



# The Tendermouth

## Miami Valley Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

Newsletter ~ Fall 2012

Club meetings are at 7:30pm and held at Rolling Hills Baptist Church, 5742 Pleasant Ave, Fairfield, Ohio, 45014.

### Meeting Dates-

- November 12, general meeting @ 7:30pm
- December Christmas party date will be determined at the October meeting



### **March 12, 2012 - MVLRC minutes**

Meeting was called to order by President Nick Merritt at 7:34 p.m.

Minutes from the February 13, 2012, meeting were read by Marti Couch. John Federle moved to accept the minutes as read, Kurt Glaub seconded, minutes approved.

Treasurer Report – Colleen Rose reported a current balance of \$12,852.19.

Elections – Anne Thornbury moved and John Federle seconded to accept the unopposed slate as presented.

The following were elected for 2 year terms:

Nadine Glaub – Vice President

Chris Carroll – Secretary

Greg Ewen & Kevan Langner - Directors

### Committee reports:

Membership –Debbie Ewen gave the second reading of the application from Tony & Denise Williams for a family associate membership. Their application was accepted.

Programs – Tony Schumann, DVM, will speak at the April meeting on reproduction. Marti Couch will ask Terry Allen to do a presentation on search & rescue/cadaver dogs in the fall. Kevan will contact the Indian Ripple Vet Hospital in Dayton to request a program on reproduction procedures.

Newsletter – Members were encouraged to forward any ideas or suggestions for the newsletter to Bonnie Hall.

2012 Specialty – Premium lists are finished & online at the club's website. Notices have been emailed to all prior exhibitors. There will be no rally competition this year. Members were encouraged to contact Joan Koch to sign up for trophy sponsors, and to bring contributions for the raffle to Debbie Ewen over the next two months. To be listed in the catalog, all contributions have to be confirmed by closing date of April 18. Details for the raffle of "Advanced Labrador Breeding" were discussed. The club will open a Paypal account and sell raffle tickets for \$5 each. The book will be mailed if won by someone not in attendance. All proceeds will be donated to a combination of OKI Lab rescue, medical research to benefit the breed, and other dog-related issues. Marti Couch will coordinate all ticket sales.

Colleen will have to leave the specialty after noon on Friday and will be unable to be there Saturday. Members will cover breakfast on Saturday and the other signers on the account will be able to take care of any payments needed after she leaves.

Old Business:

Nick may attend the rescue seminar in northern Ohio on March 31. Marti Couch moved, Colleen Rose second, the club pay for expenses if Nick does attend. Motion passed.

Brags:

Anne Thornbury's Buddy was 1<sup>st</sup> in Beginner Novice, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Rally Novice at QCDTC & finished his Rally Novice title. Toby was best adult in match at Clermont CDTC and 1<sup>st</sup> in the 9-12 class in Indy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marti Couch

**April 2012 Board minutes**

Present: Kevan Langner, Ron Pflum, Marti Couch, Colleen Rose, Greg Ewen, Nadine Glaub

Absent: Nick Merritt, Gail Shearer

January Minutes approved as written, motion made by Kevan Langner, second Ron Pflum

Treasurer: \$12,597.19 Checking 5320.79 Savings 7276.40

Colleen moved \$50.00 to avoid a penalty with the savings account. Greg made a motion to accept treasurer's report, second by Kevan Langner

Show report- New sweeps judge is Jodi Martin. Jon Federle will help with obedience if Kurt is unable to attend, Dan will assist with WC. Nadine will pick up judges and take to show site on Friday. Some one will be needed to pickup Allison Rogers and take to airport Sat. am. Gas cards will be purchased for non club member stewards. Chris will check with Gail about starting breakfast on Sat.

Fun Day - A date will be picked at the meeting. Fun day will be at Colleen's house/lake.

Old Business - It was discussed at earlier meetings to donate a portion of the club funds for health research. The club needs to decide what we will be funding and what percent of our overall monies. Ideas are EIC, Tricuspid, epilepsy. It was mentioned that \$1000.00 be donated in the first year.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nadine Glaub, second by Kevan Langner.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25

Submitted,  
Chris Carroll, secretary

**April 2012 general meeting**

Motion to accept March minutes was made by John Federle, second by Marilyn Coffee

Motion to accept treasurer's report was made by Marti Couch, second by Marilyn Coffee

Membership -No new forms

Programs -Terry Allen will speak at the Nov meeting ( search and rescue)

Kevan will contact Indian Ripple Vet clinic for possible program.

