

English Setter Health Survey 2022

OVERALL HEALTH SUMMARY

The top five categories of diagnosis for health conditions reported in the survey were 'ear' (50.0%), 'skin and/or coat' (32.5%), 'digestive' (27.2%), 'muscle, bone or joint' (11.8%), and 'reproductive' (8.0%).

Table 1: Top five categories of diagnosis for health conditions reported in the survey

Body system	Number affected	Total dogs	Prevalence
Ear	495	990	50.0%
Skin and/or Coat	344	1,058	32.5%
Digestive	262	964	27.2%
Muscle, Bone or Joint	111	943	11.8%
Reproductive	75	938	8.0%

The most frequently reported specific conditions were recurrent ear infections (145 cases), excessive ear wax (130 cases), otitis externa (121 cases), infrequent ear infections (116 cases), lipoma (96 cases), environmental allergies (93 cases), colitis (91 cases), dermatitis (88 cases), otitis media (79 cases), and chronic diarrhoea (78 cases).

Table 2: Top ten specific health conditions reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected
Recurrent ear infections	145
Excessive ear wax	130
Otitis externa	121
Infrequent ear infections	116
Lipoma	96
Allergies (environmental)	93
Colitis	91
Dermatitis	88
Otitis media	79
Chronic diarrhoea	78

English Setter Health Survey 2021/22

The English Setter Health Survey ran from November 2021 to April 2022. After removing all unusable responses (for example, respondents did not consent to the English Setter Health Committee and The Kennel Club using the data for research purposes) a total of 1,112 individual responses remained.

Of the 1,112 English Setters this represented, the median age was five years. Figure 1 shows a full breakdown of the dogs' ages in years.

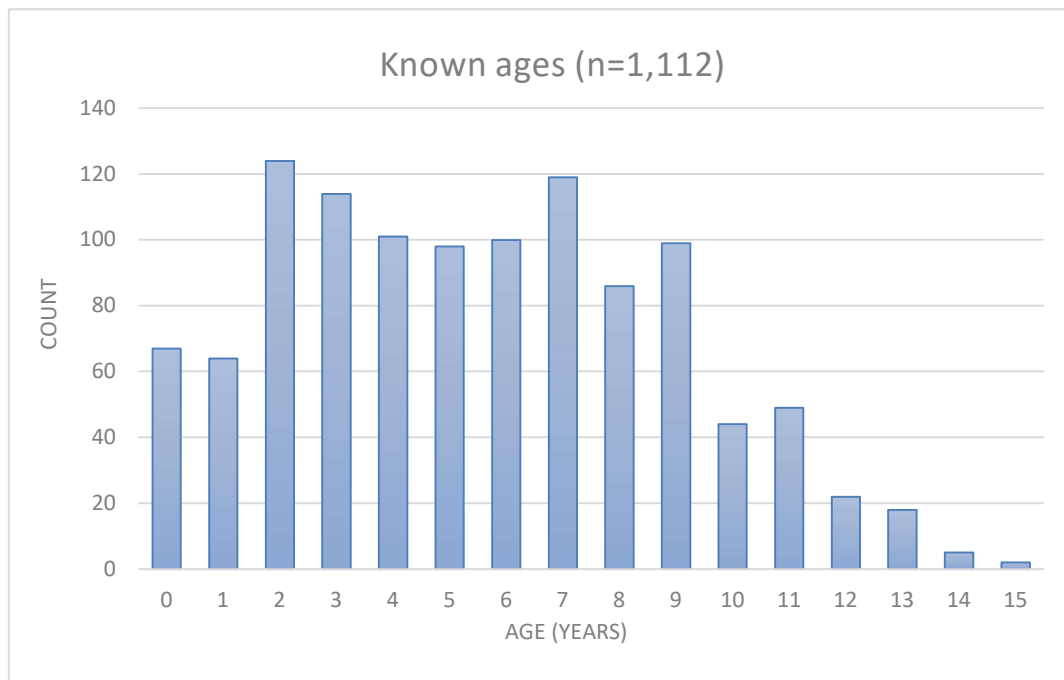


Figure 1: Age of the dogs included in the survey

When asked the sex of their dog, out of 1,112 dogs, 557 (50.1%) were male and 555 (49.9%) were female. When asked the neutered status of their dog, out of 1,112 dogs, 652 (58.6%) were entire and 458 (41.2%) were neutered. Results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Sex and neutered status of the dogs included in the survey

Sex	Neutered Status			Total
	Entire	Neutered	Not known	
Male	354 (63.6%)	201 (36.1%)	2 (0.4%)	557
Female	298 (53.7%)	257 (46.3%)	0 (0.0%)	555
Total	652	458	2	1,112

Of all the dogs included in the survey, the most common colour was orange belton (37.1%, 412 of 1,112). A full breakdown of responses by colour are shown in Figure 2.

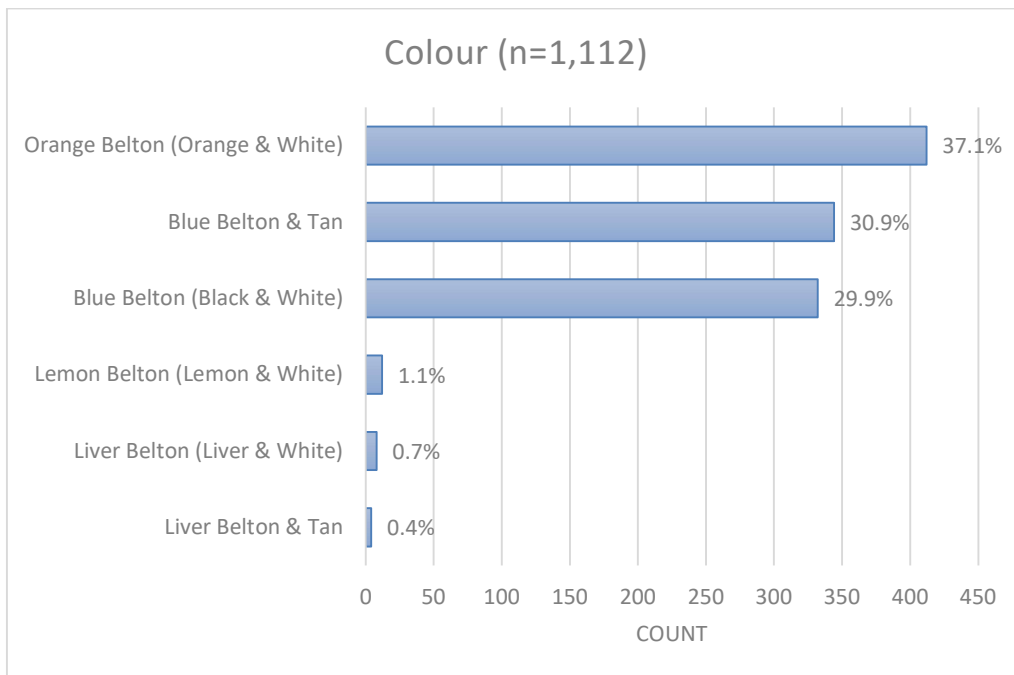


Figure 2: Colour of English Setters included in the survey, as reported by their owners

Figure 3 shows where the owners got their English Setter from, with the majority being from a breeder (77.5%, 855 of 1,103).

