

*Info shared by Pitbull SA.*

*Manjaro APBT kennel.*

*South Africa.*

*My Website [www.pitbullsa.co.za](http://www.pitbullsa.co.za)*

*My E mail "[manjaro@pitbullsa.co.za](mailto:manjaro@pitbullsa.co.za)"*

*My Facebook "Gawie Manjaro"*

*My Facebook page "Manjaro Kennel"*

*My mobile +27827838280.*

*Zello.com "VoIP" – ask for info.*

## ***Hormonal control of estrus.***

The estrous cycles **of dogs** are not as easily manipulated as in other species.

Although onset of a particular cycle may be delayed, return to normal cycling is highly variable.

Induction of estrus is expensive, unreliable, and rarely justified; it can succeed only in normal, anestrus animals.

Ovariohysterectomy is the best method to prevent estrus in the bitch and queen.

Long-term suppression of estrus in the bitch may be accomplished with mibolerone, a synthetic androgen.

The dose is 3 µg/kg/day except for German Shepherd Dogs and their crosses, which require 6 µg/kg/day.

Therapy must begin =1 month before proestrus.

**Common side effects.**

Clitoral hypertrophy, vaginitis (especially in prepubertal bitches), increased activity of skin sebaceous glands, mild epiphora, and alterations in hepatic function studies.

Return to estrus after treatment ends is variable but is ~70-90 days. Conception rates are reportedly normal by the second cycle after treatment.

If given to pregnant bitches, the urogenital system of female puppies will have severe developmental anomalies.

**Mibolerone should not be given to cats.**

Estrus can be temporarily controlled with megestrol acetate, a synthetic progestogen.

In bitches, megestrol prevents estrus if given at 2.2 mg/kg/day for 8-10 days beginning during the first 3 days of proestrus.

**Efficacy is ~93%.**

Return to estrus is variable but often is ~2 mo earlier than expected, presumably a result of preventing the normal luteal phase.

When used to postpone an anticipated estrus, megestrol is given at 0.55 mg/kg/day for 32-40 days beginning =7 days before onset of proestrus.

Efficacy is ~97%.

Return to estrus is variable but, if timed properly, approximates the next regularly anticipated cycle.

**Side effects include;**

Increased appetite, weight gain, and personality changes (usually more docile).

Cystic endometrial hyperplasia may also develop.

**Rarely, lactation occurs.**

Megestrol is not approved for use in cats in the USA, but European data indicate efficacy for estrus suppression. In addition to the side effects described above for bitches, cats may develop diabetes mellitus during treatment.

Ovulation can be induced in estrual queens physically or more reliably, ormonally.

To produce a luteal phase (diestrus or metestrus) of ~45 days.

Physical methods include mating with a vasectomized tom (very effective) or inserting a sterile swab or glass rod into the vagina.

The latter should be performed repeatedly for best results. Hormonal methods include administration of HCG at 500 IU/cat or Gn-RH at 25 µg/cat. Both are given IM, daily for 2 days.

The use of progestogens, especially repositol injectables, is discouraged in both dogs and cats because of development of cystic endometrial hyperplasia and subsequent pyometra, mammary neoplasia, and diabetes mellitus.

The use of injectable testosterone, as is practiced commonly in sporting dogs - racing Greyhounds, frequently leads to future difficulties with fertility.