

DOGS PROVE WHEATGRASS WORKS

Commentary by Sproutman

There are many stories of people who have extended their lives with cancer and other diseases or turned their health around with the help of wheatgrass therapy. (If you are unfamiliar with wheatgrass therapy, read: [Grass - The Medicine beneath our Feet](#).)

In my book *Wheatgrass Nature's Finest Medicine*, I share with you many of those stories. They are told in the first person by the patients themselves. Among those stories are some about sick dogs. If you've read my book, you know that I believe wheatgrass is one of the most potent natural medicines in the herbal pharmacopeia. But while others extol the virtues of wheatgrass, I have always eschewed the hyperbole associated with it as a panacea. But when it comes to dogs, there can be no hyperbole. Dogs don't exaggerate. They don't subscribe to faith healing, and they don't respond to the placebo effect.

What follows is an extract from [Wheatgrass Nature's Finest Medicine](#) in which a longtime breeder tells his story about sick dogs and his use of wheatgrass. This is not just about one dog, but about dozens of sick dogs over many years. Not only did the grass change the lives of the dogs, but the breeder and his family were so impressed, they started growing wheatgrass on a larger scale to provide it to their human friends. ([You can order their wheatgrass.](#))

A BREEDER'S STORY: SICK DOGS AND WHEATGRASS

Extracted from *Wheatgrass Nature's Finest Medicine*, by Steve Meyerowitz

I am a longtime breeder of Shetland sheep dogs and Irish Wolfhounds. Since the 1969, I have kept 20-25 adult dogs in my kennel. In case you don't know it, cancer is the major cause of death for the Irish Wolfhound. But for both these breeds, when they get sick, it is either cancer or liver problems, or problems with the kidneys, skin, or bones. All their illnesses fall under these categories. And in a kennel, you must be especially vigilant because diseases can spread quickly.

Breast Cancer

We got started feeding the dogs wheatgrass because of my wife. Janice was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1972. In fact, the doctor booked her for surgery within a week of the office visit. She had a grayish appearance and a deep seated level of fatigue. We accepted the accuracy of the diagnosis, but we immediately started looking at alternative therapies. We got the book "How I Conquered Cancer Naturally" by Edie Mae Hunsberger and were inspired by the Ann Wigmore program. We decided to cancel the surgery and try wheatgrass juice therapy. We grew the wheatgrass ourselves and Janice drank about six ounces per day, every day. After about nine months of continuous wheatgrass juice, the lumps in the breast disappeared. The oncologist gave her a clean bill of health. He didn't ask any questions and he even forgot that she had cancelled the surgery!

But there's more to the story. We had lots of leftover pulp from the juice we were using for Janice. So I started putting some of it in the feed bowls for the dogs. It still had a little juice in it. I mixed it in with meat, vegetables, and a little water. Later, after I started growing the grass outdoors (and freezing the juice to preserve it), I would just add a few cubes to the bowl and they would chew on it like candy.

Fertility

Neither of these breeds can mother puppies after 6-7 years of age. That is just a limitation of their natural fertility. But my dogs have had litters as old as 10 years. And the size of the litter for the Shelties (sheep dogs) is generally 2-4 puppies. But my Shetlands have litters of 5-7 puppies! Even if I was not a believer, as a business man, I would include wheatgrass in the diet because it makes money. Each puppy sells for \$600-700, and I get two more puppies per litter than the average breeder!

Longevity

Typically a Sheltie that is fed purely commercial food, lives only 7 or 8 years. If their diet is a mix of commercial food and owners throwaway food from the table, they can live for 10-11. Our Shelties generally live from 14-17 years. In the case of the Irish wolfhound, they only last 4-5 years when fed a commercial dog food diet. When they are fed a mix of commercial food and scraps from the owners table, they live 6-7 years. Most of ours make it to 9 years old.

No one will face the brutality of this truth. It is highly controversial because few will acknowledge the role of diet in aging and health. They just consider it a genetic weakness. But I've seen what quality nutrition will do and I know what commercial dog food will do. I've seen puppies who need to be put down because they never developed strong enough bones in their legs. The back legs grow crooked. Their skeletons are weak from malnutrition. It's akin to rickets in humans.

Skin Problems

So people started to bring me their sick dogs. I find that skin problems respond very quickly to wheatgrass juice. I can even tell you one case where the skin was actually weeping it was so irritated. The doctors put her on steroids to try to control it. At first they worked, then they had to increase the dosage to get an effect, and then they just didn't work anymore. They were going to put the dog down when they brought her to me. At that point, I decided to try one ounce of wheatgrass juice per 20 lbs. of body weight per day. Well, in seven days, you could see improvement in the open sores. After two weeks, there was a little fuzz of hair starting to grow back over the bald spots. After three weeks, the hair was starting to cover the old sores. Her disposition was normal and she was looking healthy. When the owner came back, she got such a joyous reception she said "my dog is acting like a puppy again!"

Veterinarian

What does the vet have to say? Throughout this entire time, we have used the same veterinarian. Dr. Diane Clark of Sharon Veterinarian Clinic. It was Dr. Clark who actually triggered our focus on all this by asking me "why don't I ever see one of your dogs with cancer?" Do you see much cancer, I asked? "Oh, I see it every week, but never from you!" So I started to think, what is it? Is it that we use large outdoor runs? I don't think so. And the only thing was the wheatgrass juice. In the time since I started adding the wheatgrass, we have never had a dog with cancer, never had any liver troubles, nor kidney, skin, or skeletal problems. I am absolutely convinced it is the wheatgrass.

Confirmation

This was in the early days of using the wheatgrass juice and I still wanted confirmation. So I asked Dr. Clark to send me a dog with cancer. It happened that someone had brought her a very old Irish Wolfhound that was going to be put down. She was in considerable pain. She had a tumor on her front leg and couldn't use it at all. She couldn't even touch the floor with it. The

owner gave me the dog to try to do what I could. So I made her a comfortable bed and fed her 4-5 ounces of wheatgrass per day. I really didn't know what I was doing then. Today I would feed 8-10 (ounces). I really wanted to make sure she got it so I fed her through a syringe down her throat. In a matter of a few days, the dog was obviously more comfortable. After a week she was tentatively reaching out with that foot. After two weeks, she was lightly touching the floor with it. After a month, she was walking. She never did run again. The tumor was still there, and it was large and hard as a rock. But she got full mobility and use of that joint. She was able to trot and was clearly enjoying life, socializing with the other dogs.

About four months later, when Dr. Clark was here for other work, she saw the dog. And I can tell you her reaction was one of absolute astonishment. Total disbelief that the dog was still alive. The dog went on to live for 9 months, which is a long time for an elderly Irish Wolfhound with terminal cancer. I would have given her more juice had I known what I know now. But still I was completely able to return the dog to normal activity. I want you know, I am not embellishing this story or anything else I've been telling you. This is absolutely what I happened and what I observed.

—Tom Stem, Dog Breeder. *Shetland Sheep Dog and Irish Wolfhound*. Stouffville, Ontario, Canada

For the full story read: *Wheatgrass Nature's Finest Medicine*, by Steve Meyerowitz
Click [here](#) to order wheatgrass products by Mr. Stem. To explore other interesting wheatgrass products, click [here](#).

Copyright ©2008 by



Steve Meyerowitz

To request permission for the non-commercial use of this material, click [here](#).