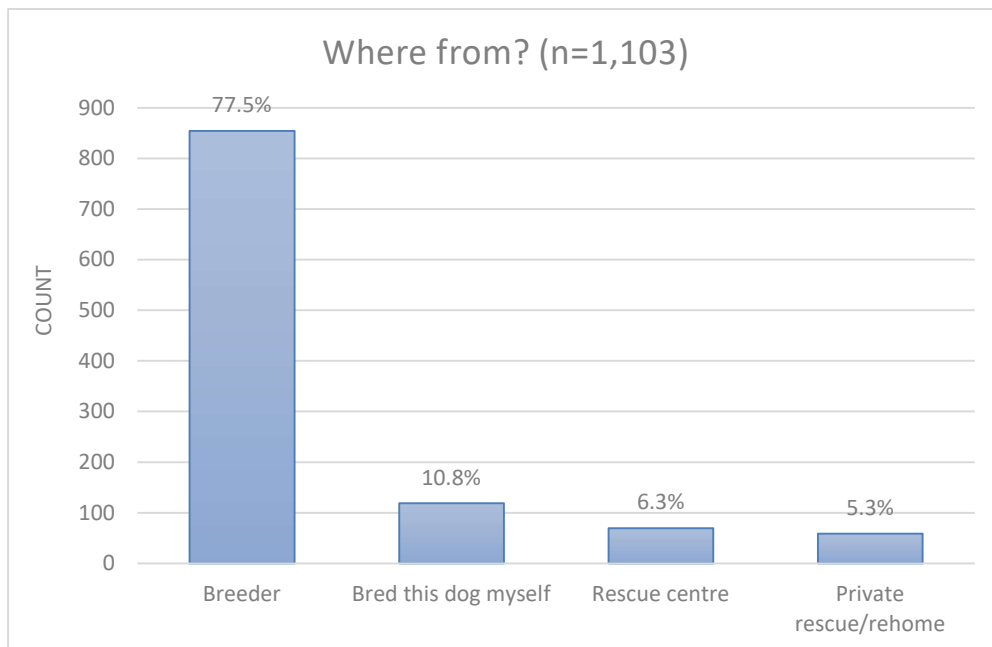


Figure 3: Where the English Setters included in the survey were from, as reported in the survey

Of 1,103 dogs, 973 (89.3%) were Kennel Club (KC) registered and 117 (10.7%) were not KC registered. Of the KC registered dogs, 949 (97.5%) were born in the UK and 24 (2.5%) were imported.

Lifestyle

Owners were asked to select the types of food that they feed their English Setter. The most frequently selected food type was grain-free kibble (22.7%, 481 of 2,115), followed by tinned meat (18.9%) and then cooked meat (14.2%). A full breakdown of the selected food types are shown in Figure 4.

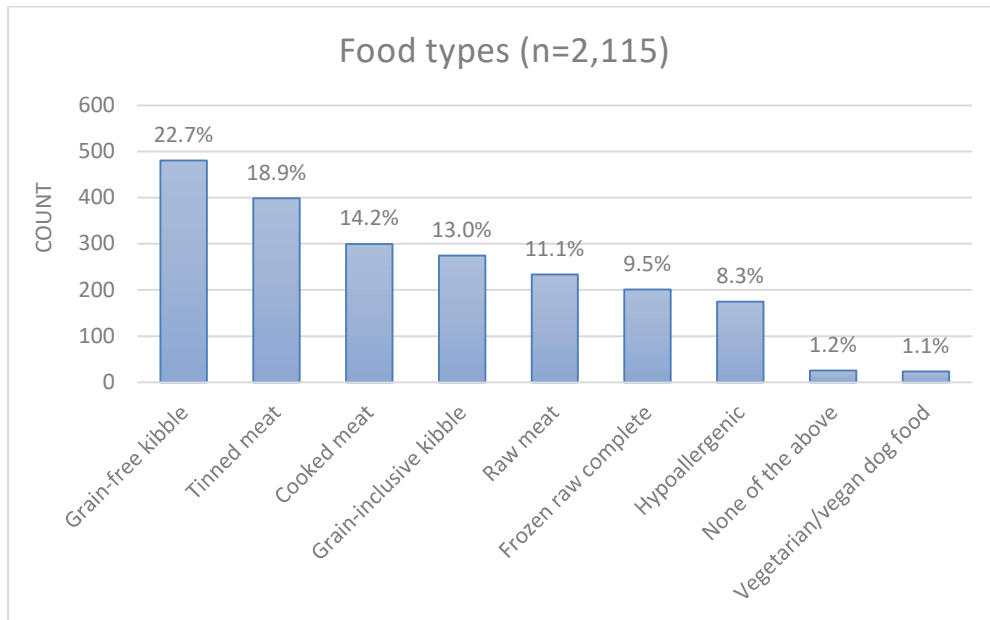


Figure 4: Types of food given to the English Setters included in the survey

Owners were asked to select the types of meat that they feed their English Setter. The most frequently selected meat was chicken (17.8%, 683 of 3,834), followed by fish (14.2%) and then beef (14.1%). A full breakdown of the selected meat types are shown in Figure 5.

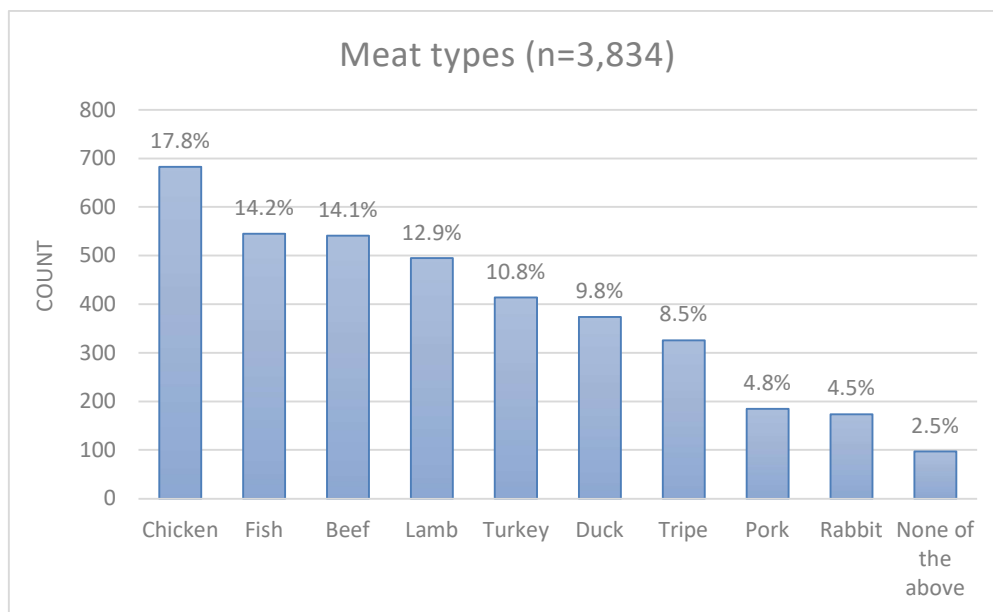


Figure 5: Types of meat given to the English Setters included in the survey

When asked if their dog had any known dietary allergies, out of 1,110 dogs, 238 (21.4%) did have known dietary allergies. Figure 6 shows the dietary allergies reported in the survey, the most frequently reported being 'chicken' (21.5%, 90 of 419), followed by 'other' (20.0%) and then 'wheat' (15.3%).

