

Sprinter **GOLD** Whelp 'n' Grow™ Common Q&As

Bone Mineral, Trace-Mineral and Vitamin Supplement for Breeding and Growing Greyhounds

Sprinter GOLD® Whelp 'n' Grow has been formulated to make up the shortfalls of a wide range of nutrients which have roles in normal growth and development, health and metabolism. It is based on the latest NRC (2006) Nutrient Requirements for Dogs nutrient intake recommendations for pregnant, lactating and growing dogs, including greyhounds. It is a completely new supplement which has been trialled extensively in greyhounds of all ages.

Q. Whelp 'n' Grow contains a concentrated source of calcium, phosphorus and magnesium. Why?

A. These are the primary minerals which have a role in the growth and development of bones and joints in unborn puppies and growing pups. An adequate intake of these minerals is also necessary to help maintain bone strength in brood bitches during whelp and lactation where the outflow of calcium into milk can demineralise bone if the diet has an inadequate content of these important bone minerals. As a brood bitch or stud dog ages, the uptake of bone minerals from the bowel can reduce and common diets based on meat, dry food and table food may not provide an adequate intake of bone minerals to maintain bone strength. This can lead to weakening of the bone structure and even osteoporosis in aging greyhounds, particularly brood bitches which are kennelled indoors. **Whelp 'n' Grow** also contains Vitamin A and Vitamin D to assist in the uptake and regulation of calcium, especially where a brood bitch is largely kept out of sunlight in a whelping area with her young puppies. It is also recommended for young pups being raised in outside yards during the winter months when UV light is reduced even on sunny winter days.

Q Why is the Whelp 'n' Grow formulation acidified?

A. The absorption of calcium and magnesium from the small intestine is relative to the amount of acid passed on from the highly acid stomach with the food mass the being digested. Although meat based diets produce acids during digestion in the small intestine, diets high in kibble, bread, milk and dry food contribute more alkaline which can reduce the essential acidity of the small intestine during digestion and may hamper optimum uptake of calcium and bone minerals. **Whelp 'n' Grow** contains dicalcium phosphate and other acidified minerals which have roles in ensuring an optimum environment in the small intestine for uptake of calcium and magnesium.

Q. What other important nutrients are contributed by Whelp 'n' Grow™?

A. Whelp 'n' Grow contains the latest recommended supplementary levels of the important minerals of copper, zinc, manganese and iron, all in organic 'chelated' form for most efficient adsorbtion. These have roles all in organic in normal cartilage development in unborn puppies and maturity in joints and collagen in tendons, along with Vitamin A, organic selenium and Vitamin C during growth and development of pups. These nutrients are often low in the diet of brood bitches before whelping and growing pups, especially those fed on a raw meat based diet with minimum kibble. **Whelp 'n' Grow** also contributes extra iodine to help maintain optimum growth and metabolism, organic selenium to help muscle function and the full range of vitamins which have roles in metabolism, vitality and maintaining liver function.

Q. Whelp 'n' Grow provides high supplementary level of Vitamin E and Vitamin C. Is there any justification for including additional amounts of these important vitamins?

A. Yes. Vitamin E, which is included in the biologically active of natural source of RRR vitamin E, which is up to 2 times more active than the succinate form. It also includes supplementary amounts of the trace-mineral selenium, which is included in an organic form as selenium yeast, as well as Vitamin A and Vitamin C. These are all important antioxidants in the muscles and tissues. They have essential roles in nerve and muscle development and function, maintaining the immune system and fertility in brood bitches and working stud dogs. Vitamin C, as calcium ascorbate, has a role in the development and maturation of joint cartilage and the tendons of rapidly growing pups to help ensure sound joint and limb development.

Q. What is choline and why is it included?

A. Choline is a form of B vitamin which provides organic methyl compounds. When digested, these have a role in maintaining tissue growth and liver function in brood bitches in whelp and during lactation. Choline assists in detoxifying harmful nutrients in food and its metabolites following digestion to help ensure good overall health as a bitch ages.

Q. Biotin is also a nutrient not commonly added to greyhound foods. What does it do?

A. Biotin is a type of vitamin - it used to be called Vitamin H. It has a role in contributing to the development and hardness of the toe nails, as well as the health and structure of the skin.

Q. Whelp 'n' Grow is less dusty than many other powdered supplements. Why?

A. This is achieved by the addition of small amounts of GM-Free canola oil, which is very stable during storage, but helps to bind up dust. The palatability and acceptance of **Whelp 'n' Grow** is assured by the inclusion of a synthetic human food - safe roast chicken flavouring oil. Brood bitches heavy in-whelp often go off their feed and find the flavouring appetising and tempting, even by the fussiest of eaters. Pups like the taste and aroma as well. Because of the high content of calcium compounds to provide adequate amounts to supplement meat and kibble based diets, as well as the oil added to reduce dust, **Whelp 'n' Grow** is not recommended to be fed by mixing it in milk. It is best added to the main meal each day.

Q. Are there any other Sprinter Gold™ greyhound products which may be of benefit to growing pups after weaning?

A. **Whelp 'n' Grow** has been formulated as a complete supplement with specific nutrients in higher amounts which have roles in bone and joint development, muscle and nerve development and function, the immune system and overall well-being.

There are 2 products which may also be beneficial to young greyhounds during their formative first year.

A short 7-14 day course of **Sprinter Gold™ Muscle-Pro™** is recommended to provide highly digestible amino acids which have roles in muscle development. This is particularly beneficial in young greyhounds which are 'slabby sided', or these which have had a set-back in growth due to sickness or injury. Full directions are included on the label of **Muscle-Pro**.

The other product is **Sprinter Gold Energy-E™**. A growing pup's diet may be low, even if it is good condition, in essential Omega-3 and Omega-6 to fatty acids which have roles in maintaining natural anti-inflammatory and hormone compound synthesis, as well as skin health and coat condition. A 5 mL dose per 10kg body weight daily added to the main meal of a growing greyhound will help provide essential Omega-3/Omega-6 and Omega 9 oils to assist coat condition and promote a shiny coat within 14-21 days.

Q. What pack sizes are available?

A. A 500 gram tin is a suitable size for a young growing greyhound being raised individually after weaning or purchase after sale. 1.5 kg and 4 kg packs are also available for larger groups of growing pups. The larger sizes are suitable for a brood bitch prior to whelping and during lactation and continuing on as a supplement for growing puppies prior to and after weaning until 15 months of age.

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