Pest-Free Dogs

Do we really need those toxic pest-control products?

Dr. Kim Bloomer

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The information represents what I, an animal naturopath and an Independent Distributor of Young Living Essential Oils, have chosen to do to take charge of my own personal health and that of my family and dogs.

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If you are pregnant, nursing, taking medication, or have a medical condition, (same for your pets) consult your physician (or your veterinarian in the case of your pets) before using any products mentioned.

Information found in this book is meant for educational and informational purposes only, and to motivate you to make your own health care and dietary decisions (and those of your pets) based upon your own research and in partnership with your health care provider. Make your own informed decisions through your own personal responsibility and due diligence.

Is Traditional Flea-Tick Control Your Only Option?



Spring is a beautiful time of year as new life abounds - that also means the lives of fleas and ticks too. Modern dog owners seem to live in constant dread of these pesky pests that also carry disease that can effect human health as well as the health of our dogs. However, what many dog owners fail to realize is the conventional way of dealing with these pests (they do have a viable purpose in nature but that is a topic for another article) – either through a monthly topical application or a monthly oral dose, whether prescribed or over-the-counter (OTC) – is that these are toxic pesticides we are using on our dogs. Is traditional flea and tick control your only option? No, in fact it isn't an option at all – nature has always provided the solution.

It's highly likely that many dog owners do realize these are pesticides but feel they are the lesser of the two evils, choosing to take this route rather than having to deal with an infestation or disease from these pests. I believe that a part of this fear has been mongered by those who stand to gain the most benefit through either the sales of their products or through the vectoring of disease that these products can facilitate.

Dog owners may prevent the acute disease or infestation but instead albeit possibly unwittingly set their dog up for long-term chronic illness – although they may not connect the dots between these pesticides and the illness their dog(s) are currently suffering from. I attribute much of this to lack of informed consent and knowledge on both the products being used as well as the nature of the parasites themselves.

The missing link is first and always found in proper nourishment within the body in order to be able to mount a natural defense. In contrast to traditional animal health care practitioners, natural health care practitioners (such as animal naturopaths) work diligently to educate and help dog owners understand how to support and nourish the bodies of our dogs through species appropriate raw diets, so they never attract these pests in the first place. They also educate on the pests themselves and what it really takes for our pets/dogs to become infested with the pests themselves and/or infected with the illnesses these pests may carry. The knowledge these practitioners share helps to not only alleviate all the unnecessary fears but also empowers dog owners to take back control of the health of their dogs so that they may thrive.

The Ingredients in Flea and Tick Products

Dog owners often aren't informed (or choose not to read the labels if purchasing OTC products) about the adverse effects, the neurotoxins and cancer causing ingredients (both active and inert), or how they also affect the environment by their traditional health care practitioners. In fact, dog owners are rarely given Full Disclosure and/or Informed Consent regarding these products. Most blindly trust their veterinarians to prescribe what is best for their pets without ever considering that what they are putting on their beloved companions or into them could very well be far, far more dangerous than the pests they are trying to control. And it is also obvious that the veterinarians themselves are also being kept captive in the dark as well by the pharmaceutical companies who promote and pander these pesticides to them – and for reasons where economics not health plays the major role.

Eliot Spitzer, Attorney General of the New York Environmental Protection Bureau stated, "*The public must recognize that any decision to use a pesticide, or to otherwise be exposed to pesticides, is a decision made in ignorance.*" By the way this would include **ANY** conventional flea or tick product.

There are also the pseudo "*natural*" products masquerading as "*safe*" alternatives such as those containing pyrethum or permethrins typically found in spot treatments, indoor and outdoor insect sprays and pet shampoo products. In fact most often if you call the manufacturers of these products – whether OTC or prescription products – you will be told they are safe **IF** used properly. Meaning if you wear gloves when applying them and keep them out of reach of your children they will be "*safe*." According to an E.P.A. survey of poison control centers, they cause more insecticide poisoning incidents than any other insecticides except for the organophosphates.

If you have to wear gloves to put them on your pets, and keep them out of reach of your children, as well as wrap and carefully dispose of the containers the products come in, then how can that possibly be safe for your pets who have the product put **ON** or **IN** them?