Refreshments for May are Marti Couch and the Ewens.

Meeting date in May is first Monday in May

2012 specialty - Chris will call camp regarding grass. We need someone to drive Allison to airport Sat. am. Marshall and Deb will set up breakfast on Saturday. Marilyn will help with judges' hospitality. WC- birds are ordered, judge will get a gas card that Kurt will get.

Funday - will be June 9th starting at 10:00. Place is Colleen Rose's house/lake.

Old business - Book sales are slow for Advanced Labrador Breeding. Gail took some tickets to Potomac. There will be a separate money pouch for this raffle.

New business - Marti will send codes for website and pay pal to Treasurer and Secretary. Pay Pal account could be used for entries but would cost us.

Brags: Sizzle, owned by Nadine and Kurt, took 4th place in jumpers, their Cavalier, Cagney, got his novice jumpers title.

Kathy and Ron Pflum's Casey had seven pups, 3 males and 4 females.

John Federle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Greg Ewen seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:30

Submitted by Chris Carroll, secretary

### **MVLRC May minutes 2012**

Meeting called to order at 7:40 by vice president, Nadine Glaub

Motion to accept April minutes was made by Anne Thornbury, second by Kevan Langner, motion passed.

Treasurer - \$19,461.30 in checking, \$7,276.4 in savings, Total: \$26,737.70

Membership - No new applicants

Program - Indian Ripple vet clinic will be getting back with Kevan concerning a program

Refreshments, Greg will send out notice for September

Picnic, Colleen will buy meat, please let her know if you are coming.

2012 show, Everything is ready.

Discussion was held about the tracking collar. It was decided to do as a separate raffle on facebook.

Cutoff would be June 15th.

2013 show, no news

Old business - The topic of donating money from the club to lab research was brought up. Members suggested it be used for tricuspid research or a vest for a police dog. It would be nice to keep some of the money local.

New Business - Anne Thornbury shared the Pet Tracker, a tracking device for her dogs.

Brags - Dodger, owned and bred by Chris Carroll, just completed his 50 therapy dog visit.

Catherine Berberich bragged on Penny who qualified on her excellent standard run with a 2nd place.

Eric qualified on his excellent leg in jumpers with a 3rd place.

Greg Ewen bragged on his bred by, Rebel, who was Reserve Winners Dog in Eaton.

Buddy got his Rally Novice title at the Potomac with a first and second place. Toby took a 3rd and 4th at the puppy match at Potomac. Toby won the 12-18 class in Columbus. Both dogs are owed by Anne Thornbury.

Sizzle, owned by Kurt and Nadine Glaub, got an excellent jumpers leg.

Pat Doty bragged on her cavalier, Cagney, who won the AOH class at the National Specialty.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15, motion made by Chris Carroll, 2nd by Pat Doty.

Show results Saturday - [http://www.mvlrc.org/2012\\_Friday\\_placements.pdf](http://www.mvlrc.org/2012_Friday_placements.pdf)

Sunday - [http://www.mvlrc.org/2012\\_Saturday\\_placements.pdf](http://www.mvlrc.org/2012_Saturday_placements.pdf)

### **MVLRC Board minutes July 2, 2012**

Meeting was called to order at 7:49.

Members present: Kevan Langner, Colleen Rose, Nick Merritt, Marti Couch, Greg Ewen, Nadine Glaub

Absent: Gail Shearer, Ron Pflum

Treasurer's report: \$12,089.56/ \$7,277.48

Show reports

**2012**

Discussion was held to alternate rally with the WC. Next year will be rally. Trophies expense will increase since old Louisville stoneware has been used up. There was a discussion about aggression at a show. Any aggression should be reported to the show committee during the show. An incident of dog on dog aggression was reported at the board meeting.

There will be a need for a new caterer next year. We cannot guarantee numbers but have had about 100 lunches sold on Saturday.

**2013**

Obedience judge is under contract. Three conformation judges are under contract. Camp needs to be called. Question of a sponsor was discussed. We will continue with using Louisville stoneware for big items, and will use glassware for one show. The next day class trophies will need to be decided. Marti will be the 2013 assistant show chair. We will drop AOH class.

