

## Vaccination Survey Observations

- Approx. 40% of registered ferret only shelters responded
- Almost all do CD vaccinations – 2 uses titers. Some do not vaccinate elderly or health compromised ferrets.
- About 1/3 of respondents are in states that require rabies vaccinations for ferrets.
- More than ½ are affected by the lack of Purevax – interestingly, of those who do not, it is because they do not and have not been using Purevax. The reasons are enlightening.
- There are some shelters beginning to use micro chipping to id ferrets. (As an aside, micro chipping is common in Australia).
- Reactions are rare and serious reactions appear to be non-existent in responding shelters using Nobivac-Puppy DPV. Anecdotally, reports of reactions appear to be greater using Purevax. It is a reason cited for switching to Nobivac-Puppy DPV.
- About 50% of respondents use vets for their CD vaccinations. As to be expected, it is typically the larger shelters (not obvious to casual reader) that self-vaccinate.\*

Using the low end of the scale, and assuming only 1 vaccination per ferret, this survey represents the following number of ferrets and probably almost twice as many vaccinations as most do 2 vaccinations per ferret:

Less than 10 ferrets per year (used 5 ferrets)	1 shelter	=	5 ferrets
10 to 25 ferrets per year (used 10 ferrets)	10 shelters		100 ferrets
25 to 50 ferrets per year (used 25 ferrets)	9 shelters	=	225 ferrets
50 to 100 ferrets per yr (used 50 ferrets)	3 shelters	=	150 ferrets
100 to 200 ferrets per yr (used 100 ferrets)	3 shelters	=	300 ferrets
200 plus ferrets per year (used 200 ferrets)	4 shelters	=	800 ferrets
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	32 shelters	=	1580 ferrets

So conservatively, we have surveyed about 3,000 vaccinations for a year in 32 shelters across the U.S. Again, while not “scientific” by any means, I believe this does give us some good insight into what is happening within the US Ferret community with respect to canine distemper vaccinations.

*\*Purevax was only available through veterinarians or by RX while Nobivac-Puppy DPV (in the US) is available for direct purchase through distributors like Jeffers or Revival Health in 25 packs. Small shelters, unless sharing with their vets or other area shelters, typically cannot use a 25 pack. Also not all states allow vaccine imports and/or restrict or outright prohibit the purchase of needles and/or syringes.*

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