A popular and newer product has the following possible side-effects listed in their Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS):

" The following adverse reactions have been reported in dogs after giving Milbemycin oxime or lufenuron: vomiting, depression/lethargy, pruritus, urticaria, diarrhea, anorexia, skin congestion, ataxia, convulsions, hypersalivation and weakness." http://www.capstarpet.com/pdf/Dear_Doctor.pdf

The following article is very insightful listing many of the ingredients in these products as well as the actual products themselves: http://www.apnm.org/publications/resources/fleachemfin.pdf

By reading and learning this information, you can then be more fully prepared to make truly informed decisions for your dog. Always read the MSDS and/or ask for Informed Consent if you choose to continue using these type of products on your dog. Because I know that some people will still choose to continue using these products due to convenience, comfort zones, and trusting whatever they are using simply because they want to believe these companies would never sell an unsafe product or that their veterinarians would never prescribe an unsafe product – I implore you to do your own research! These are **YOUR** dogs, and therefore they are **YOUR** responsibility not your veterinarian's, and not the companies who make these products. These companies are in business to make money. Because they are, even your veterinarian is often uninformed or chooses to remain willfully ignorant.

Did you know that the skin is the largest organ in the body – both an eliminative and an absorbent organ? This means that the skin is actually ingesting at least 60% of what is applied to it into the body!

My former dog, Shadrach, a Neo Mastiff, used to try and hide from me each month when I went to apply this toxic substance to his back. As soon as it was applied he would want to be let outside whereby he then immediately rolled in the grass and then the dirt, and back again, to try and rid himself of this horrible pesticide. I used to feel so bad applying it to him believing I had no other way of "*protecting*" him – but I eventually learned a better way.

Before I share a better way with you, let me share with you a couple of comments by veterinarians who also have learned these sames truths I have:

I have never recommended any of these products due to the dangers of using neurotoxic chemicals on animals. My concern is that these chemicals cause acute and chronic disease to my friends the animals. My other concern is that the caregivers and their children are being exposed to these chemicals by touching and hugging them 24/7. There are no safety studies on the long term effect of any of these chemicals on children...Any product that tells you to wear gloves, do not get it on your skin and then put on your pet once a month should be warning enough that it is dangerous to be around. These chemicals can causing seizures, liver, kidney, thyroid, spleen and adrenal disease weakness of muscles, labored breathing, incoordination, increased miscarriages, birth defects, heart and brain disease as well... There are no studies on long term use or the levels of these chemicals in the body. My advice is to make sure your pets do not have this on them and if they do, wash it off immediately and never use it again. Make sure your children's doctors are aware of their exposure to these chemicals if they are having any acute or chronic conditions that relate to these chemicals. Please pay this forward and save a life. – Stephen Blake, DVM



As if the administration of vaccines without Informed Consent and Full Disclosure is not enough damage to the companion animals of this country, the administration of poisons and chemicals is another way that disease is promoted. I have found many people calling in about the development of lymphoma following administration of Frontline, usually in geriatric patients. I see that the product is known for causing cancer in mammals – specifically thyroid cancer. You have to be very careful with these products as they are anemic with the truth on the product inserts, they are nimble with the facts in writing up MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) and it usually is the FDA adverse event site and the work of organizations *like the Organic Growers and Pesticide Watch groups that are the ones that reveal* the truth about the dangers on these products. Companies try to hide the truth out of the Freedom of Information Act which makes we wonder why we even have this legislation. It often takes the savvy of an attorney and litigation to free the facts from the "trade secret" confidentiality agreements that industry makes even the FDA sign. The post release adverse event reporting often is the only place the consumer learns the truth, often then it is too late. ~Patricia Monahan Jordan, DVM, CVND, CVA,CTCVH & Herbology

What Can You Do?

Notice in the quote by Dr. Jordan she mentions the MSDS which every company must supply with their products whether it is an OTC (over-the-counter) product or a product prescribed by your veterinarian. Be sure and read those. If your veterinarian doesn't offer one, ask for it **AND** for an Informed Consent so you are aware and informed of all possible side-effects of the products being prescribed for your pet.

Also be aware that not all companies will include all of the ingredients in their MSDS and it is those hidden products that also can be the major cause of adverse events. In fact some companies hide the **MAJORITY** of the ingredients! For example **Bayer does not reveal more than 90% of the ingredients in Advantage**. What is interesting though is that its MSDS does warn us to "use a respirator for organic vapors" in order to avoid "respiratory tract irritation and other symptoms such as headache or dizziness" (symptoms of nervous system exposure).

That warning is for humans and yet we are putting these ingredients **ON** our dogs! It pays to be informed **BEFORE** using **ANY** product on our pets.

Obviously these chemicals weaken your dog's immune system, which recognizes the chemicals as poison. The body then has to work over-time to eliminate the toxins. The major organs, such as the liver and kidneys, are overtaxed. For this reason, your dog's body is not able to handle contact with the normal bacterial or viral substances in our world allowing him/her to get sick more easily.

There are very simple and safe ways to prevent fleas and ticks naturally. A healthy dog will not attract pests, however if he or she does get a minor infestation, their bodies will mount a proper defense as well as build a natural immunity. But how do you do that?

These simple steps will help you focus on promoting health rather than treating the infestation or disease in your dogs although possibly they may 1) appear to be too simple and 2) maybe even intimidating to those who have come to believe in the religion of conventional pet care. Conventional treatment was taught to the veterinarians to indeed be complicated so that we would become dependent on them rather than learn and apply the natural, simple steps to true health and wellness for our dogs. So here they are:

#1: Feed the right food.

Stop feeding pet food purchased in a bag or can. Switch to a species-appropriate raw diet. A speciesappropriate raw diet is what your dog's ancestors ate to survive and thrive. Dogs are carnivores that need to eat raw meat, bones and organs to thrive. This is the foundation to good health as well as to thwarting pests and parasites!

#2: Stop using toxins on and in your dogs

Flea, tick, and mosquito products include neurotoxins and cancer-causing ingredients. The side effects are so severe that some dogs die just days after being treated with these deadly chemicals (some die within hours). Vaccines are also viewed as a toxin, particularly from those of us who adhere to a naturopathic lifestyle for ourselves and our animals. You will need to do some deep, thorough homework in this area to learn the truth about vaccines as well as to release the religion and fear surrounding this topic. I had to as well.

#3 Follow the eight laws of health.

These are laws of health mandated in nature. Laws in nature mean: not optional. These laws are species appropriate nutrition, exercise, pure water (sans fluoride, chlorine, etc.), sunshine, moderation, fresh air, proper rest and trust in the other seven laws of health (but primarily trust in God, the Author of these laws). I go into these a tad more in the next chapter.

#4 Use natural pest deterrents

There are many good products you can choose from these days to use when your dog is down in his or her immune system due to stress, injury, illness, or even during the transition from conventional to whole health care. In order for my own dogs and I to enjoy the outdoors, I make my own essential oils sprays – I use only Young Living Essential Oils. There are many alternatives these days. I've used AmberTick as well. Like I said, there are many viable, natural alternatives these days so we don't need to use any type of toxic, harsh chemical pesticide on our dogs. Remember that a healthy animal is NOT an attractive host to either parasites or disease and that you always have options that don't have to include toxic pesticides.

Harmful, Chemical Products Killing and Maiming Pets



I am always saying this to clients: follow the laws of health and do **NOT** use these toxins on pets. They are not only killing the pests and parasites they are supposed to kill, but they are also harming and even in some cases killing our pets as well!

There is a Facebook page dedicated to making sure people know what can happen to our pets if we decide to use these toxic substances on our pets, Hartz Products Are Killing Our Pets. The person who started this page sent out a horrific photo of their dog which you can see on their FB page from June 2012.

The person whose dog this happened to was told by this company that "*death is the number one side effect*" with their flea product!!! Really? Wow, I would not want this on my dog ever.

Why do these companies continue to sell these type of products?

1. Because they can

2. Because people keep buying them because they either don't understand how a whole health approach is needed not a magic bullet and/or they don't care to invest in learning a whole health approach.

This means the problem is as much ours as it is the company. The company is following the basic principles of Economics 101 which simply states that supply is going to rise to meet demand. **WE** are demanding these magic bullet approaches that quite simply do **NOT** exist folks!

By the way, this isn't just an isolated incident. These products are toxic, harmful pesticides and if we continue to put them on our pets this sort of thing is going to continue.

What is the alternative?

First and foremost simply following the laws of health:

1. Species appropriate **RAW** nutrition – for canine carnivores we should all know that means **RAW** meat, bones and organs.

2. **Exercise**. Daily, no excuses. A tired dog is a happy dog. And also a dog that is exercised will be **MUCH** healthier. The body is designed to **MOVE**!

3. Water. Pure, fresh, unadulterated with fluoride, chlorine and other toxins. PURE water is necessary for good health.

4. **Sunshine sans sunscreen**. The manufacture of Vitamin D begins in skin exposed to the **SUN**. Sun is not bad, tans aren't bad, **SUNBURN** is bad. Avoid burning by not baking in the sun. Animals will not bake themselves like humans. So make sure they have shade and water if they must be left outdoors. I prefer them being outdoors to being cooped up in a house or garage as I see so often but they need water, shade and a way to cool off especially if they are heavy or long-coated dogs. My own dog has free access since I work from home. But when I am gone he has shade, water and in the summer I provide a little swimming pool.

