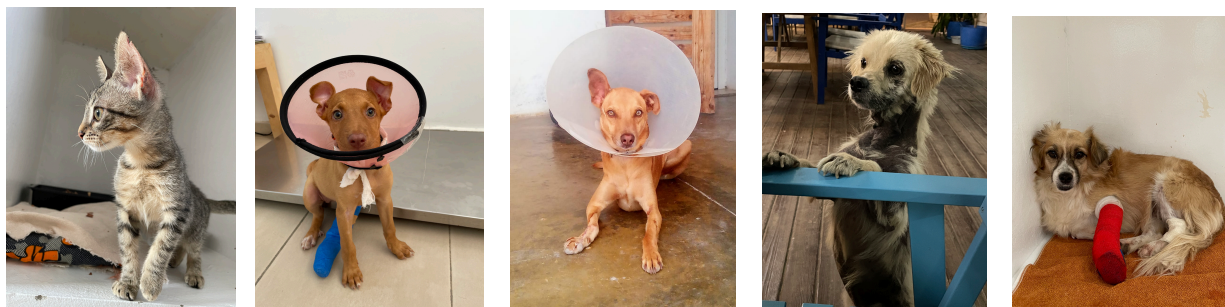




SUMMER REPORT



Introduction

If you remember, Nerina was born to alleviate the suffering of all the errating animals on the island of Boa Vista. Ideally, we would have liked to do more for all of them during these four years. But reality has brought us back to a rational analysis of the situation. Time and human resources have set and continue to set limits for us.

The dogs and cats have stolen the show from everyone else and our clinic opening hours were soon 100% occupied by private individuals bringing their pets. At the same time, we have always pursued the welfare of all animals, treating donkeys and goats whenever serious and urgent cases arise, but our main effort, by necessity, has been put into pets. With an annual average of 750 animals treated or surgically treated (without castration), you can clearly imagine that all resources soon end up being concentrated in a couple of animal species: the dog and the cat.

Our first 1500

One of the goals of achieving the well-being of our four-legged friends is to reduce their numbers through sterilisation/castration.

We have carried out over 1500 sterilisations on the island. What can we tell from this number? For example that 50% were female. Anyone who knows dogs and cats knows that within the first 7-8 months of life, these females would have produced an average of 5.5 puppies. If the calculator is correct we have avoided the birth of over 4125 pets in less than a year of the future mother's life. This is a very small part of the projection into the future. Imagine what the projection would be if we had in those four years let things go naturally: would we have three times as many births? Maybe even four times as many? 16,500 births?

Faced with such a figure, we ask the question: would we have the resources to alleviate their suffering? Impossible!

This is why we have decided to persevere in our mission of birth control.

If this policy bears fruit, it is also because we refuse to give basic care to unneutered pets. We always treat urgent cases, but we demand that treated pets be neutered. We often run into controversy with owners, but our policy has a solid foundation in unequivocal figures.





Reasons

Why should a responsible owner have his or her four-legged companion sterilised?

The first reason is of a sanitary-veterinary nature. Tumours are avoided!

For example, in female dogs, Sticker's tumour, that of the uterus and finally of the udder. The latter two and FIV are also found in cats. In males, tumours are slightly less noticeable. They are usually directly related to the uro-genital system: testicles and prostate.

The second reason is related to the social duty of every owner. Too often we are confronted with owners who want to create litters and we cannot accept this. If one puppy of five is well cared for, the other four are on the street and we all cannot afford that.

Another reason for refusing neutering is socio-cultural. This behaviour shifts the responsibility to unspecified other...

There is a belief that a neutered dog does not do its job well. This refers to gardening and herding dogs.

Unfortunately this philosophy is also totally wrong. Neutering a dog does not change its character. If it did its job well before, it will continue to do it even better. In fact, it will not be distracted by females in heat that it can sense even miles away or she will not disappear when it is time to get covered by a male.

What to do?

There is no point in crying because there are too many stray dogs or cats and trying to shift the responsibility onto the institutions or going around the island slaughtering dogs and cats. Everyone is responsible. And when we say everyone, we mean, first of all, the owners of pets and, secondly, all people who notice wandering, unneutered animals. How can we recognise neutered pets? Cats have a precise cut on their ears. It is a sharply carved corner.

In male dogs it is relatively simple. In female dogs we get a tattoo that reads "NL" or "N". "NL stands for New Life and N stands for Nerina. Simple, isn't it?

Cooperation is the magical word

Why do we ask for cooperation? There are many reasons:

As stated before, our human resources are limited. It is not humanly possible to capture at night and castrate during the day. The clinic and the shelter, with on average 6.5 intern cases to be treated daily and about 100 animals, already burn up all our energy.

Second, but not least, economic resources do not allow us to do this. The clinic and the shelter cost over 4000€ per month. To this sum must be added the costs of materials, medicines used and routine and extraordinary maintenance. If you add to this the fact that each sterilisation costs an average of €27 in material, you will immediately see that the costs explode dramatically.

Appeal

How can you help us? Well in several ways.

Locally, by convincing pet owners to neuter. You can find the reasons above.

You can make a loving gesture and adopt one of our fabulous animals.

You can also simply involve other people locally or internationally who could give us a helping hand. Nothing is excluded: transport of important food such as Recovery food or powder milk for kitties, or make an accompanying godparent for European flights.

Or you can help us financially with donations or long-distance adoptions.



As you can see, there are so many possibilities to help us carry out our work. You really do have an almost infinite choice.

Thank you

We would like to make a small excursus and thank our collaborators. In order of arrival at our association: Domingua, Laura, Demba and Ignazia. All of them have done and continue to do an excellent job, and without them none of the above would have been possible. Thank you, you are irreplaceable!

We would also like to thank all those who have helped us in the past and continue to help us. You are our lifeblood and our motivation to continue. Thank you very much.

Lovely, the Nerina's team.

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Donation: <https://www.associazionenerina.ch/come-aiutare>

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