

## The Four-legged Farmhand:

# NEW TO THE PACK

It's hard to live on a farm and have only one dog. Yet introducing another canine to the family pack can be tricky, depending on the dogs' personalities.

Dog trainers recommend a number of approaches when bringing a new dog into a family with other resident dogs:

- **Spay or neuter.** Before you introduce two dogs, make sure both are spayed or neutered and have had at least one month since the surgery to let most of the hormones leave their systems. Dogs with raging reproductive hormones are less likely to keep the peace.

- **Choose the opposite sex.** Although it's not a hard and fast rule, dogs of the opposite sex generally get along better with each other. If your resident dog is a female, consider making your new dog a male, and vice versa.

- **Introduce on neutral territory.** It's never a good idea to bring a new dog into an established



PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE STATION

dog's territory without first making proper introductions. Take both dogs to a neutral place where neither has been, and let them meet under these circumstances. Do this a couple of times before you bring the new dog home. Your established dog will be more welcoming of the newcomer if they've already met somewhere else.

- **Make it good.** When the dogs are meeting each other for the first time, talk to them in a happy voice and limit their sniffing of each other to one minute at a time. Get their attention and tell them to sit or to do another command, and then offer each animal considerable praise. This helps the dogs develop a positive impression of each other.



## WIPED CLEAN

Dirty eggs are inevitable if you have chickens, ducks or other farmyard fowl, and it's important to clean shells properly. Egg Wipes utilize a plant-based cleanser, allowing you to safely and gently remove soil from eggs. Each pop-up canister contains 25 biodegradable wet wipes, and each wipe can clean up to 12 large eggs; 888-473-6489; [www.osm-inc.com](http://www.osm-inc.com)

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## TICKED OFF

Removing ticks from your dog can make even the most stoic farmer cringe, especially when the insects are embedded and engorged.

Ticks Off, an all-natural product that contains no DEET or chemicals, works on contact and kills ticks in 90 seconds. Guaranteed to release even embedded ticks, the vial can then be used to store the tick for further examination or for disposal. It is not safe for use on birds or cats; 414-358-1802; [www.cureceuticals.com](http://www.cureceuticals.com)

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