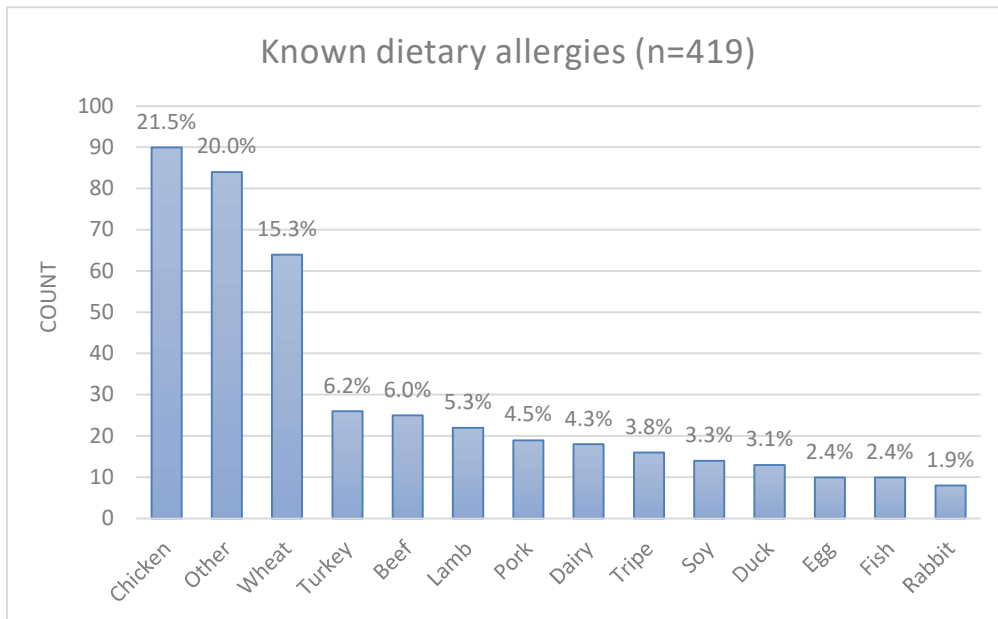


Figure 6: Known dietary allergies, as reported in the survey

The most common answers to "other" for known dietary allergies not already listed in the survey were: rice (n=12), potatoes (n=6), and possibly chicken (n=6).

Figure 7 shows where the English Setters included in the survey were housed during the day and during the night, as reported by their owners. The majority being housed indoors during both the day (54.7%, 588 of 1,075) and the night (95.5%, 1,027 of 1,075).

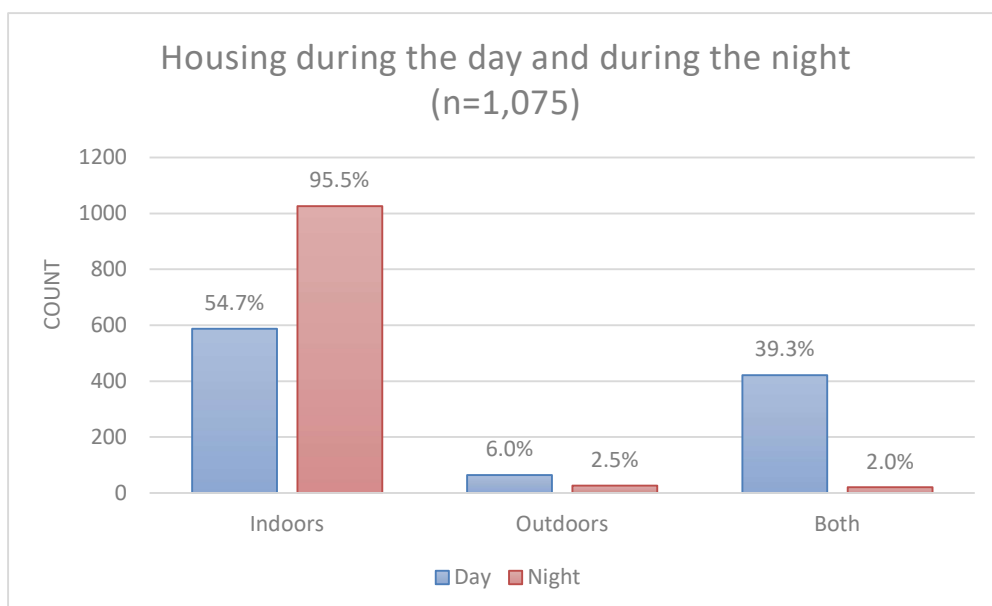


Figure 7: Housing during the day and during the night, as reported in the survey

Figure 8 shows what type of bedding material the English Setters included in the survey usually sleep on, as reported by their owners. The most frequently reported bedding material was synthetic fibre (58.2%, 762 of 1,310).

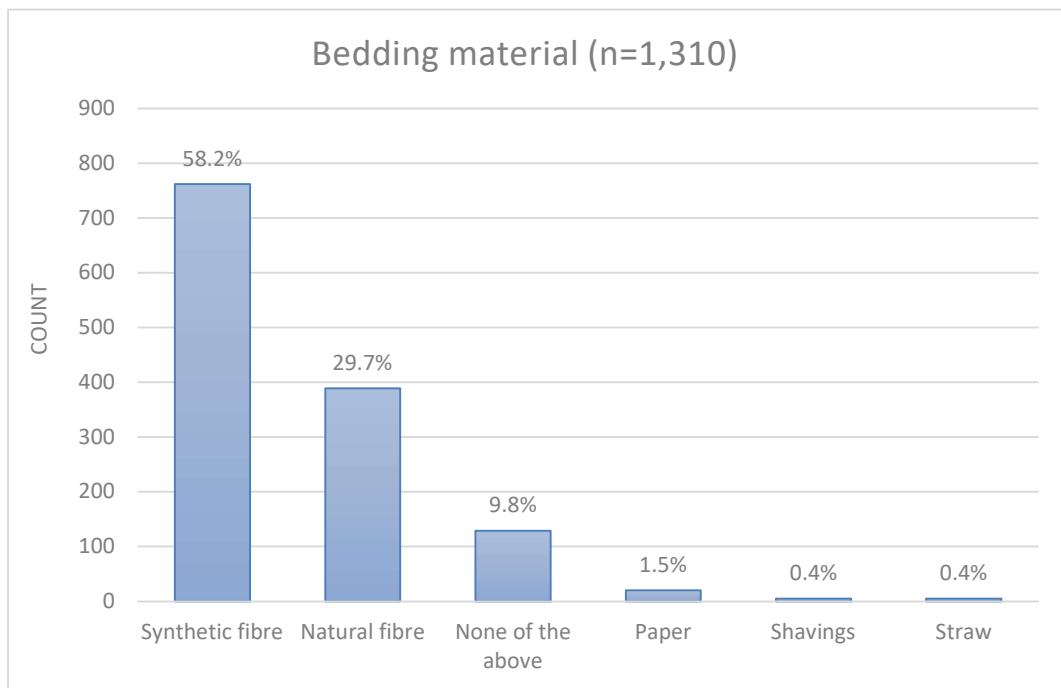


Figure 8: Usual bedding material, as reported in the survey

Figure 9 shows what cleaning materials are used to clean the areas where the English Setters spend most of their time, as reported by their owners. The most frequently reported cleaning material was a vacuum cleaner (33.3%, 876 of 2,627).

