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Outcross breeding.

The definition of outcross breeding is the mating of purebred dogs within the same breed that are relatively unrelated.

The style of breeding increases heterozygosity and creates new genetic combinations by bringing together genes from totally unrelated individuals.

There are two primary reasons that a knowledgeable breeder will choose to make an outcross breeding.

The first is to introduce into their family of dogs a trait that is absent or lacking, and secondly to dilute undesirable traits that are caused by homozygous recessive genes.

Outcross breeding is essential when a breeding program begins to show signs of inbreeding depression such as loss of vigor, disease resistance and infertility.

Many times breeders will have two basic inbred or line bred families of dogs or bloodlines within their kennel and will do outcross breeding between these two lines.

The result will and should be dogs that are 'better' than the two original lines.

Breeders speak of this as a 'nick'.

Geneticists speak of this as 'hybrid vigor'.

No matter what you want to call it, this type of breeding will many times produce animals that are better than each of the original lines.

Many times these dogs produced from outcross breeding have gone on to become athletic top performance animals. We have seen many famous 'nicks' within our breed, none more notable than the Tudor/ Colby breeding of Howard Heinzl and the Boudreaux/ Carver breeding of the Honeybunch line. Bolio and Redboy is another example. Mayday and Davor's Vili is another modern example. Both of these bloodlines have produced many outstanding individuals as well as becoming the foundation of many other quality bloodlines today.

The again - many times using these talented performance dogs that are the product of outcross breeding as brood stock will result in a disappointment for the breeder, as the dogs will tend to produce the norm of their respective bloodlines.