A YEAR THAN A FEMALE CAN HAVE LITTERS IN HER LIFETIME.

THE ADVANTAGES OF NEUTERING MALE DOGS ARE:

1. Has no effect on the dog's alertness or natural protective instincts.
2. Minimises sexual and territorial aggression.
3. Reduces hyperactivity and the dog becomes more relaxed in its home environment.
4. Lowers the dog's general activity level (advantageous with certain breeds such as Boxers).
5. The dog can become more affectionate with the owners, children and other pets.
6. Minimises or eliminates bad habits such as jumping over fences, chasing of cars, urinating in the house, etc.
7. Minimises the likelihood of having prostate problems.

THE ADVANTAGES OF NEUTERING MALE CATS ARE:

1. Neutered cats become more affectionate and less inclined to wander off their territories.
2. Neutering reduces and even eliminates spraying altogether.
3. Reduces and even eliminates "cat choruses" which are usually caused by unneutered males challenging each other for females "in season" or for territory (i.e. minimises sexual and territorial aggression).





THE ADVANTAGES OF SPAYING FEMALE DOGS AND CATS:

UNWANTED PUPPIES AND KITTENS ARE PREVENTED.

Thousands of animals are euthanased annually in animal welfare organisations throughout South Africa; spaying your female would help to reduce this tragedy. The cost in terms of euthanase, burial/incineration and even human stress are enormous.

GIVING PUPPIES AND KITTENS AWAY (E.G. "FREE TO GOOD HOME") CAN HAVE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES:

Recent investigations by the SPCA have revealed that dogs are being obtained under false pretences by "brokers" who then sell them to security companies in other parts of Africa; cats and kittens are obtained under false pretences to be used as bait to train dogs for fighting or to train dogs for illegal racing and hunting.

UN-SPAYED FEMALE DOGS AND CATS:

Un-spayed female dogs and cats can become infected with sexually transmitted diseases or pyometra (pus in the womb); these conditions cannot always be cured and may lead to your pet having to be euthanased. They become disobedient, restless and noisy when in season. If not kept at home they risk being covered. They cause uncastrated males in the neighbourhood to wander and risk injury due to fighting or as a result of motor vehicle accidents.

They are not always able to give birth naturally, and this incurs high veterinary costs as caesareans may need to be performed and/or other complications may arise. Many animals die in labour. An un-spayed female cat will come into season approximately every 3 weeks for about 7 days until she becomes pregnant, which can be as early as 4 months of age.

ADVANTAGES OF SPAYING ANY FEMALE COMPANION:

They have a reduced risk of mammary tumours, they will not wander. They will not cause upheaval in the neighbourhood and have a reduced risk of many costly veterinary bills. They are healthier and sterilization will not affect her protective instincts.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

One female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats in seven years. One female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 dogs in six years.