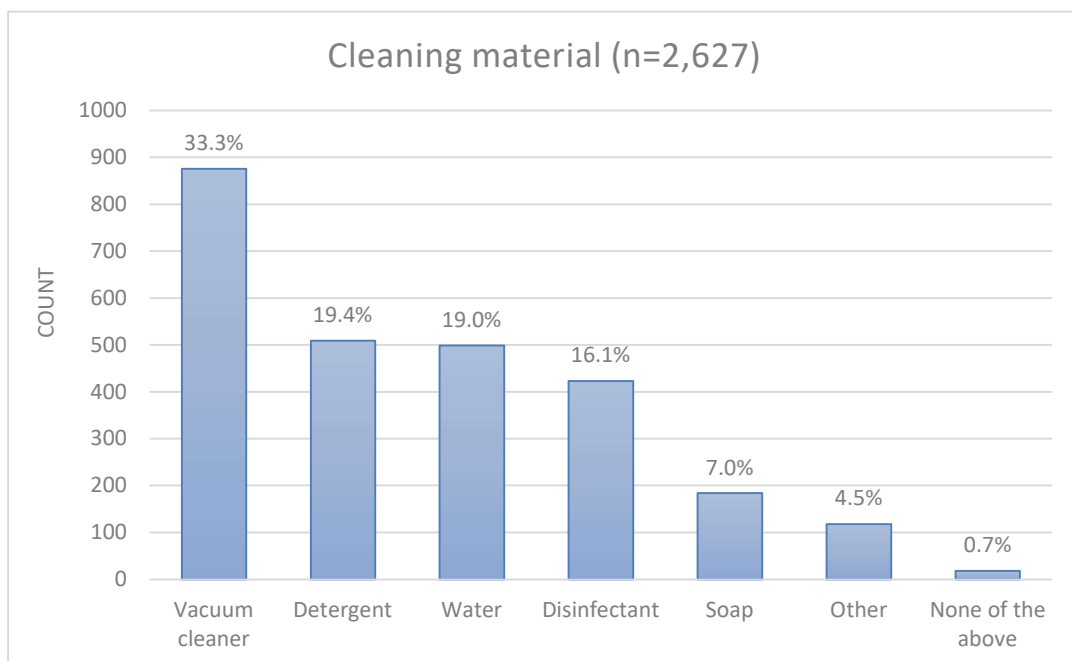


Figure 9: Usual cleaning material, as reported in the survey

When asked if their dog had any known environmental allergies, out of 1,111 dogs, 220 (19.8%) did have known environmental allergies. Figure 10 shows the environmental allergies reported in the survey, the most frequently reported being 'grass' (29.6%, 100 of 338), followed by 'other' (24.0%) and then 'pollen' (21.6%).

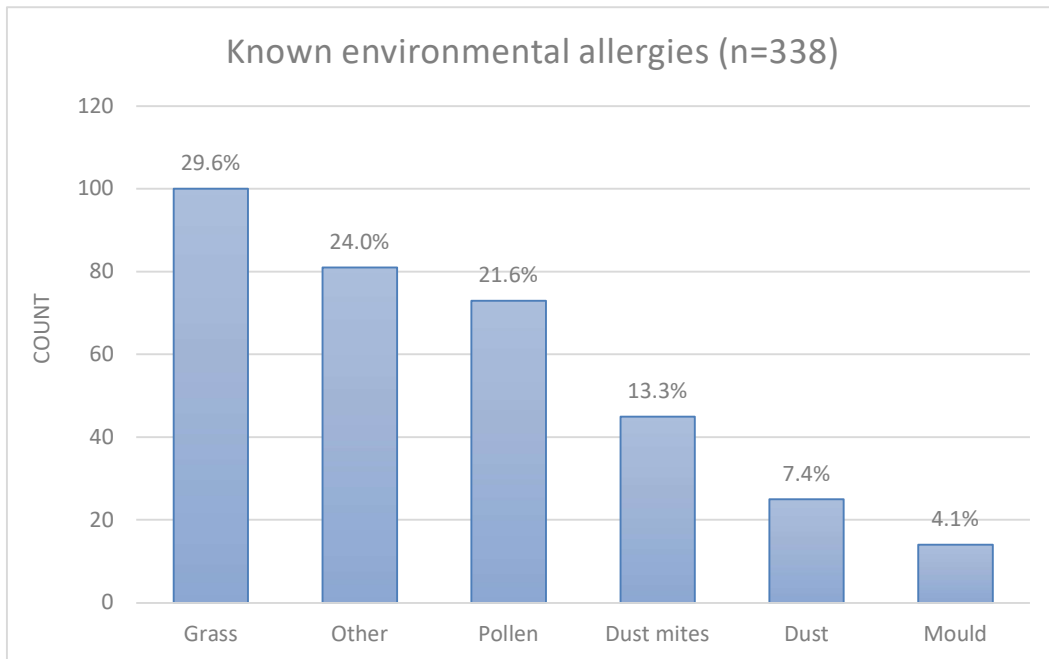


Figure 10: Known environmental allergies for the English Setters included in the survey, as reported by their owners

The most common answers to “other” for known environmental allergies not already listed in the survey were: storage mites/ house mites/ grain mites/ forage mites/ dust mites (n=12), seasonal allergies (n=6), and tree pollen (n=6).

Health

The survey investigated the number of dogs affected by specific conditions within different categories: 'Cancer', 'Digestive', 'Ear', 'Eye', 'Heart', 'Hormonal', 'Kidney and/or Bladder', 'Muscle, Bone or Joint', 'Reproductive', and 'Skin and/or Coat'. Within each of these categories, the respondents were given a choice of specific conditions, the choices of "not known" and "other" were also given.

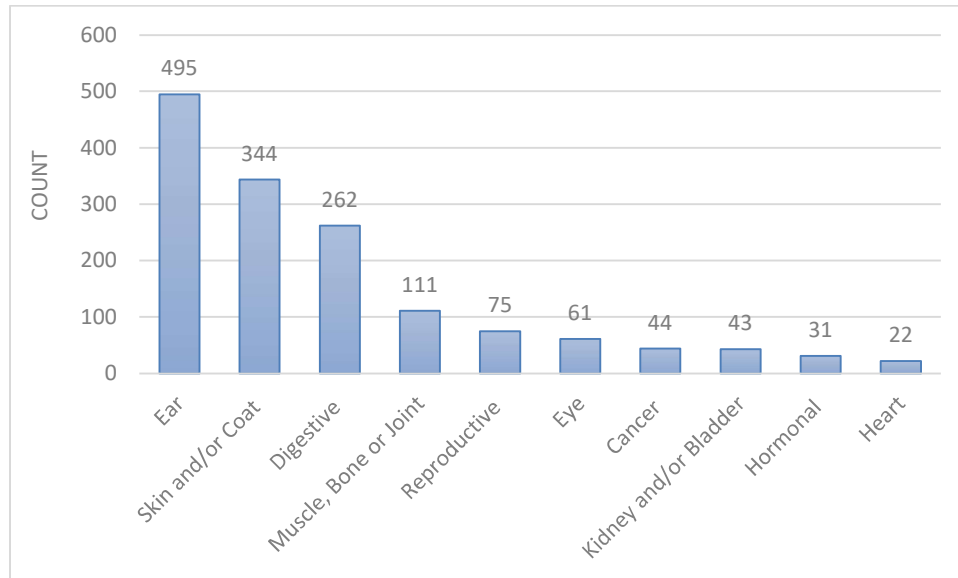


Figure 11: Overall summary of health conditions by body system/category reported in the survey

The data collected for Table 4 represents the total number of conditions selected by respondents about their dog. One dog might be affected by more than one condition (e.g., one dog may be affected by both food and environmental allergies) therefore the data often shows more conditions reported per category than number of affected dogs in that category.

