

Health - Allergies

Some Bracchi appear to be allergic to the world!!! While allergies are not a killer, they can certainly make your dog miserable; all that scratching and infected wounds can be very painful.

By definition, the Bracco is a loose skinned dog, and many dogs who have much looser skin appear to be affected by a kind of "sweat rash" which occurs in the dewlap, armpits, groin and anywhere it is moist enough for bacteria to grow. We have found that initially bathing the area with a weak solution of hibiscrub, or a good anti-fungal shampoo, and rinsing well can help to alleviate the growth of fungus. However, if the symptoms persist it is important to get professional advice from your vet.

The Bracchi has long "closed" ears which means that air cannot get into the ear cavity to circulate. Due to this some dogs experience problems with bacterial growth and fungal infections in their ears. It's imperative that you adopt a vigilant ear cleaning regime with your dog. You can buy ear cleaning solutions from your vet that will help to keep fungal and bacterial infections at bay. Never ever be harsh or use cotton buds deep into the ear canal. This can cause untold damage. If you feel that your dog is suffering from a deep-rooted ear infection then contact your vet immediately.

In addition, some Bracchi appear to be sensitive to the environment at particular times of the year. If this happens, your vet can carry out a range of tests to ascertain what is the exact cause. Treating with anti-histamines and steroids can alleviate the symptoms but it is much better to find the root cause and treat the allergy at source. Of course this can be very difficult but your vet will be able to advise you on the best treatment.