

Report from the Kennel Club/
British Small Animal Veterinary Association
Scientific Committee

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for Estrela Mountain Dogs

Warning: The results of this survey and particularly the breed-specific analyses should be interpreted with caution. The overall response rate was only 24% with breed-specific response rates from 4.5% to 64.7%.

Estrela Mountain Dogs

A total of 35 forms were sent out and 14 were returned, representing 23 live dogs. This breed had a 40.0% response rate (14/35) and it represented 0.10% of all returns (14/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 3 deaths were reported and this represents 0.02% of all deaths reported in the survey (3/15,881). The median age at death for Estrela Mountain Dogs was 9 years and 9 months (min = 9 years and 9 months, max = 12 years and 10 months) and this was lower than the overall median of 11 years and 3 months (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for Estrela Mountains Dog. Age at death is presented for the most common causes of death (Figure 2).

Table 1. Causes of death by organ system/category for Estrela Mountains Dogs.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Combinations	1	33.3	Weakness or paresis and arthritis
2 Old age	1	33.3	Old age
3 Trauma	1	33.3	Road traffic accident
Total	3	100.0	

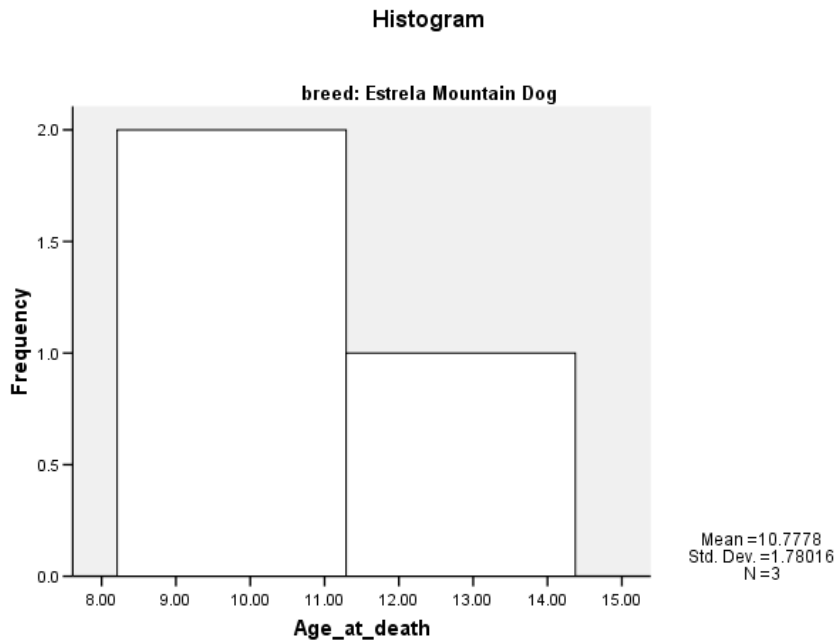


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 3 Estrela Mountain Dog deaths with age at death reported.