The total number of specific conditions reported in this survey was 1,962. Out of the 1,962 specific conditions reported 33.3% were for 'Ear', 23.8% were for 'Skin and/or Coat', 19.8% were for 'Digestive', 6.3% were for 'Muscle, Bone and/or Joint', and 4.6% were for 'Reproductive'. The results for each category are given in Table 4.

Table 4: Overall summary of health conditions by body system/category reported in the survey

Body system	Number of dogs affected/ Total number of dogs	Prevalence	Number of specific conditions reported
Ear	495/ 990	50.0%	653
Skin and/or Coat	344/ 1,058	32.5%	467
Digestive	262/ 964	27.2%	389
Muscle, Bone or Joint	111/ 943	11.8%	123
Reproductive	75/ 938	8.0%	91
Eye	61/ 947	6.4%	67
Cancer	44/ 951	4.6%	54
Kidney and/or Bladder	43/ 944	4.6%	56
Hormonal	31/ 954	3.2%	39
Heart	22/ 944	2.3%	23

Ear Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from an ear condition(s), out of the 990 responses, 495 (50.0%) answered “Yes” and 495 (50.0%) answered “No”. In this study sample, orange belton English Setters were significantly more likely to be affected by ear conditions (OR = 1.54, 95% CI 0.21 – 11.10, $p < 0.01$), as well as neutered dogs across coat colours (OR = 1.78, 95% CI 1.38 – 2.30, $p < 0.001$). *Please also be aware that whilst statistical analyses certainly indicate increased odds in the areas analysed, it should be noted that the odds ratio values from this survey are relatively low.*

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their ear condition(s) was two years of age (min: less than one year, max: 12 years). In this study sample, older dogs (over five years old) were significantly more likely to be affected by ear conditions than younger dogs (under five years old) (OR = 1.45, 95% CI 1.12 – 1.89, $p < 0.01$).

The total number of individual ear conditions reported was 653. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was recurrent ear infections, which affected 22.2% of the study sample (145 of 653). This was followed by excessive ear wax (19.9%), otitis externa (18.5%), infrequent ear infections (17.8%), and otitis media (12.1%). Table 5 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported ear condition in descending order.

Table 5: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific ear condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Recurrent ear infections	145	22.2%
Excessive ear wax	130	19.9%
Otitis externa	121	18.5%
Infrequent ear infections	116	17.8%
Otitis media	79	12.1%
Not known	35	5.4%
Other	27	4.1%
TOTAL	653	

The most common answers to “other” for ear conditions not already listed in the survey were: deafness (n=7), ear mites (n=5), unspecified ear problems (n=4), and frequent ear cleaning required (n=2).

Skin and/or Coat Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from a skin and/or coat condition(s), out of the 1,058 responses, 344 (32.5%) answered “Yes” and 714 (67.5%) answered “No”. In this study sample, neutered dogs were significantly more likely to be affected by skin and/or coat conditions (OR = 1.60, 95% CI 1.23 – 2.08, $p < 0.001$).

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their skin and/or coat condition(s) was three years of age (min: less than one year, max: 13

years). In this study sample, older dogs (over five years old) were significantly more likely to be affected by skin and/or coat conditions than younger dogs (under five years old) (OR = 3.75, 95% CI 2.80 – 5.03, $p < 0.001$).

The total number of individual skin and/or coat conditions reported was 467. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was lipoma, which affected 20.6% of the study sample (96 of 467). This was followed by environmental allergies (19.9%), dermatitis (18.8%), dietary allergies (8.1%) and skin cysts (6.9%). Table 6 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported skin and/or coat condition in descending order.

Table 6: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific skin and/or coat condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Lipoma	96	20.6%
Allergies (environmental)	93	19.9%
Dermatitis	88	18.8%
Allergies (dietary)	38	8.1%
Skin cysts	32	6.9%
Allergies - unknown	25	5.4%
Histiocytoma	21	4.5%
Other	20	4.3%
Not known	17	3.6%
Pyotraumatic dermatitis	17	3.6%
Alopecia	14	3.0%
Pyoderma	4	0.9%
Demodectic/sarcoptic mange	2	0.4%
TOTAL	467	

The most common answers to “other” for skin and/ or coat conditions not already listed in the survey were: toe irritation/infection between toes (n=3) and unspecified growth (n=2).

Figure 12 shows the clinical signs seen in the affected dogs, as reported by their owners. The most frequently reported clinical sign was ‘itching/chewing’ (31.1%, 220 of 708), followed by ‘lumps/bumps’ (22.3%) and then ‘redness’ (18.6%).

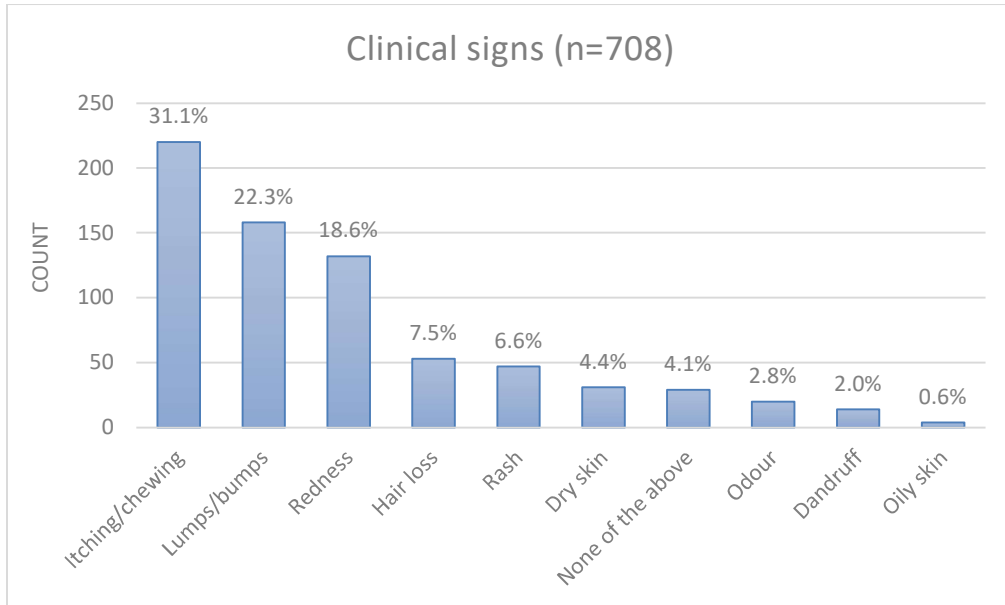


Figure 12: Clinical signs, as reported by their owners

When asked about the frequency of their dog's clinical signs, out of 457 responses, 211 (46.2%) owners answered 'continuous', 161 (35.2%) answered 'intermittent', and 85 (18.6%) answered 'one-off'.

Figure 13 shows the method of diagnosis for their dog's skin and/or coat condition(s), the most frequently reported being visual diagnosis by veterinary surgeon (45.0%, 270 of 600).

