Benson Ranch Puppy Questionnaire

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire. Providing me with thorough and well thought out answers will assist us both! I would be happy to refer you to other breeders so if you come to feel your puppy goals are not compatible with mine please don’t hesitate to let me know.

Please note: These questions are in no way meant to be judgmental. The sale of a puppy is the beginning of a long relationship between the buyer and the breeder. Communication styles differ and we all have opinions about what appropriate training goals are. I strive to place my puppies with buyers I feel I have some commonality with as this assists me in supporting my buyers long after the sale of the pups.

**Section 1: Please tell me a little about yourself**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone number (s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What prompts you to seek LGDs and why was the Maremma your breed choice?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How did you find out about Benson Maremmas?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Why have you chosen to seek puppies from our breeding program?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Will you be the primary care giver for these pups? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If not, please describe\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How many dogs do you currently have?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What breed(s)?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are they spayed or neutered?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you had any experience with LGD's?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If so, please tell me a little about that, and what breed(s) were involved\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Have you owned a large breed dog in the past?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you have, which breed(s)?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Under what circumstances can you envision needing to re-home or return a dog?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever relinquished a dog to a shelter or rescue? If so, please tell me about the circumstances\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever euthanized a dog due to behavioral issues? If so, please tell me about the circumstances\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Please tell me a little about your lifestyle, such as how many hours you spend away from the property where the dogs will work and how much time you can spend daily in working with your new pups\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Does your work require travel? If so, who will care for the pups in your absence?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have a relationship with a veterinarian you plan to have care for these puppies? If so, may we contact him/her? If yes, please provide the necessary contact information\_\_\_\_

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**Section 2: property and livestock**

Do you own the property the dogs will work on?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you own the home you live in?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you live on the property where the dogs will work?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe the area you live in? For instance, is it rural, suburban, is there other livestock in the area, other dogs across your fence line, etc.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Have you spoken with your nearest neighbors about you plans to add LGDs? How do they feel about knowing they will hear the dogs barking at night?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What types of animals will your Maremma be guarding and approximately how many of each\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How big an area will your Maremma be guarding?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What type(s) of fences do you have? Please be specific\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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If a single pup is purchased, what sex would you prefer?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe for me the temperament that your ideal Maremma(s) would have\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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If summer heat is an issue in your area how do you plan to deal with that?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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If summer stickers (ie foxtails) are a problem in your area how do you plan to deal with that?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you understand that the coat of a Maremma requires consistent grooming and that the dog will need consistent toenail trims?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe where the pup(s) will live immediately upon arrival\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What type of livestock will live with, or next to, the pup immediately upon arrival?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 3: Training**

Please rate your interest in training your puppies from 1 (I have zero time and zero interest to 10 (I am a professional or hobby trainer and plan to spend several hours per week working with and training my puppies).\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Have you taken any companion dogs through training classes? If so, please tell me a little about that such as how beneficial the experience was for you or your dog, the training methodology, and if you completed the class\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How do you plan to teach your puppies what they need to learn?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Please tell me a little bit about how you enjoy relating to your dogs. For example, which best describes how you view your relationship to your dog. a. My dogs are like my friends, we enjoy doing things together. b. My dogs are my followers, they know I am in charge. c. My dogs are like my children.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you believe a dog needs to receive corrections or punishment in order to be a well trained companion or working dog? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you plan on utilizing training tools such as a pinch/prong collar, choke/training collar, or shock/e collar, penny cans, spray bottles, to train your dog? Have you used such tools in the past to train or manage your dog? Have you received training in the proper use of these tools?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Under what circumstance can you envision using training tools such as pinch/prong collars, “choke chain” type collars, Electric or “shock” collars, stim or “stimulation” collars, bark collars, hidden fence systems, on your dog? Perhaps if the dog exhibited undesired behavior, or if your trainer recommended them and taught you how to use them?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Please give me an example or two of books or recourses you have used to learn about training dogs:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Are you familiar with Ceasar Milan, The Dog Whisperer? Do you plan on using his methods to train your dog?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you believe that dogs will attempt to dominate people? If so, how do you plan to prevent this?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you understand that a Maremma is not considered an adult until two years of age and that a pup will require supervision to become a trustworthy livestock guardian?

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Do you promise to socialize your pup(s) with people so that they can better handle trips to the vet, etc?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you promise to teach your pup(s) to be comfortable on leash?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What would you do if your current pets or household members prove to be incompatible with your new pups?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What would be your training response to puppies/dogs chasing livestock?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What would be your training response to puppies/dogs that bark excessively?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Finally, is there anything else you would like us to know about your family?**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Again, thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. I care very much about providing the right homes for my pups, and that they meet your expectations. I will do my best for you!

Signature of prospective owner(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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