5. **Moderation in all things**. Don't over do anything. A short walk daily is far better than one day where you allow the dog to exercise until he drops for example.

6. **Fresh air**. That's why I said keeping them couped up in a house or garage for an entire work day is not prudent to good health in them. I would rather see them outside with shelter and shade – as long as they are not lawn ornaments only and get good daily interaction with you and other dogs. Of course you wouldn't be reading this blog if you were into living lawn ornaments.

7. **Rest**. Rest from noise, EMFs, lights (like digital clocks), and even digestion once a week. Also good, deep, restful sleep.

8. Trust. In all previous laws of health. Without trust then this is all a moot point which is most likely why so many people don't follow these simple laws that have been **MANDATED** in nature making them not optional. **ALL** must be adhered to or there are and will be consequences. If all are adhered to then there will be benefits. Plus, I also believe in Trust in God and Him as the Healer and giver of life.

Harmful, Chemical Products Killing and Maiming Pets

Additionally I also use the essential oils I mentioned in the last chapter on myself and my dogs as our primary health care option to support our immune systems* - as an addendum to the above laws of health because we've just done so much wrong in this world to our food, air, soil, and water that extra help is needed. All of this is **SO** beneficial and is definitely not going to kill, harm or maim our pets – **UNLESS** you choose those nasty health food store imitations or fake aromatherapy products being offered by these same companies making these toxic flea and tick products. I wrote about that here:

https://www.aspenbloompetcare.com/2013/05/05/essential-oils-vs-pheromone-technology/



Bottom line, using these products is not an option for killing fleas and ticks because they also cause toxic and even deadly harm to our pets.

Flea/tick product: The primary ingredient in this product is fipronil so here is information for you on that ingredient: http://www.sailhome.org/Concerns/BodyBurden/Sources3/Fipronil.html http://www.pesticideinfo.org/Detail_Chemical.jsp?Rec_Id=PC35768 http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/fipronil.pdf

FLEA CONTROL PRODUCTS THREATEN PETS AND HUMANS And FINALLY the government decides to state what has been obvious to us in natural health for YEARS (I've been teaching about this for many years): FDA Warns About Flea/Tick Products Containing Isoxazoline-t137954

The Heartworm Scare



The heartworm scare – we've all been there because they are scary. It is scary to know they can kill our dogs. Years ago when I worked in veterinary medicine as a tech, I saw many dogs have to be treated for heartworm which was rather awful as we used arsenic to kill the heartworms but it often killed the dog in the process. But the **REAL** scare is the lie that using these toxins is somehow prevention and safe. On the dog group I previously co-ran with my colleague, I stated in response to someone who called them poisons that was the key word: poison. I also asked how can a poison be considered prevention or protective? Nature does provide better solutions as I've been stating in this book all along.

The Heartworm Scare

Nowadays supposedly "*safer*" treatments are used. I don't think I've been in a veterinary office in recent years where I didn't see scary posters of heartworms posted offering their version of the solution: pesticides that you give internally to your pets or have injected into your pets. And because your "*veterinarian said so*" then it must be safe right? No, they are not no matter who says what to the contrary. Here are material data safety sheets on a couple of the products so you can read and see for yourself: http://www.virbacvet.com/pdf/product_pdfs/IVERHART_MAX_Chewable_Tablets_msds.pdf Material Safety Data Sheet – IverHart

The reason I decided to write section was because this topic comes up over and over and over again on various dog groups I belong to online. It also comes up in most of my consultations with clients as well. A few years ago a veterinarian friend of mine who has not practiced in a number of years and isn't fond of the conventional approach but isn't versed in natural health either, asked me for some suggestions on a natural prevention for heartworm.

Here is some of what I shared:

The key to protecting against anything is the immune system. And for our dogs, because they are carnivores that support is going to come from the nutrition they need to eat in order to thrive: raw meat, bones and organs.

Without that, the immune system is always going to be compromised. Animals can't cook, so for them eating cooked food should never be the option. *All* kibble and canned food is just that: overcooked, denatured junk food full of stuff no one, never mind our pets, should be eating.