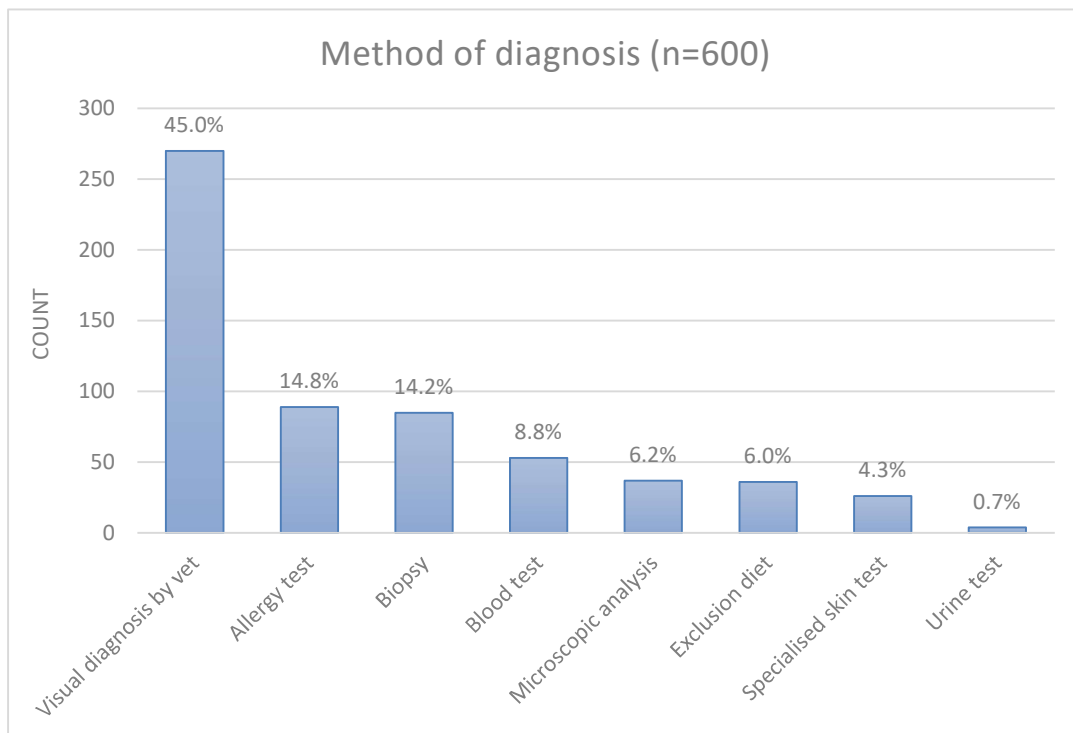


Figure 13: Method of diagnosis for skin and/or coat conditions, as reported in the survey

When asked what treatment(s) improved the severity of the condition, the most frequently reported treatment was prescriptive medication – temporary (28.9%, 114 of 394). A full breakdown of results are shown in Figure 14.

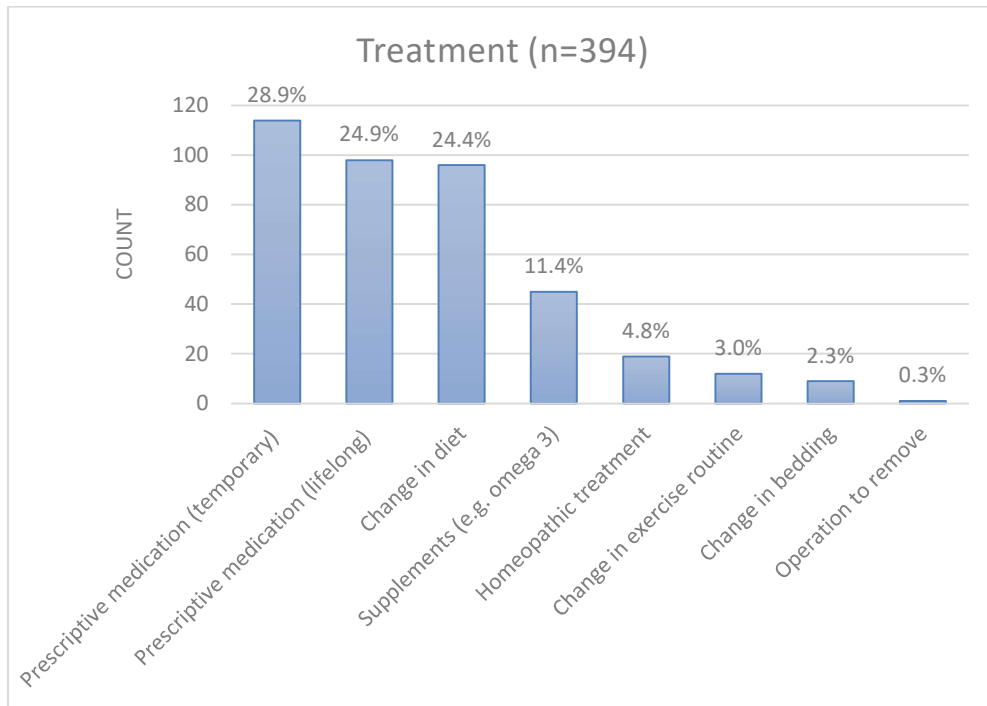


Figure 14: Treatments for skin and/or coat conditions, as reported in the survey

Digestive Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from a digestive condition(s), out of the 964 responses, 262 (27.2%) answered “Yes” and 702 (72.8%) answered “No”. In this study sample, neutered dogs were significantly more likely to be affected by digestive conditions (OR = 1.75, 95% CI 1.31 – 2.33, $p < 0.001$).

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their digestive condition(s) was two years of age (min: less than one year, max: over 15 years). In this study sample, older dogs (over five years old) were significantly more likely to be affected by digestive conditions than younger dogs (under five years old) (OR = 1.48, 95% CI 1.10 – 2.00, $p < 0.001$).

The total number of individual digestive conditions reported was 389. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was colitis, which affected 23.4% of the study sample (91 of 389). This was followed by chronic diarrhoea (20.1%), food allergies/ intolerance (12.6%), gastroenteritis (10.3%), and other (8.5%). Table 7 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported digestive condition in descending order.

Table 7: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific digestive condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Colitis	91	23.4%
Chronic diarrhoea	78	20.1%
Food allergies/intolerance	49	12.6%
Gastroenteritis	40	10.3%
Other	33	8.5%
Not known	20	5.1%
Impacted anal glands	17	4.4%
Pancreatitis - confirmed by veterinary diagnosis	17	4.4%
Flatulence	11	2.8%
Regurgitation	11	2.8%
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	10	2.6%
Chronic vomiting	6	1.5%
Pancreatitis - symptomatic test	3	0.8%
Constipation	2	0.5%
Gastric dilatation volvulus (GDV)/bloat	1	0.3%
TOTAL	389	

The most common answers to “other” for digestive conditions not already listed in the survey were: general digestive problem/ gastric discomfort (n=6), diarrhoea (n=5), loose stools (n=4), and haemorrhagic diarrhoea (n=4).

Muscle, Bone or Joint Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from a muscle, bone or joint condition(s), out of the 943 responses, 111 (11.8%) answered “Yes” and 832 (88.2%) answered “No”. In this study sample, neutered dogs were significantly more likely to be affected by muscle, bone or joint conditions (OR = 3.88, 95% CI 2.53 – 2.93, p<0.001).

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their muscle, bone or joint condition(s) was six years of age (min: less than one year, max: 13 years). In this study sample, older dogs (over five years old) were significantly more likely to be affected by muscle, bone or joint conditions than younger dogs (under five years old) (OR = 10.45, 95% CI 5.51 – 19.82, p<0.001).

The total number of individual muscle, bone or joint conditions reported was 123. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was arthritis, which affected 37.4% of the study sample (46 of 123). This was followed by other (22.0%), hip dysplasia (13.0%), fractured bone (8.1%), and not known (6.5%). Table 8 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported muscle, bone or joint condition in descending order.