**2014**

Ideas for judges are needed.

Rescue: We are currently funding it marginally. They need manpower, transports and fosters.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kevan Langner at 9:30, second by Greg Ewen.

Meeting adjourn

Submitted by Chris Carroll, secretary

**September 2012 – general meeting**

Meeting was called to order by vice president Nadine Glaub.

Minutes from May were read. A motion to approve was made by Marilyn Coffee, second by Marti Couch. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report -\$11,767.75 in checking and \$7255.86 in savings for a total of \$19,045.21

Programs- Refreshments: October: Marti and Nadine November: Pat and Gail

Christmas party will be held at Chris Carroll's. Date to be decided at October meeting.

Rescue: There are three dogs at Carol McMahon's and one dog at Nadine and Kurt Glaub's.

**Specialty 2012**

Colleen shared the show income and expenses. We made more money on the raffle this year.

Louisville stoneware trophies were bought in 2011 so there was question as to whether this expense was recorded for 2012.

**Specialty 2013**

The new show site will be at Warren County Fairgrounds. It was discussed about having a wine and cheese party on Friday night. Raffle will be drawn during best of breed on Saturday. A motion was made by Marti Couch to buy two years of trophies for Saturday 2013/2014. Chris seconded, motion passed. Some ideas were mugs, tumblers, or pewatrax with our logo. Would need 22 trophies for Friday, approx. 36 for Saturday. We would like to keep it under \$10.00 an item. Modifications to be made this year include new ring standards and free standing uprights for rings. The flowers would need to be changed and the question of mats was discussed.

Old business - Marti made a motion to donate the profit from the book raffle to rescue (\$375.00).

Anne seconded, motion passed.

(Sept. cont)

New business - Issues of aggression at dog shows was brought up by Marti Couch. AKC has instructions on what to do with aggression that results in an injury. If you witness an attack, you are obligated to report it to the show committee.

Marti shared an email bulletin she receives from AKC on event committee information.

Nadine shared a document from Queen City about hosting an agility trial. There was enough interest from club members, so we will go ahead with plans for a match. Catherine Berberich will coordinate with Queen City. Our club would receive \$1000.00. Marti made a motion to hold a sanctioned match at Queen City DTC with Catherine Berberich as coordinator, Anne seconded, motion passed.

Nominating committee was chosen. Gail Shearer is chair with Anne Thornbury and Marilyn Coffee also on the committee.

Braggs -

Toby, owner by Anne Thornbury, was Winners Dog and BOB at Clermont on Saturday & reserve Sunday.

Hoops, a springer owned and bred by Chris Carroll, was Best in Show at UKC show in August.

Windy, owned by Gail and Tom Shearer and Liz Martin, received her JH.

A motion to adjourn was made by Greg Ewen, seconded by Colleen Rose, meeting adjourned.

This is a link to the AKC Event Committee Bulletin I was mentioning at the meeting. The past issues are available and you can subscribe to them online. If anyone's interested - but I recommend it for anyone who is a board member or a committee chairman at the show. Those are the people who make up the "event committee".

[http://classic.akc.org/events/event\\_committee\\_bulletin.cfm](http://classic.akc.org/events/event_committee_bulletin.cfm)

Marti Couch



## **NEW FROM AKC**

Woof! Woof! Website!

Welcome to the New AKC.ORG <http://www.akc.org/>

New York, NY – The American Kennel Club just launched its newly redesigned website with intuitive navigation to find information that matters most to you on puppies, responsible dog ownership and AKC dog sports. New socially interactive features let you instantly share what you discover with your network of dog-loving friends.

“Whether you are looking to find a puppy, get helpful tips from experts on training or want to get started in fun activities with your dog like agility, akc.org can take you there,” said AKC Spokesperson Lisa Peterson. “Our goal is to provide you with all the information and inspiration you need to share in our passion for dogs. We’ve also made it easy to access AKC’s social channels right from akc.org to instantly connect with more dog lovers just like you.”

