



Risks & Concerns of Breeding

Beth Csomay of Sun O'er Sea



Risks and Concerns of Maine Coon Breeding

Reputable breeders mitigate or ameliorate the following:

- ❖ Risk of female Maine Coon death
 - Any time a cat is bred, there is a chance that the female (queen) can die in childbirth; kittens can get stuck in a canal, a placenta can be retained, an internal organ can rupture, surgery can have complications
 - Surgery can be an expensive and stressful reality; even with surgery—particularly in the case of severe dystocia, intestinal intussusception, or any unclean procedure—the cat may not survive

- ❖ Risk of kitten death (birth-4 weeks)
 - Kittens may be born underweight (<60-80g) and fail to gain
 - Kittens may struggle to latch
 - Kittens may asphyxiate on formula
 - Kittens may fail to maintain body temperature
 - Kittens may suffer from Fading Kitten Syndrome (factors still unknown)
 - Kittens may have a diet sensitivity and be unable to absorb nutrients

Good breeders will provide preventatives for parasites on their breeding kings and queens and kittens. Keeping up to date on preventatives and implementing proper breeding and quarantine protocols as well as maintaining acceptable living conditions helps prevent ringworm and other parasites and ensures top health of cats.



Risks & Concerns of Breeding

Beth Csomay of Sun O'er Sea



- ❖ Concern: Overbreeding (queen in obvious poor condition)
 - Disreputable breeders allow cats to be bred without:
 - Appropriate rest (back-to-back-to-back breeding)
 - Poor body condition
 - Pre-existing conditions
 - Without annual vaccinations or testing
 - In badly kept environments

- ❖ Concern: Unsanitary Environment (a good breeder **ALWAYS** has a clean environment)
 - Cattery will not provide pictures or videos
 - Infrequent updates can be cause for concern *within reason*
 - Videos or photos are heavily edited
 - You feel you're not seeing the full environment
 - Environment shows signs of uncleanliness
 - Cattery environment *stinks*
 - Trust your nose!
 - Ask your breeder about their cleaning protocols and routine!
 - Feces should NEVER be part of the environment (i.e. left)
 - Immediate health hazard, not only to felines but also humans
 - Vector for disease

- ❖ Concern: Parasites/Bacteria/Fungi
 - Fleas present
 - Itching/anemic
 - Ringworm apparent; can happen with cats leaving the household for show
 - Loss of fur/scaly patches
 - Stool is runny* [if PCR is negative, might be a food allergy and a good breeder will work to alleviate runny stool with you]