

*A reader-friendly toolbox chock full of practical genetic principles by award-winning breeder, Claudia Orlandi. The ABCs is designed to help anyone find success and joy in their quest to produce beautiful, healthy dogs for showing or performance.*

**ABCs of Dog Breeding:  
Replacing Myths with Facts - Practical Rules for All Breeders  
By Claudia Waller Orlandi, PhD**

**Order the book from the publisher Booklocker.com  
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A detailed, painterly close-up of a dog's face, likely a Yorkshire Terrier, with light brown and tan fur and dark, expressive eyes. The dog's face occupies the left half of the cover.

# New **ABCs** *of* **Dog** **Breeding**

*Replacing **Myths**  
with **Facts** -  
Practical **Rules**  
for **All Breeders!***



***A Key to Success  
Home Study Program***

**Claudia Waller Orlandi, PhD**



## Preface to the *ABCs of Dog Breeding*



### Dear Reader:

The first edition of the ***ABCs of Dog Breeding Home Study Program*** appeared in 2004 and was intended as a handout to accompany the breeding seminars I was giving at the time. Despite its original spiral bound format and unorthodox interior design, thousands of copies of this self-published work have been distributed and/or sold in the ensuing years, often in collaboration with the American Kennel Club's many breeder education programs. With today's focus on ***preservation breeding and protecting the quality of our purebred dogs, breeder education is more vital than ever*** and the time had come for an updated edition.

The current publication expands on the original 7 toolbox topics in the ***ABCs of Dog Breeding***, with the same goal of making genetics and anatomy interesting and easy-to-understand. Coefficient of inbreeding methods, health and genetic variation, popular sires, the pedigree and estimating breeding values are among the topics discussed more fully. Also addressed in greater detail are breed preservation and selection based on a breed standard. The information presented in the ***ABCs*** is based on scientific research and is used by master breeders. It can help anyone choose the best dogs for breeding, performance and showing.

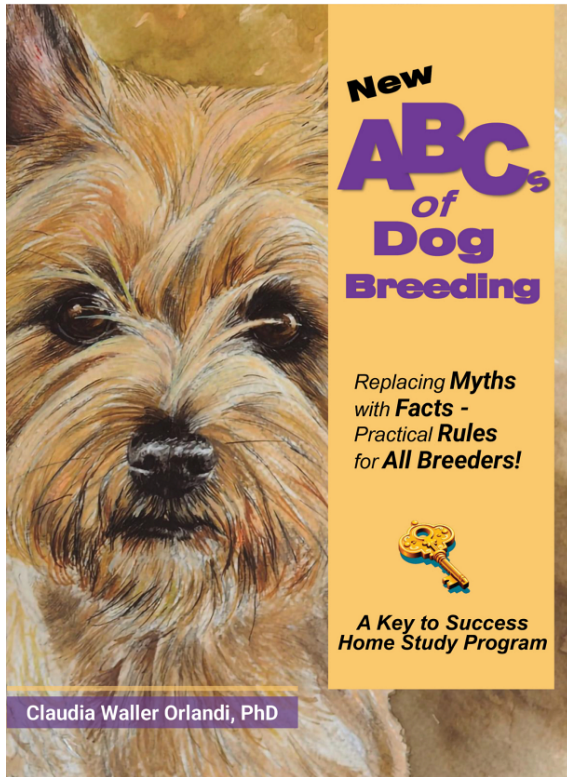
The ***ABCs of Dog Breeding Home Study Program*** owes its existence indirectly to the late **Dr Malcolm Willis**, the world-renowned English canine geneticist and author of a number of classic works on dog breeding. In the early 2000's, while serving as the Basset Hound Club of America's Breeder Education Chair, I had contacted Dr Willis hoping to purchase reprint rights to his ***Practical Genetics for Dog Breeders***. Our wish was to use this publication as a core textbook for AKC parent club breeder education. He greatly favored the idea but after various attempts to come to an agreement with his publisher, a reprint of ***Practical Genetics for Dog Breeders*** was not to be and unfortunately, neither were Malcolm's enthusiastic plans to write an updated edition. It was during this time that the ***ABCs of Dog Breeding Home Study Program*** came to fruition. I found Dr Willis to be intelligent, kind and encouraging. While a preeminent scholar of genetics, he was also a breeder of dogs and in this sense, he was one of us. Like no other writer before or since, he built a bridge between the world of genetics and the dog breeder, greatly influencing the breeding practices of dog breeders around the globe, myself included.

A goal of the ***ABCs*** is to get you hooked on genetics and anatomy by discussing these topics in layman's terms and using reader friendly page designs and graphic images. To this end, and since the first publication of the ***ABCs of Dog Breeding***, I have intentionally broken all rules relative to

style sheets in the world of publishing, from layout to font size to alternating between first and third person points of view.

***I continue to go rogue and think out of the “ivory tower” box in this latest edition!***

Claudia Orlandi  
Monkton, Vermont  
November 2024



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