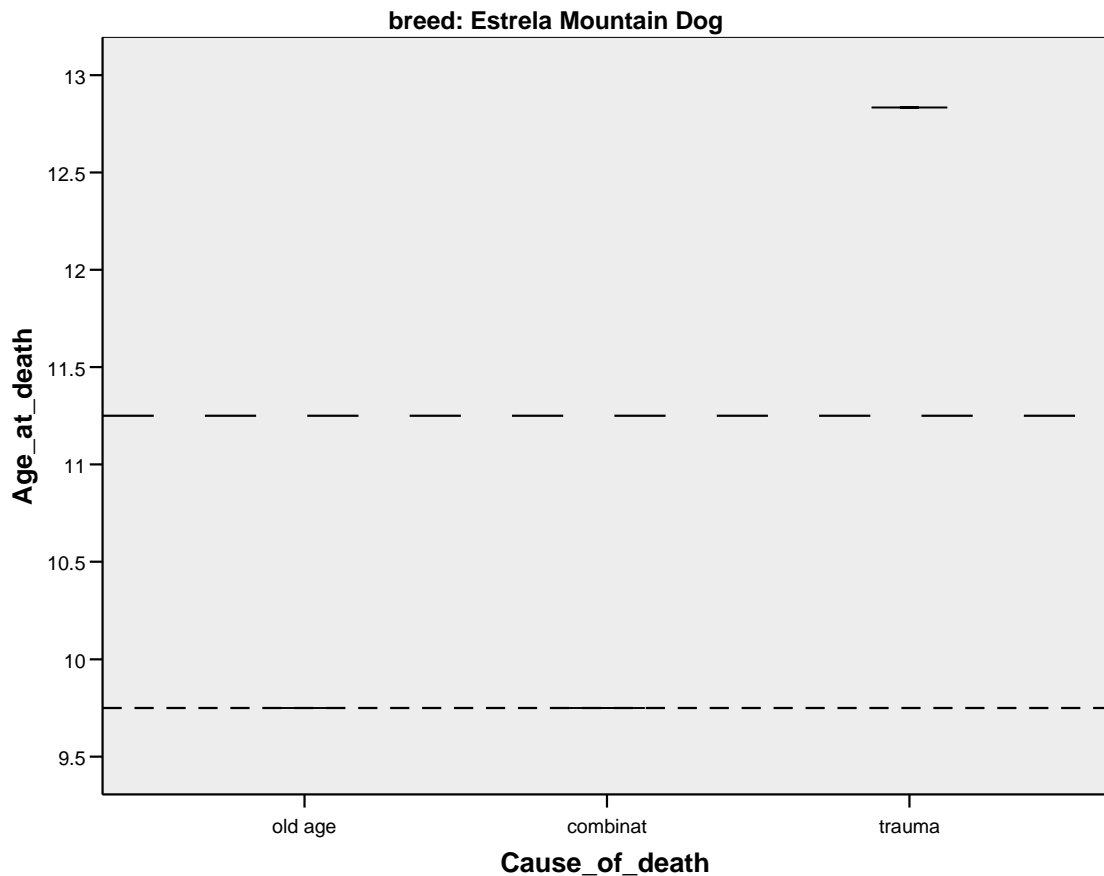


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in Estrela Mountain Dogs (N=3). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for Estrela Mountain Dogs. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 23 live dogs with a reported age was 2 years and 4 months (min=5 months, max=9 years and 3 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 23 live dogs of which 8 (35%) were healthy and 15 (65%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 31 reported conditions with a median of 2 conditions/dog (min=1, max=5).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=8) was 1 year and 12 months (min=1 year and 4 months, max=4 years and 10 months). The distribution of gender and neuter status is shown in Table 2.

The median current age of all dogs with one or more disease conditions and a reported age (N=15) was 4 years and 10 months (min=5 months, max=9 years and 3 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=31) was 1 year and 8 months (min= 2 months, max= 9 years, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for Estrela Mountain Dogs. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 23 Estrela Mountain Dogs with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	9	1	10 (43%)
Male	11	2	13 (57%)
Totals	20 (87%)	3 (13%)	23 (100%)

There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.7039).

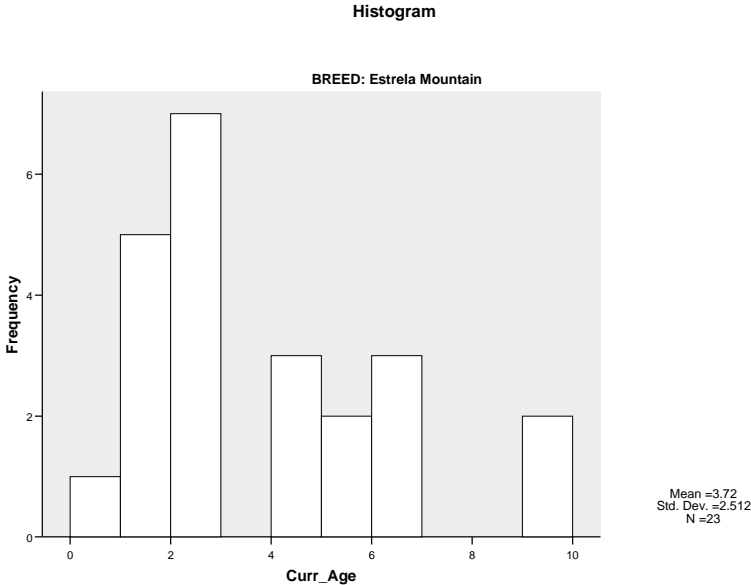


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 23 live Estrela Mountain Dogs with age reported.

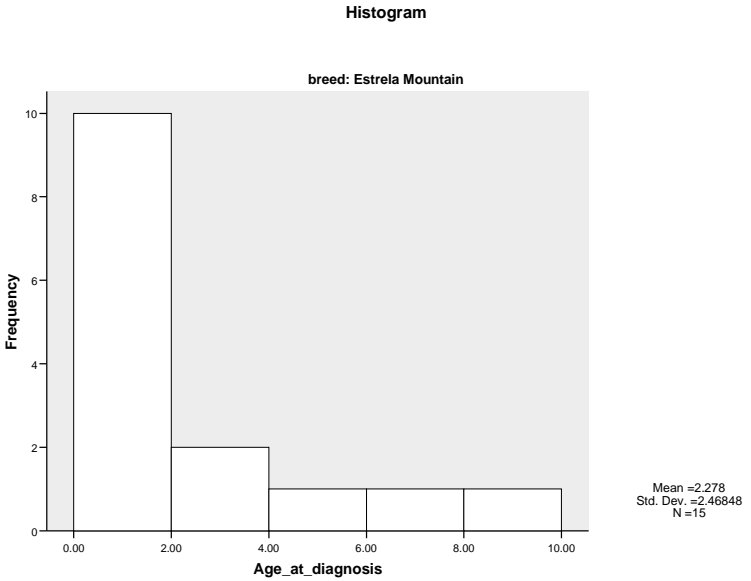


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 15 Estrela Mountain Dogs with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

