

# More bark than bite? The role of livestock guarding dogs in predator control on Namibian farmlands

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL Questionnaire administered to farmers in Namibia who had received livestock guarding dogs via the Cheetah Conservation Fund.

**Date:**

**Name:**

**Farm:**

**District:**

**Farm number** (commercial farms only):

**Name of dog:**

**Interviewed:** (e.g. farmer, herder, or farm worker involved with looking after the dog)

**Age:**

**Sex:**

**Microchip number:**

**Date of placement:**

1. How is your guarding dog working: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor
2. Is it doing what you thought it would do? Yes  No
3. Has there been economic benefit to having the dog? Yes  No 
  - 3.1 If yes, please describe:
4. Is the dog with the herd all the time? Yes  No
5. Where do your livestock sleep at night? In a kraal  In a camp
6. Where does your dog stay during the night?  
With the flock  With the herder  At the house  Elsewhere 
  - 6.1 If elsewhere, where?
7. Does the dog appear to be part of the stock? Yes  No
8. Is the dog submissive to members of the herd? Yes  No
9. Are the dog and stock bonded together? Yes  No
10. Are there any other dogs with the herd? Yes  No
11. Does the dog interact with other dogs? Yes  No
12. How many losses did you have in the year before the dog? 0  1–5  6–10  >10  >40 
  - 12.1 What caused these losses: Jackal  Cheetah  Leopard  Caracal  Theft
13. How many losses did you have in the last year since the dog? 0  1–5  6–10  >10  >40

- 13.1 What caused these losses: Jackal  Cheetah  Leopard  Caracal  Theft
14. How would you rate your dog's protectiveness of your stock?  
Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor
15. Has it guarded effectively against predators? Yes  No
16. Has the dog killed any wild animals? Yes  No
- 16.1 If yes, which species, and how many individuals?
- 16.2 Does the dog eat the carcasses? If yes, how much does it eat?
- 16.3 In your opinion, why does the dog kill? To protect stock  To hunt wildlife   
Unsure
17. Did you eliminate any predators on your farm in the year before the dog? Yes  No
- 17.1 If yes, which predators and how many?
18. Have you eliminated any predators on the farm in the last year since the dog? Yes  No
- 18.1 If yes, which predators and how many individuals?
19. Does the dog have any behavioural problems? Such as:  
Chasing game  Biting livestock  Staying home  Attacking people  Other
- 19.1 What measures do you take to correct these problems?
20. Was corrective training of behaviour problems effective? Yes  No
21. Were the problems reported to the Cheetah Conservation Fund? Yes  No
- 21.1 If not, why not?
22. Do you have a herder? Yes  No
23. Was there a change of herder since the dog? Yes  No
- 23.1 If yes, what effect did this have on the dog? Good  Bad  None
24. Do the herder and the owner share information on the dog and its progress? Yes  No
25. How would you describe your dog's condition (health)? Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor
- 25.1 If poor, what measures do you take?
26. Please describe what food you give to your dog:  
26.1 How many times per day do you feed the dog? 1  2  3
27. How would you describe your involvement with the dog?  
(If speaking to herder, ask how often the owner comes to see dog)  
Daily  Once—several times per week  Once—several times per month  Never

28. Has the Cheetah Conservation Fund given: Enough direction  Not enough direction   
Too much direction

28.1 Please explain not enough or too much:

29. Would you recommend the Livestock guarding dog programme to other farmers? Yes  No

29.1 If not, why not?

30. Date of last vaccination:

Date of last rabies vaccination:

Date of last deworming: Dewormer:

Any other comments:

Signature: