



Farming

WORKING DOG BREEDER/TRAINER

WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Selecting and breeding dogs**

Choosing and mating dogs from family lines that show good working characteristics and temperament.

- **Caring for dogs**

Feeding dogs a healthy diet, providing water, suitable shelter and looking after their health (vaccinations, worming).

- **Training dogs for work**

Teaching pups basic obedience and to follow commands (voice, whistle, hand/arm signals), introducing them to stock work and organising a training schedule.

- **Attending working dog trials**

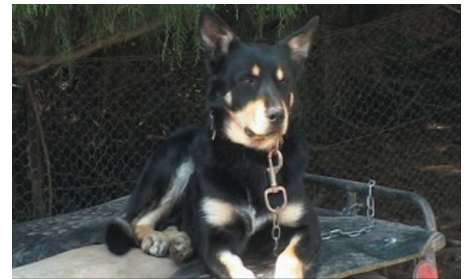
Competing with dogs at trials and agricultural shows and demonstrating the working quality of dogs at field days.

- **Liaising with customers**

Assisting customers to select suitable dogs and providing ongoing support

- **Maintaining records**

Mating and breeding records, purchases and sales, feed and veterinary bills.





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WORK CONDITIONS

- Working dog breeders and trainers are responsible for the health and welfare of their dogs.
- Working with dogs can be personally very rewarding.
- A number of farmers/farm workers breed and train working dogs as a sideline to their main work.
- Travel to working dog trials, agricultural shows and field days may be involved.

EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- There are no formal national training requirements for people who wish to breed or train working dogs.
- Courses are available through training organisations in some states.
- Some working dog studs now offer courses in dog education and training.
- Dog obedience classes are available in most cities and towns.
- Business skills would be necessary for breeders/trainers who wish to earn all or part of their income from working dogs.

Related Jobs

- Stockman
- Farmer
- Farm manager
- Rural Contractor – Droving
- Mustering

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