There are, of course, various ways the AKC could be helpful in terms of mitigating this problem. In particular, the AKC could play an important role in educating the public about the problem, especially in terms of informing all concerned as to some of the available diagnostic and treatment information, as well as in terms of gathering more data relative to the incidence and nature of the problem. Ultimately, the AKC might be helpful in terms of leading a dialog with the USDA. The goal being the elimination of the “mean seeds” from the approved list for CRP lands. In all events, the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee is analyzing numerous aspects of this problem, welcomes all input and questions, and will keep the Delegate Body advised of developments.

The above article was submitted to the AKC Delegates’ “Perspectives” publication two years ago. Since this article was published, there has been an increasing problem regarding the issue of ingesting or breathing in these seeds. The Delegates Committee of Field Trials and Hunting Tests has therefore established a committee in order to help combat the problem. This committee intends to employ a graduate student to conduct research and compile incidents in order to submit results to the USDA. The committee members are requesting statistical information on the planting of these so-called “mean seeds” or on dogs that you are aware of that have been affected by this. A fund has been established in order to execute this program to solicit donations in addition to the statistical information in order to offset the cost of the project.

**Statistical Information and Donations Needed**

Donations and statistics should be sent to Doug Ljungren or Lisa Carroll at the AKC Performance Events Office 8051 Arco Corporate Drive Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27617-3390 Phone (919) 816-3900 Please contact Fred Kampo via email at kampspruce@sbcglobal.net or John Russell at jfmnruss@aol.com for more information. Checks should be made out to the AKC Humane Fund/Mean Seed Subfund