Table 8: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific muscle, bone or joint condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Arthritis	46	37.4%
Other	27	22.0%
Hip dysplasia	16	13.0%
Fractured bone	10	8.1%
Not known	8	6.5%
Chronic lameness	7	5.7%
OCD of the shoulder	3	2.4%
Patellar luxation	3	2.4%
Cranial cruciate ligament rupture (CCLR)	1	0.8%
Elbow dysplasia	1	0.8%
Osteochondritis dissecans (OCD) of the elbow	1	0.8%
TOTAL	123	

The most common answers to “other” for muscle, bone or joint conditions not already listed in the survey were: muscle atrophy/ wastage (n=3), stiffness (n=3), and tendinitis/ tendon inflammation (n=3).

When asked if they were aware of a particular incident (e.g., fall or injury) that triggered their dog’s muscle, bone or joint condition(s), out of the 108 responses, 30 (27.8%) answered “Yes” and 78 (72.2%) answered “No”.

Reproductive Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from a reproductive condition(s), out of the 938 responses, 75 (8.0%) answered “Yes” and 863 (92.0%) answered “No”. Of the 75 dogs that had suffered from a reproductive condition(s), 26 (34.7%) were male and 49 (65.3%) were female.

Across sexes, the median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their reproductive condition(s) was three years of age (min: less than one year, max: 11 years).

The total number of individual reproductive conditions reported was 91. Of these, 30.8% were for male conditions (28 out of 91), and 69.2% were for female conditions (63 out of 91). Overall, the most commonly reported reproductive conditions across sexes were fertility problems, pseudopregnancy, and pyometra, which each affected 20.9% of the study sample (19 of 91). Table 9 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported reproductive condition.

Table 9: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific reproductive condition, as reported in the survey

	Specific condition	Number affected
Male conditions	Cryptorchidism	15 (53.6%)
	Fertility problems	8 (28.6%)
	Other	4 (14.3%)
	Not known	1 (3.6%)
	Total	28
Female conditions	Pseudopregnancy	19 (30.2%)
	Pyometra	19 (30.2%)
	Fertility problems	11 (17.5%)
	Irregular seasons	5 (7.9%)
	Other	5 (7.9%)
	Mastitis	3 (4.8%)
	Dystocia	1 (1.6%)
	Total	63
Total		91

The most common answers to “other” for reproductive conditions not already listed in the survey were: difficulties mating (n=4) and retained testicles (n=4).

Eye Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from an eye condition(s), out of the 947 responses, 61 (6.4%) answered “Yes” and 886 (93.6%) answered “No”.

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their eye condition(s) was three years of age (min: less than one year, max: 12 years).

The total number of individual eye conditions reported was 67. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was other, which affected 46.3% of the study sample (31 of 67). This was followed by not known (20.9%), loss of vision (9.0%), blocked tear duct (6.0%), and distichiasis (4.5%). Table 10 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported eye condition in descending order.

Table 10: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific eye condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Other	31	46.3%
Not known	14	20.9%
Loss of vision	6	9.0%
Blocked tear duct	4	6.0%
Distichiasis	3	4.5%
Cataract	2	3.0%
Corneal ulcer	2	3.0%
Keratoconjunctivitis sicca	2	3.0%
Entropion	1	1.5%
Glaucoma	1	1.5%
Prolapsed gland	1	1.5%
TOTAL	67	

The most common answers to “other” for eye conditions not already listed in the survey were: conjunctivitis/ eye infection (n=12), and allergies/ pollen allergy (n=5), eyelid mass (n=4), and blindness/ reduced vision (n=3).

Cancerous Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from cancerous condition(s), out of the 951 responses, 44 (4.6%) answered “Yes” and 907 (95.4%) answered “No”.

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their cancerous condition(s) was six years of age (min: less than one year, max: 12 years).

The total number of individual cancerous conditions reported was 54. Of these, the most commonly reported conditions were mast cell tumour and other, which each affected 18.5% of the study sample (10 of 67). This was followed by mammary tumour (14.8%), brain tumour (9.3%), and testicular tumour (9.3%). Table 11 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported cancerous condition in descending order.

Table 11: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific cancerous condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Mast cell tumour	10	18.5%
Other	10	18.5%
Mammary tumour	8	14.8%
Brain tumour	5	9.3%
Testicular tumour	5	9.3%
Lymphoma	3	5.6%
Melanoma	3	5.6%
Not known	3	5.6%
Liver tumour	2	3.7%
Splenic tumour	2	3.7%
Vascular/ blood tumour	2	3.7%
Anal sac tumour	1	1.9%
TOTAL	54	

The most common answer to “other” for cancerous conditions not already listed in the survey was: anal growth/cancer (n=2).

Kidney and/or Bladder Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from a kidney and/or bladder condition(s), out of the 944 responses, 43 (4.6%) answered “Yes” and 901 (95.4%) answered “No”.

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their kidney and/or bladder condition(s) was four years of age (min: less than one year, max: 13 years).

The total number of individual kidney and/or bladder conditions reported was 56. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was urinary tract infection, which affected 35.7% of the study sample (20 of 56). This was followed by not known (17.9%), kidney failure (14.3%), urolithiasis (10.7%), and urinary incontinence (8.9%). Table 12 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported kidney and/or bladder condition in descending order.

Table 12: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific kidney and/or bladder condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Urinary tract infection	20	35.7%
Not known	10	17.9%
Kidney failure	8	14.3%
Urolithiasis	6	10.7%
Urinary incontinence	5	8.9%
Cystinuria	3	5.4%
Hyperuricosuria	2	3.6%
Amyloidosis	1	1.8%
Other	1	1.8%
TOTAL	56	

The only answer to “other” for kidney and/or bladder conditions not already listed in the survey was: leishmaniasis (n=1).

Hormonal Conditions

Owners were initially asked if their dog has ever suffered from hypothyroidism. Out of the 954 responses, 21 (2.2%) answered “Yes” and 933 (97.8%) answered “No”.

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with hypothyroidism was six years of age (min: two years, max: 13 years). When looking at hypothyroidism specifically, older dogs (over five years old) were significantly more likely to be affected than younger dogs (under five years old) (OR = 17.83, 95% CI 2.37 – 134.17, p<0.001).

Figure 15 shows the clinical signs seen in the affected dogs, as reported by their owners. The most frequently reported clinical sign was ‘lethargy’ (26.2%, 17 of 65), followed by ‘weight gain’ (16.9%) and then ‘dull coat’ (15.4%).

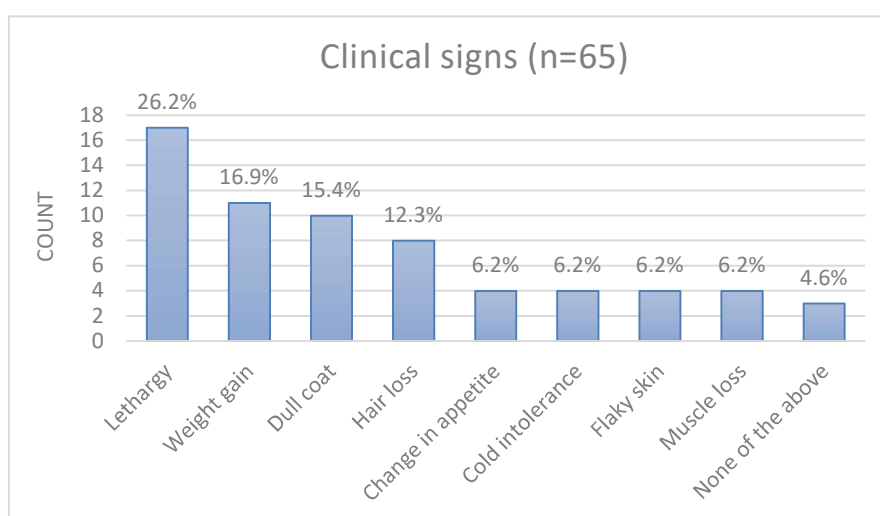


Figure 15: Clinical signs, as reported by their owners

Figure 16 shows the method of diagnosis for their dog’s hypothyroidism, the most frequently reported being blood test (66.7%, 22 of 33).

