

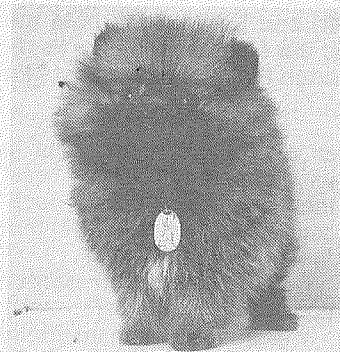
Jeweler plans insured-pet pendants

KOFU, Yamanashi Pref. (Kyodo) Silver pendants for pets — especially mischievous ones — will go on sale soon coupled with a unique insurance policy.

The policy will provide compensation of up to ¥30 million if a pet causes bodily injury or property damage.

Tamai Co., a local jewelry manufacturer of Takahata, Yamanashi Prefecture, plans to sell the pendants in cooperation with AIU, a major Tokyo-based insurance firm.

Ichiro Tamai, president of the jewelry firm, came up with the idea to sell the pendant because he has long advocated that owners take responsibility for their pet's



A LAP DOG models Tamai Co.'s silver pet pendant in Kofu, Yamanashi Prefecture. KYODO PHOTO

misdeeds.

The oval pendants are made of silver and are about 2

cm long, bearing the picture of a dog or cat in relief, with tiny diamonds for eyes.

The owner's telephone number can be engraved on the back of the pendant to expedite the return of a lost pet.

According to official statistics, about 600,000 stray dogs are disposed of each year, many of them former pets.

The price of the pendant, including the policy subscription fee, is ¥20,000.

Pet owners are also covered for various mishaps, such as the accidental breaking of a window while walking a dog.

Information can be obtained by calling (0552) 26-4461.

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