That said, the whole health approach I use is:

1. Species appropriate raw carnivore diet

2. No vaccines

3. No pesticides of any kind and no need for it in **ANY** area no matter the amount of mosquitoes

4. Remove the toxin load: toxic chemicals in the home (cleaning, personal care, laundry, etc.) and yard.

5. I use only natural products for everything listed in #4 - too lengthy to list here.

5. For any additional support I use aromatherapy and herbs.

Here is a short article by a veterinarian: http://vitalanimal.com/drugfreeheartworm/ – he lives in TX which has a high incidence for heartworm. But why? Not because of the mosquitoes but because of the terrain of the sick bodies in the pets. Remember that Louis Pasteur (inventor of the germ theory) recanted on his death bed and said that it is **NOT** the germ but the terrain!

Here is an article for you (as you can see I have had this discussion with many people over the years): http://www.whale.to/a/b/pearson.html – The Dream and Lie of Pasteur

A friend of mine named Lydia, who is a former veterinary technician just as I am said, "Where I live, there is a high mosquito population and heartworm is common. When I worked as a vet tech in this area we would have a minimum of 12 heartworm cases a week! I do not use any toxic heartworm meds on my dog and never will. What do I use? A healthy diet and minimizing exposure to chemicals and toxins as much as humanely possible. I do have my dogs tested each spring, but if they ever were positive, I would seek the advice of someone well versed in natural pet care vs loading my dog full of poisons."

And that is **EXACTLY** the approach I take in the care of my own dogs. It is also **EXACTLY** the same approach I take with my clients. I know some of this information may seem redundant but I'm definitely working to get us out of the mindset that these "*pests*" are the enemy. They actually do serve a purpose and the toxic poisons we use to control them actually only further weaken our dogs while causing the pests to evolve stronger.

Pest Control: Poisoning our pets through conventional "prevention" methods



These pests and parasites are something most dog owners get nervous about, especially during the warm summer months. However, we would begin to understand that these "*pests*" (what we consider to be pests anyway as there is a balance in nature if we'd stop interfering with our chemical poisons) can only truly infest, infect, etc., within a perfect host during a perfect storm in the body, then we'd not allow the big pharma-medical industry conglomeration to continue to scare us into putting horrible topical and internal poisons **ON** and **IN** our beloved pets while believing that they are being protected from these pests. All I can say is – take off those gloves if you believe these pesticides (which is what they are -and so is the internally given pill) are so safe they can be applied to the fur and skin of our pets. Wouldn't it stand to reason that if it is safe to put this stuff **ON** our pets they'd be safe to touch on our own skin also, right?

Pest Control: Poisoning our pets through conventional "prevention" methods

These pests all have **TWO** things in common: they need a **PERFECT** host (a depleted immune system is what vaccinated, kibble-fed, pesticide laden pets are) and they need a **PERFECT** storm. The only reason more pets get infected these days is actually due to of all the pesticides, toxins and junk food they are inundated with and then we have the audacity to call this "*health*" care but it is merely disease in the making.

I've had veterinarians tell me that I am cruel for suggesting pet owners **NOT** use these **POISONS** on and in their pets. That makes **NO** sense. Understanding how the body **REALLY** works and supporting it through a proper, species appropriate raw diet, stopping the endless vaccines and other toxins, while adhering to the laws of health is the **TRUE** prevention.

But what can I say, the income flows from disease treatment, drugs, pet food, and vaccines but very little in using what is in nature with amazing results. We sure don't see any wild canids lining up to get their dose of poison to "*prevent*" these pests. Unfortunately many of us are duped into believing all of this propagandized fear-mongering to make these corporations richer.

More Bad News for spot on Flea and Tick Treatments

The Center for Public Integrity has recently reported the EPA has asked manufacturers of spot on flea and tick treatments to provide detailed information of adverse reaction incidents. ABC News reported in 2008 more than 44,000 severe reactions and 1,200 deaths were reported.

http://www.truthaboutpetfood.com/articles/367/1/More-Bad-News-for-spot-on-Flea-and-Tick-Treatments/Page1.html

Here is a story from Ingrid, a friend of mine in South Africa, who had a very heartbreaking thing happen with her dogs and it's also why she's not only an adamant supporter of dogs being cared for NATURALLY but why she's so angry at the big pharma-medical industry agenda that actually keeps pets sick, dying and definitely NOT healthy (story used by permission):

Pest Control: Poisoning our pets through conventional "prevention" methods

"Just as your "trusted" vets keep peddling useless and inefficient annual "booster" vaccinations, containing brain-scrambling and carcinogenic adjuvants, and (in many cases lethal) NSAIDs (non-steroid-antiinflammatory drugs), such as Rimadyl, Deramaxx, Previcox, Metacam, etc., they will also assure you that tick and flea products, such as **FRONTLINE** are "safe" and any adverse reaction must have been caused by an "underlying conditions" – their favourite moronic excuse!