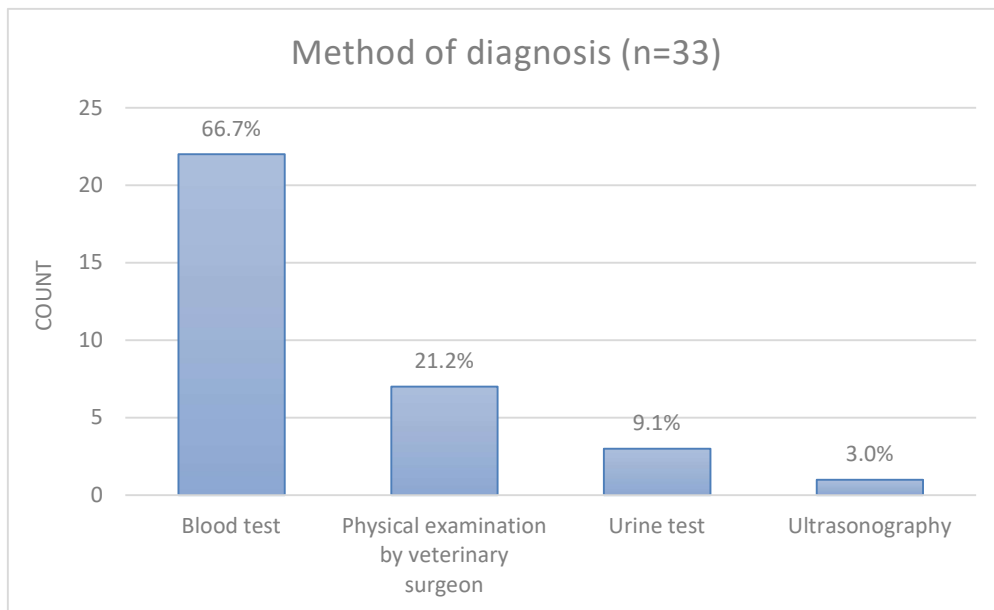


Figure 16: Method of diagnosis for hypothyroidism, as reported in the survey

When asked what treatment(s) improved the severity of the condition, the most frequently reported treatment was prescriptive medication – lifelong (76.0%, 19 of 25). A full breakdown of results are shown in Figure 17.

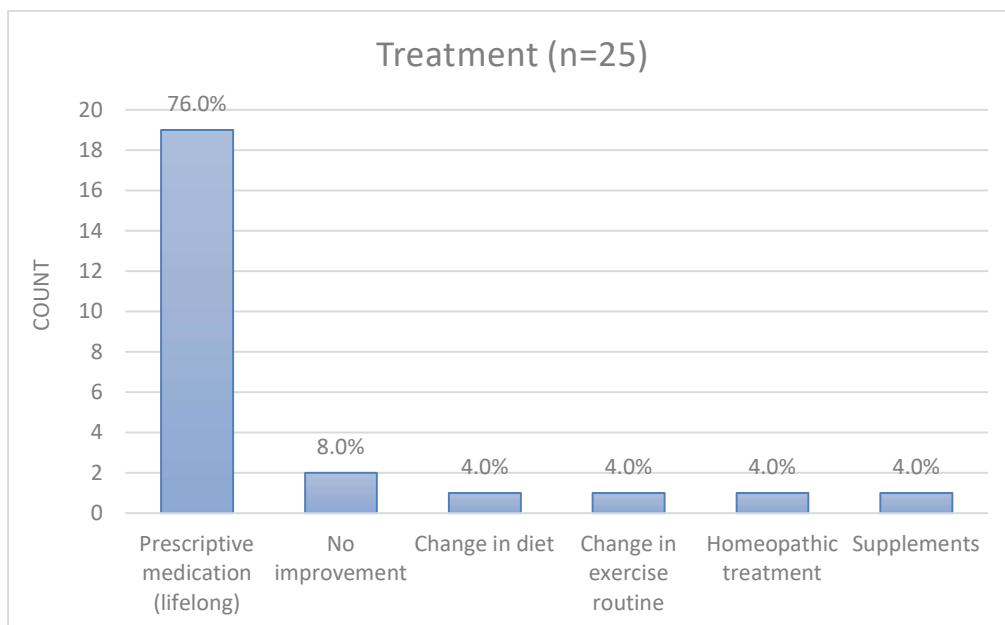


Figure 17: Treatments for hypothyroidism, as reported in the survey

The top prescriptive medications reported in the survey were: thyforon (n=5), canitroid (n=2), thyroxine (n=1), and leventa (n=1).

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from any other hormonal condition(s), out of the 953 responses, 10 (1.0%) answered “Yes” and 943 (99.0%) answered “No”.

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their hormonal condition(s) was four years of age (min: less than one year, max: nine years).

The total number of individual hormonal conditions (including cases of hypothyroidism) reported was 39. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was hypothyroidism, which affected 53.8% of the study sample (21 of 39). This was followed by hyperadrenocorticism (20.5%), diabetes (12.8%), and other (7.7%). Table 13 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported hormonal condition in descending order.

Table 13: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific hormonal condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Hypothyroidism	21	53.8%
Hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's disease)	8	20.5%
Diabetes	5	12.8%
Other	3	7.7%
Hypoadrenocorticism (Addison's disease)	1	2.6%
Not known	1	2.6%
TOTAL	39	

The answers to “other” for hormonal conditions not already listed in the survey were: underactive thyroid (n=1), secondary to long term use of steroids (n=1), and borderline Cushing’s disease (n=1).

Heart Conditions

When asked if their dog has ever suffered from a heart condition(s), out of the 944 responses, 22 (2.3%) answered “Yes” and 922 (97.7%) answered “No”.

The median age that affected dogs started to experience the clinical signs associated with their heart condition(s) was five years of age (min: less than one year, max: 10 years).

The total number of individual heart conditions reported was 23. Of these, the most commonly reported condition was heart murmur, which affected 47.8% of the study sample (11 of 23). This was followed by other (17.4%), dilated cardiomyopathy (13.0%), not known (13.0%), and irregular heart rate and/or rhythm (8.7%). Table 14 shows the total number and percentage of dogs affected by each reported heart condition in descending order.

Table 14: Number and percentage of English Setters affected by each specific heart condition, as reported in the survey

Specific condition	Number affected	Percentage
Heart murmur	11	47.8%
Other	4	17.4%
Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM)	3	13.0%
Not known	3	13.0%
Irregular heart rate and/or rhythm	2	8.7%
TOTAL	23	

The most common answer to “other” for heart conditions not already listed in the survey was: heartworm (n=3).

Additional conditions not listed in survey

The respondents were provided with the opportunity to note any conditions not already covered by the previous questions. The conditions listed for more than one dog by category were:

- Seven reports of deafness
- Four reports of epilepsy/ seizures/ fits
- Four reports of leishmania
- Three reports of kennel cough
- Three reports of umbilical hernia
- Two reports of a sting allergy
- Two reports of epulis/ gum growth
- Two reports of fractured/ broken leg
- Two reports of weight problems