Get Social on AKC.ORG

- Share Tips with Friends on Facebook – A Facebook share function now lives on every web page so you can share information with a simple click. Share tips on everything from housebreaking your puppy to stress-free travel tips. [http://www.akc.org/public\\_education/travel\\_tips.cfm](http://www.akc.org/public_education/travel_tips.cfm)
- Play Tweet the Breeds on Twitter – Follow us @akcdoglovers with the live Twitter feed on every web page you visit. Read the clues and guess the breeds in our Tweet the Breeds game in anticipation of the AKC Meet the Breeds® <http://twitter.com/i/#!/search?q=%23akcmtb&src=hash> event at the Javits Center in New York City this October.
- Handy Social Icons - Along the bottom of each page you can quickly access the AKC's Pick of the Litter podcast featuring canine pop culture, interviews, and news you can use. Or visit AKC's YouTube Agility Playlist to catch the AKC/USA <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wT4z2yVSfqY&feature=BFa&list=PLB2C1E2B778A95E7A> World Agility Team's version of Call Me Maybe. Calling All Newshounds
- For those with a nose for news you can sniff out stories, content and photos in the update Press Center: [http://www.akc.org/press\\_center/index.cfm](http://www.akc.org/press_center/index.cfm)
  - Find the latest AKC news, facts & stats, photo gallery, Top 10 Breeds in America, and more.
  - Editors everywhere can use free canine content from the AKC Syndicate.
  - Members of the media can access press passes for AKC Meet the Breeds® and the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

Learn more at Welcome to the new akc.org

[http://www.akc.org/pdfs/news/Welcome\\_to\\_the\\_New\\_AKC\\_website.pdf](http://www.akc.org/pdfs/news/Welcome_to_the_New_AKC_website.pdf)

Join Us on Facebook and Twitter.



There has been much talk among breeders lately about the growing number of people who are producing Labradors in dilute colors. These colors are Silver, Charcoal and Champagne. Perhaps they have come up with some other concoction but these are the 3 seen with Silver being the most popular. It is likely that there is a silver breeder within a 50 mile radius of where you live. They are even advertising on the AKC litter pages. I just saw one today in Florida advertising silvers and charcoals.

LRC has posted a page on its web page taking a stand on these dogs.

## **Another "designer" dog**

By LRC Directors - Tuesday July 17, 2012.

# BUYER BEWARE!

TRUE LABRADOR RETRIEVERS ARE BLACK, YELLOW, AND CHOCOLATE ONLY!

The Issue of the Silver Labrador

**Frances O Smith, DVM, PhD Chair, Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. Genetics Committee**

It is the opinion of the Labrador Retriever Club, Inc., the AKC parent club for the breed, that a *silver* Labrador is not a purebred Labrador retriever. The pet owning public is being duped into believing that animals with this dilute coat color are desirable, purebred and rare and, therefore, warrant special notoriety or a premium purchase price.

Over the past few years a limited number of breeders have advertised and sold dogs they represent to be purebred Labrador Retrievers with a dilute or gray coat color—hence the term “silver labs.” The AKC has accepted some of these “silver labs” for registration. Apparently, the rationale for this decision is that the silver coat color is a shade of chocolate. Interestingly, the original breeders of “silver” Labradors were also involved in the Weimaraner breed.

Although we cannot conclusively prove that the silver Labrador is a product of crossbreeding the Weimaraner to a Labrador, there is good evidence in scientific literature indicating that the Labrador has never been identified as carrying the dilute gene dd. The Weimaraner is the only known breed in which the universality of dd is a characteristic.

From the website for **Vetgen**:

The D locus is the primary locus associated with diluted pigment, which results in coats that would otherwise be black or brown instead showing up as gray or blue, in the case of black, and pale brown in the case of brown. The melanophilin gene has recently been shown to be responsible, but not all of the dilute causing mutations have been identified yet.

Recognized coat colors for purebred Labradors are black, yellow and chocolate. No shadings of coat color are recognized for black or chocolate Labradors in either the Labrador Standard or the current research into genetic coat colors. The shadings recognized in yellow Labrador Retrievers do not depend on the presence of the dilute gene dd, but are modifiers acting on the ee gene. The **identified coat color genes** in the Labrador include:

A	B	C	D	E	g	in	s	i
a	b	c		e		t		

The omission of “d,” and thus the impossibility of a dd dilute gene resulting from a pure Labrador breeding, is certainly persuasive evidence that the *silver* Labrador is not a purebred.

