

health care. They are merely accessories or status symbols.

Cruelty can take a positive form, like torture or abuse or a more subtle form, like neglect. In some ways neglect by so-called animals lovers is worse because it lasts for longer and sometimes the animal suffers for its entire life.

熱射病について

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これから始まる梅雨から夏が終わる9月半ばまでは、動物にとって、特に犬にはとても厳しい季節です。気温が高くなると、外気や太陽光線から受けた熱や運動などで発生した熱が体内にこもり、体温が40度以上になり熱射病を起こしたり、それに近い状態になったりします。もちろん脱水状態も起こります。炎天下の車内に閉じこめられてこれらの状態が発生し、死に至るという悲惨なケースもあります。

熱射病の治療の第一は全身の冷却です。氷を浮かべた水風呂に入れたり、冷水浣腸をしたり、病院では静脈内点滴もします。また、すぐ蒸発して気化熱を奪ってくれるアルコールなどを体表にかけ、冷たいドライヤーで空気を送り、体温を下げたりもします。しかし常に体温を計り、40度まで下がったら冷やすのを止めるべきです。もしそのまま冷やし続けたり、今度は体温が下がりすぎて、逆に低体温症を起こす事につながります。

散歩に行く時は暑い日盛りの日中を避けて、早朝か、陽が充分に暮れてから出かけて下さい。午後の3～4時頃に飼い主さんは日傘をさし、犬はハアハアあえぎながら散歩を

夏はベットの車に残さないで

している場面によく出会いますが、これは大変危険なことであり、犬にとっては苦しい事だと思われます。人間は地表1m以上の所から空気を吸っているのですが、犬は地面からの熱をもろに受けながら、20～30cmのところの熱い空気を肺へ取り込んでいます。外の温度も下がり、アスファルトの温度が下がってから散歩に行ってください。真夏の日中に散歩に行こうと思われたら、一度裸足で地面を踏んでみて下さい。犬の気持ちが少しは分かるかも知れません。家にいる時でも、屋外にいる時はいつでも自由に日陰に入れるようにしておいてやって下さい。

それでも真夏の事は皆さん比較的意識しておられるからいいですが、意外と問題なのが梅雨時のように湿度の高い時なのです。御存知のように、犬は体内で発生した余分な熱を舌から水分を蒸発させ、その時奪われる気化熱で体温を下げています。ですから湿度の高い日は体温が下がりにくいのです。気温が比較的低い日でも、湿度が高ければ体温は下がりにくいのです。洗濯物の乾きにくい日は犬の散歩は控えて下さい。こんな時に体内に熱がこもり、熱射病が起こります。特に心臓や肺に問題がある時は要注意です。この季節に限らず、心臓病を持っている高齢犬やフィラリアを持っている犬は運動や散歩には充分気を付けて下さい。



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From the rainy season in early June through summer's end in mid-September is the hardest time of year for animals, especially dogs. As outside temperatures soar, heat from the sun and from physical exercise is trapped internally, raising body temperatures and causing heatstroke. Dehydration is another common problem in summer, with extreme cases resulting in death, such as when dogs are locked inside cars parked in the sun.

The first step in treating heatstroke is to cool the dog's entire body. This can be done by immersing him in a tub of ice-water, or by giving him a cold-water enema. Another way of bringing down body temperature is to rub the dog with alcohol, and place him in front of a fan (a hair dryer set on cool also works well). At a veterinary hospital, an intravenous drip might be administered for the same purpose. Whichever method is chosen, the dog's body temperature should be monitored constantly, and the treatment stopped when it has come down to 40 degrees Celsius. If treatment is not stopped at

this point, body temperature could go down too far, resulting in hypothermia.

Midday walks should be avoided in summer: take your dog out in the early morning or late evening. A pet owner strolling with a parasol at three or four o'clock in the afternoon, his dog struggling along panting, is something I see fairly often. This is extremely dangerous for the dog's health, not to mention cruelly uncomfortable. Human adults breathe air from a height of over one meter above the ground, but dogs are much lower, inhaling the hot air that radiates off the pavement. Evening walks should therefore be late enough for the outside air and the pavement to have cooled down. If you want to go out with your dog during the day, first try going out barefoot yourself: this will give you some idea of what the dog has to endure. At home as well, if your dog lives outside, make sure he is always able to get under some shade.

The heat of mid-summer is strong enough for many pet owners to be mindful of its debilitating effects on animals, but there is less awareness regarding the dangers of high humidity, such as during the rainy season. Dogs rid themselves of excess heat by panting, which brings down body temperature through the evaporation of saliva. If the air is already very humid, such evaporation occurs much more slowly and it is difficult for dogs to cool down. If your laundry takes a long time to dry, this means it's humid outside and your dog should not be walked: his body will retain excess heat and he may suffer heatstroke. This is particularly true of dogs with heart or lung conditions. For elderly dogs with heart problems, or dogs with filaria, exercise and walking should be carefully monitored all year round, and not just in summer.