When both of my boys, **Andy** and **Mikey**, who had never been ill in their 13-year old life, succumbed to **FRONTLINE** in 2004, both exhibiting the same symptoms, i.e. paralysis of the hindlegs, I researched the toxicity of Frontline and other flea and tick products and discovered that the active ingredient in Frontline is **FIPRONIL**, a known **neurotoxin and carcinogen**. The inert ingredients, which the manufacturer is not required to disclose for "confidentiality" reasons, are just as toxic.

See this report:

http://honolulu.injuryboard.com/toxic-substances/fipronil-and-termidor-pesticides-followed-to-hawaiiby-bansandlawsuits.aspx?googleid=254906 and http://www.apnm.org/publications/resources/fleachemfin.pdf

All of us, including our pets, already **suffer from an overload of toxic chemicals**, starting with our food. Most commercial pet foods are grain-based and most of the grain, soya, etc. is genetically modified, containing antibiotic-resistant marker genes, viral promoters (in most cases CAMV (cauliflower mosaic virus - see my article in this respect

http://www.americanfreepress.net/html/deadly_tuberculosis_174.html)

Also, **Monsanto's Roundup-Ready corn and soya**, used for food and feed, contains glyphosate (now fortified – believe it or not – with **Agent Orange** ! http://www.isis.org.uk/whoOwnsLifeNotMonsanto.php). According to a recent study conducted by CRIIGEN ("Glyphosate Formulations induce Apoptosis and Necrosis in Human Umbilical, Embroyonic and Placental Cells"): "As a matter of fact, Roundup formulations are the most common herbicides used with cultivated GMOs. Roundup Ready soya, the main GMO imported in Europe for food and feed, contains Roundup residues. In this research, the formulations were diluted at minimal doses (up to 100,000 times or more) and they programmed cell death in a few hours in a cumulative manner. We also noted membrane and DNA damages, and found that the formulations inhibit cell respiration. In addition, it was shown that the mixture of the components used as Roundup adjuvants amplified the action of the active principle called glyphosate; one of its metabolites may be even more toxic. These effects are greatly underestimated by the legislation, which does not take these phenomena into account, but instead simply sets arbitrary contaminant thresholds in food or feed. The rules apply to glyphosate whatever its formulation may be, this is wrong.

The authorizations for using these Roundup herbicides must now clearly be revised, since their toxic effects depend on, and are multiplied by, other compounds used in the mixtures placed on the market; and glyphosate is only one of them. The detailed blood analyses of each mammal which has received this herbicide during regulatory tests before commercial release must be published immediately, since our research points to undesirable effects which are currently masked or hidden from scientific scrutiny."

Full text:

http://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/tx800218n



Pest Control: Poisoning our pets through conventional "prevention" methods

If on top of the pesticides already contained in their food (which do **NOT** break down in the gut!), **our pets are then bombarded with toxic pesticides in flea and tick products**, the rise in (money-spinning) chronic diseases and ultimately death shouldn't come as a surprise...a friend in Australia, whose poodle suffered from cancer of the jaw bone said according to her vet, he put down an unusually high number of pets with the same cancer (not because the cancer would have killed them, but because pet owners couldn't afford the treatment). All pets have one common denominator, they are taken for walkies in various parks where the grass, every tree, every lamp post and corner has been sprayed with Monsanto's Roundup containing glyphosate."~Ingrid

Thank you for allowing us to share this Ingrid. Our pets deserve so much better than this. Don't let yourself be fooled into thinking this poison is protection for your pets. And know that there is a whole health approach available for you to learn and apply – literally.

http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bayer-healthcare-launches-eight-new-products-to-treat-fleaand-tick-infestations-249713081.html

Frontline definitely 'goes systemic' while Advantage reportedly does not however, I would indeed question any of this since they found in people that just about anything placed on the skin behind the ear reaches the kidneys in less than a minute! The other thing you should remind the vets is when they inject unsafe and unnecessary vaccines, they are ruining the animals Th 1 cell mediated immune arm of the immune system. This Th 1 is actually what is meant to help keep parasites as well as bacteria, viruses, yeast and fungi, internal and external parasites including blood parasites, and bacteria in check! A healthy immune system has a healthy Th 1 cell mediated immune bias! ~Patricia Jordan, DVM

Awareness is the greatest agent for change. ~Eckhart Tolle

Creepy, Crawly Spring?