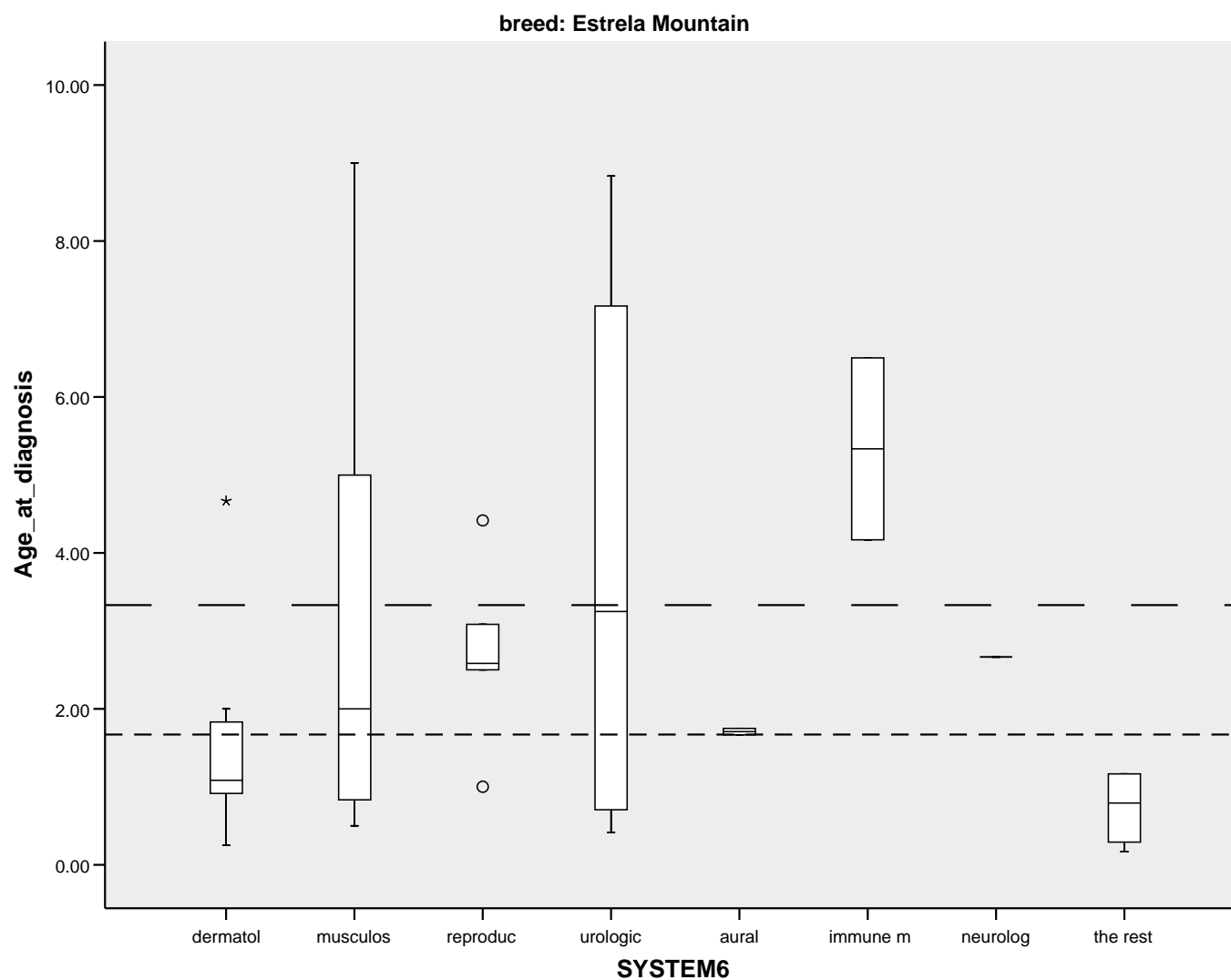


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for Estrela Mountain Dogs (N=15 dogs with 31 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for Estrela Mountain Dogs. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition.

Table 3. Disease conditions by organ system/category for Estrela Mountain Dogs.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Dermatologic	8	25.8	Pyotraumatic dermatitis; dermatitis; mites (sarcoptes); follicular dysplasia
2 Musculoskeletal	5	16.1	Arthritis; hip dysplasia (CHD); osteochondrosis dissecans (OCD) (elbow); stiff joints; prognathism
3 Reproductive	5	16.1	Dystochia (uterine inertia>physical blockage); irregular heat cycles; silent heat
4 Urologic	4	12.9	Cystitis
5 Aural	2	6.5	Otitis externa
6 Gastrointestinal	2	6.5	Diarrhoea; pancreatitis
7 Immune mediated	2	6.5	Flea allergy
8 Neurologic	1	3.2	Deafness
9 Respiratory	1	3.2	Kennel cough
10 Trauma	1	3.2	Eyelid
Total	31	100.0	