



## THE MAREMMANO ABRUZZESE SHEEPDOG WORK

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The Maremmano Abruzzese Sheepdog's primary role is to keep livestock safe from predators, especially wolves. Guardian or protection dogs, traditionally used by livestock farmers in the Apennine Mountains, but also found throughout Eurasia, are the most effective and ecologically correct way for farmers to limit damage to their animals, especially sheep.

The Maremmano Abruzzese Sheepdog is also used as an effective defence against other wild animals such as bears, foxes and jackals. In America they are used successfully to guard against coyotes and pumas.

Our dog also protects livestock from being attacked by stray and wild dogs, which often cause more damage than actual wolves.

As society becomes more aware of biodiversity, the role of the Maremmano Abruzzese Sheepdog takes on extra significance, because its presence fosters an acceptable co-existence of man and large carnivores, which are an essential component in the natural equilibrium of the environment.

That is why at our kennels we place great importance on the effectiveness with which our dogs fulfil their traditional role.

They are born in a barn where, for the first few months of their life they live in contact with a small flock of Ciuta sheep and a few goats, under the watchful eye of their mother and other properly established adult dogs.

Good genetics together with correct, strict breeding methods are crucial in order to obtain valid results, even though the training of a guardian dog also depends much on the traits of his future owner.