The leaves are budding, birds are singing, flowers blooming, it's springtime in the Northern hemisphere! It's a happy time of renewal and new growth. At least until we start to think of the bugs that also start to *"flourish"* which can also plague our animals both externally and internally.

Part of the problem is that we have been conditioned to believe we must fear these pests and to annihilate them at all costs. As I share a little bit on the wrong thinking about that, I am very aware of the commentary on this subject that could potentially ensue such as:

"I live in a very endemic area for heartworms, we have to use the drugs or our pets could get infected and die," or *"My pets are raw fed but they still get covered in ticks every time we go for a walk and I can't chance them getting Lyme disease"*, and on and on the arguments go. I am not saying they are not valid, because these folks live with the evidence of this.

Creepy Crawly Spring?

However, **thinking naturopathically**, we are looking at it all in an unnatural light. How can that be you ask? Because the bugs have a purpose and are here for a reason also. It's about synergy and symbiosis in nature in addition to perpetuation of species.

First remember that the insect world have "*babies*" also – the larvae are their babies. Their life spans aren't as long as mammals or other species so they get busy propagating their species fast and abundantly because bugs are also food for other bugs and species! So in order for their species to survive they have to be prolific in reproduction. And for that to happen they have to find a suitable host whether it is in your lawn, garden, or animals. Some parasites will "*use up*" the host such as fly predators that eat up the larvae of flies. Fly larvae (aka maggots) eat rotting flesh, waste debris, etc. There is all a check and balance in nature – until the human factor enters in and wants to try and do away with all of it thereby upsetting the natural balance of things.

"At high tide the fish eat ants; at low tide the ants eat fish." ~ **Thai Proverb**

There are also parasites that prefer a host that won't be consumed but weak enough for their species to thrive. A weakened pet is going to be a nice host for a variety of internal and external pests. We all have parasites even if we don't want to think about it and some of our illness symptoms can be attributed to parasites. The same holds true for our pets. However, that said, there is a way to look at it all and then approach this all in a different light without the common toxic products.

The idea of this editorial is to get you thinking outside of the current paradigm. Let me share an excerpt from an article that sheds some natural light on this pesky subject:

Creepy Crawly Spring

"Pathogens and micro-organisms are part of life. They are the original life forms and they fulfill a very complex function. All forms of cellular life on earth share genetic links. Humans are genetically linked to so-called pathogens, or micro-organisms. We actually consist of bacteria, fungi, viruses, parasites and other micro-organisms and they form part of our system. Plants and animals are also made up of these. Béchamp discovered that if he stopped fighting micro-organisms and instead improved what he called the 'milieu', the environment of the cells, the so-called 'pathogens' did not disappear but actually aided in repairing the cells. By not focusing on the disease but on healing instead, Béchamp witnessed the pathogens doing the same. When he concentrated on the disease, however, and literally tried to combat it, the pathogens proved themselves to be the worst enemy. He showed that micro-organisms are the bridge between life and death, and the stage in between — disease."~Mike Donkers, Understanding the True Meaning of Disease



When we attempt to combat nature rather than work with her, she will always win...always. And she is winning because we "*fight*" or "*battle*" her rather than work in harmony with her. That includes prevailing against fleas, ticks, heartworms and a multitude of other creepy crawlers. They are not the enemy, we are. We battle nature constantly and what doesn't die with our onslaught emerges stronger, more resilient and yes resistant. Take a lesson from nature and dance with her but never fight her!



It's that time of year when flowers are blooming, birds are chirping, and bees are buzzing...or is it? The sad fact is that over the last few years bees all over the world have been disappearing. It is evident that we need to support and encourage bee populations if we desire this planet and all that exists within it to continue.

There was a popular song when I was a child that's lyrics included, "*let me tell you about the birds and the bees, and the flowers and the trees, and the moon up above…and a thing called love.*" I always liked that song because it was a happy little tune and I thought it was interesting that it was about animals and nature. I didn't know the underlying implications of it until I was older.

And little did most of us know the immense implications of that song pertaining to the very sustenance of the earth in something as small as the bees. As a child I was afraid of them because I seemed to get stung so often. As an adult I have learned to be calm around them and respect them so they can do their work and not interfere with them. We have done enough damage as it is.



