







## **BREEDING KENNELS**

Ca' Del Cuco's core activity is breeding. This is done by adopting the most stringent measures to prevent disease, ensuring the animals' welfare and preserving the breed's specific traits.

The dogs live outdoors, in close contact with nature, and are well socialised with humans, conspecifics and the sheep and goats on the farm.

The objective of selection is to achieve good morphological and breed-specific traits, but never without excellent physical and psychological equilibrium and working attitude.

A dog with the traits needed to do the work for which it has been forged over the centuries, and certainly also an excellent companion or a trusted guardian for the family.

This is the direction we have taken in choosing dogs that come from the actual region of origin, with a genetic heritage that includes working lines, and in organising the kennels to recreate the ancient sheep-farming environment of the Abruzzo region. In this way, we can guarantee those same qualities of reliability and even-temperedness that had been undermined by rash breeding practices driven by commercial purposes and criteria of an entirely morphological nature.

All of our reproducers and breeders undergo the Behavioural and Morphological Test developed by the Circolo Del Pastore Maremmano Abruzzese and approved by the Italian Kennel Club (ENCI). In addition to assessing their good character, the test includes an official X-ray to rule out hip or elbow dysplasia, the results of which must be certified by an accredited centre (the BMT is also a requisite for obtaining the special pedigree for selected reproduction and is compulsory for official approval as Italian Beauty Champion).

To test our continuous selection and fine-tuning, our dogs regularly take part in shows in Italy and abroad, and especially breed-specific events.