It's a bit of a problem when it comes to breeding because recessive traits, such as [recessives] and dilution, can remain hidden in lines for many generations, then suddenly crop up when a dog carrying the trait is bred to another with it (if the gene is very rare in the breed then it can be a long time until this happens, if it ever does). This is why breedings sometimes throw complete surprises, like silver (blue) Labrador puppies in a breed, which, to all intents and purposes, contains no *silver* at all. That one lone recessive *silver* gene (**d**, on the D locus) has been passed down from generation to generation, completely unknown to the breeders, until finally it's met another one. It might have come from a cross-breeding with another breed many years ago, which doesn't show up on the pedigrees and no longer has any effect on the look of the dog (so all the dogs in the line look exactly like normal Labradors, not a crossbred), but they still carry one gene left over from the cross-breeding). Such rare recessive traits can be impossible to eradicate from a breed, simply because you can't tell which dogs carry them. However, in recent years, genetic testing has helped to identify the carriers.

[http://www.thelabradorclub.com/subpages/show\\_detail\\_news.php?nid=3](http://www.thelabradorclub.com/subpages/show_detail_news.php?nid=3)

A great web page for info- <http://www.notosilverlabradors.com/main.html>

### Read This Before You Vaccinate For Lepto

---

Written by Dogs Naturally Magazine on October 10, 2012. Posted in Vaccine Articles and NewsNo Comments

Leptospirosis is a contagious disease that can affect both humans and animals. It is spread by infection with *Leptospira*, bacterial pathogens that can cause liver and kidney disease in dogs. Many dogs have been routinely vaccinated for Lepto in the last 30 years and there has been controversy surrounding the the vaccine. Below is a brief summary of what you need to know about the Lepto vaccine.

- **You must vaccinate for Lepto every year or less.** Unlike viral vaccines which likely last for the life of the animal, bacterial vaccines, such as Lepto and Bordetella, only last for a year at most. This means if you want to protect your dog from Lepto, the trade off is a dozen or more vaccines in his lifetime, all of which are filled with aluminum and dangerous toxins that have the potential to create autoimmune disease including allergies, cancer, arthritis, digestive issues and more. Every vaccine creates more cumulative damage in your dog and be the one that causes devastating and permanent damage.
- **Most Lepto infections in dogs are subclinical.** Moreover, of those dogs diagnosed with obvious symptoms, fatalities don't exceed 10%. Perhaps the fatality rate would be lower if routine vaccination didn't already stress the liver and kidneys and predispose dogs to becoming symptomatic when exposed to Lepto.
- **Lepto vaccines for dogs are now available in two forms.** The original vaccines contained only the *L. canicola* and *L. icterohaemorrhagiae* serovars; however newer vaccines now contain *L. grippityphosa* and *L. pomona*. This is because there is a resurgence in Lepto and the latter two strains are now much more common. While some scientists are questioning whether the two new strains of Lepto are due to increased migration of wildlife, others speculate that it is caused by the vaccine itself. Vaccines have the ability to cause mutations in viruses and this changes their form and forces us in turn to change our vaccines. As an example, there are five strains of Parvovirus. Interestingly the first strain, CPV-1 that wreaked havoc with dogs in the 1980's no longer infects dogs. They have become immune to this strain through naturally acquired or herd immunity. This strain is still in the environment and there is no vaccine for it – Parvo vaccines cover the more recent CPV-2 strains only. Where did the CPV-2 strains come from? Mutation, likely from parvo vaccination. While scientists were busy creating Parvo vaccines, dogs acquired herd immunity to the original dangerous strain all on their own. Now dogs are only susceptible to the strain of Parvo for which we have a vaccine – is this coincidence? The same may be happening now with Lepto: as we vaccinate for it, the vaccines cause a shift or mutation in the pathogen and, as it adapts, and a new strain develops. Which leads to the last point.
- **Vaccinated dogs persistently shed Lepto in their urine and serve as a source of infection for other dogs, wildlife and even humans.** The same applies to vaccinated livestock. What this means is that routine Lepto vaccination actually increases the threat of Lepto on the whole. The greater the number of vaccinated animals, the greater the spread of Lepto.
- **There is a safe and effective nosode for Lepto.** The Cuban government has successfully used homeopathic nosodes to prevent Lepto in its citizens for years. Not only is the Lepto nosode much less expensive than the vaccine, it is also completely safe and doesn't cause shedding like vaccines do. Since moving from vaccination to nosodes, the Cuban government has seen a decline in the cases of Lepto.