Photo by Vincent van Zalinge with UnSplash

In fact, due to all the pesticides, herbicides, GMOs and other human contrivances that are disrupting the natural ecology needed to sustain this earth, the bees have been steadily on the decline. Without them and other winged creatures to pollinate things, we won't have much in the way of agriculture at all if we don't stop all this toxic madness. It seems the only thing that is being focused on is how to use more chemicals for the big ag companies to profit. There is nothing sustainable about any of that.

So what can we do? Every step each of us takes has a ripple effect. The following article on what to plant to do your part is outlined simply, elegantly and visually for you: 12 New Bee Supporting Plants to Plant This Year. Make sure the plants you purchase are only grown organically and are NON-GMO.



My dogs enjoying the backyard sunshine. Plenty of bees since we use no pesticides, herbicides or chemical fertilizers.

That is one small step. Secondly stop using pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers. Their are endless resources which can help you maintain a balance in your own environment naturally once you let go of trying to poison nature and allow it to support itself...*naturally*.

Years ago I stopped using all of toxic chemicals and began using organic fertilizer specifically created for the area I live in – the desert southwest. This type of fertilizer will encourage proper growth that can sustain itself through our hot, dry summers. One of our neighbors was recently marveling over our wild, natural yards amazed at the plant growth.

Secondly I began allowing the ecosystem to balance itself. Ladybugs, Preying Mantis, lacewings, ants, many types of spiders, rollie pollies, etc., all help to keep the aphids and other undesirables in check as well as the actual environment itself.

I also plant primarily plants that are indigenous to our area. I allow the native bugs to keep themselves in balance. I don't kill off what is deemed unsavories. Ants have their role as do all other bugs. I live in harmony as much as possible with nature which makes my work far less than my neighbors who are still determined to **FIGHT** nature.

If we have an infestation of something we attend to it using only natural methods. It has taken a few years to get this balance but organic gardening is all about patience. I also let go of the need for the "*perfect*" yard. I simply focus on healthy and natural. The more you learn about all of this the more you'll be amazed - such as the plants that have some "*bites*" and imperfections in them from being "*attacked*" actually are stronger as a result and the food plants are more nutritious! All those "*perfect*" foods we see in the supermarkets might look pretty but they are most often very nutrient void in comparison to those naturally grown.

Here is a simple quote that explains it rather well in my opinion:

"There are mushrooms (fungi) which grow on dead or half-dead tree trunks. Their job is to clean up these tree trunks. If nature were really reckless, wouldn't the fungi in their appetite for destruction clean up the entire forest? Did you ever wonder why that rose bush in your garden is eaten by lice and the plant next to it isn't? If insects were that gluttonous, pretty soon you wouldn't have much of a garden left! You may choose to spray the lice with some chemical substance that kills everything in its path and in the short term, that will do the trick. It won't make your rose bush much healthier, though, because now it also has toxins to deal with. Or you can choose not to concentrate on the lice but instead on the plant's health by administering the roots and the soil the proper nutrients. Eventually the lice will decide to move on to another weak plant and your reward will be the most beautiful roses. From Understanding the True Meaning of Disease by Mike Donkers



If we each do some due diligence we **CAN** make a difference. I invite you to join me…because it truly is all about a thing called love after all. The reason I shared this in this book is so that we can all start to realize there is a synergy, a symbiosis, a harmony to nature that doesn't require all the toxic, poison we've come to believe is protection and prevention. I could go into all the reasons why we believe that and who is behind it, but I'll save that for my private classes. **OR** you can simply start to **DIG** in as our dogs do!

Some extra information that also matters and shows how everything as Einstein said is vibration: http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/blogs/see-how-bees-sense-flowers-electric-field

Some Resources to Get You Started:

http://nongmoshoppingguide.com http://www.seedsavers.org http://eartheasy.com http://www.naturalnews.com/032325_comfrey_gardening.html

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Photos of the Carolina Dog, Carolina Dog puppy, Great Dane, and American Bully are my own naturally reared dogs!

Do you want to learn how to promote and build health in your dog naturally without all these toxic chemicals? Enroll in my DOGgone Wellness course, it has all the steps to insuring you have a healthy, thriving, active dog!

About Dr. Kim



Kim Bloomer, V.N.D., N.D. is an animal naturopath as well as being certified in small animal nutrition, with years of experience in animal wellness. Dr. Kim is a published author, writer, blogger, host of the DOGgone Truth podcast.

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