Perhaps it's short sighted to use vaccination to protect our dogs against Lepto. Whether or not the vaccine protects the individual dog and whether the risks of the Lepto vaccine outweigh the benefits may not be the main points to look at. As scientists start to turn their attention away from sterile labs and toward how vaccines interact in the environment, they are finding that mutations and retroviruses are a very real and dangerous result from vaccination. When you are making vaccine decisions for your dog, please consider the impact on the planet and the other animals that could be affected by

your decision. In light of this, it would be nice if dog owners stopped blaming our unvaccinated dogs for the spread of disease. Clearly, they need to reexamine how their vaccinated dog is making the world a more dangerous place.

Ford, RB and Schultz, RD. Vaccines and Vaccinations: Issues for the 21st Century. In: JD Bonagura, ed., Kirk's Current Veterinary Therapy XIII, W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1999. pp. 250-253.

Rentko, VT and Ross, LA. Canine Leptospirosis. In: JD Bonagura, ed., Kirk's Current Veterinary Therapy XI, W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1992. pp. 260-263.

Ribotta MJ, et al. Development of an indirect enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for the detection of leptospiral antibodies in dogs. Can J Vet Res. 2000 Jan;64(1):32-7.

Mitchell MA, et al. Serologic survey for selected infectious disease agents in raccoons from Illinois. J Wildl Dis. 1999 Apr;35(2):347-55.

Carmichael LE. Canine viral vaccines at a turning point—a personal perspective. Adv Vet Med. 1999;41:289-307.

Gese EM, et al. Serological survey for diseases in free-ranging coyotes (*Canis latrans*) in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. J Wildl Dis. 1997 Jan;33(1):47-56.

Harkin KR, et al. Canine leptospirosis in New Jersey and Michigan: 17 cases (1990-1995). J Am Anim Hosp Assoc. 1996 Nov-Dec;32(6):495-501.

Rentko VT, et al. Canine leptospirosis. A retrospective study of 17 cases. J Vet Intern Med. 1992 Jul-Aug;6(4):235-44.



## Leptospirosis

---

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Leptospirosis** (also known as **Weil's syndrome**, **canicola fever**, **canefield fever**, **nanukayami fever**, **7-day fever**, **Rat Catcher's Yellows**, **Fort Bragg fever**, **black jaundice**, and **Pretibial fever**<sup>[1]:290</sup>) is caused by infection with bacteria of the genus *Leptospira* and affects humans as well as other animals.

Leptospirosis is among the world's most common diseases transmitted to people from animals. The infection is commonly transmitted to humans by allowing water that has been contaminated by animal urine to come in contact with unhealed breaks in the skin, the eyes, or with the mucous membranes. Outside of tropical areas, leptospirosis cases have a relatively distinct seasonality with most cases occurring in spring and autumn.

Leptospirosis is transmitted by the urine of an infected animal and is contagious as long as it is still moist. Although rats, mice, and moles are important primary hosts, a wide range of other mammals including dogs, deer, rabbits, hedgehogs, cows, sheep, raccoons, opossums, skunks, and certain marine mammals are able to carry and transmit the disease as secondary hosts. Dogs may lick the urine of an infected animal off the grass or soil or drink from an infected puddle.

There have been reports of "house dogs" contracting leptospirosis apparently from licking the urine of infected mice that entered the house. The type of habitats most likely to carry infective bacteria are muddy riverbanks, ditches, gullies, and muddy livestock rearing areas where there is regular passage of either wild or farm mammals. There is a direct correlation between the amount of rainfall and the incidence of leptospirosis, making it seasonal in temperate climates and year-round in tropical climates.

Leptospirosis is also transmitted by the semen of infected animals.

Humans become infected through contact with water, food, or soil containing urine from these infected animals. This may happen by swallowing contaminated food or water or through skin contact. The disease is not known to be spread from person to person and cases of bacterial dissemination in convalescence are extremely rare in humans. Leptospirosis is common among water-sport enthusiasts in specific areas as prolonged immersion in water is known to promote the entry of the bacteria. Surfers and whitewater paddlers are at especially high risk in areas that have been shown to contain the bacteria, and can contract the disease by swallowing contaminated water, splashing contaminated water into their eyes or nose, or exposing open wounds to infected water.

- For the rest of this article go to - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leptospirosis>