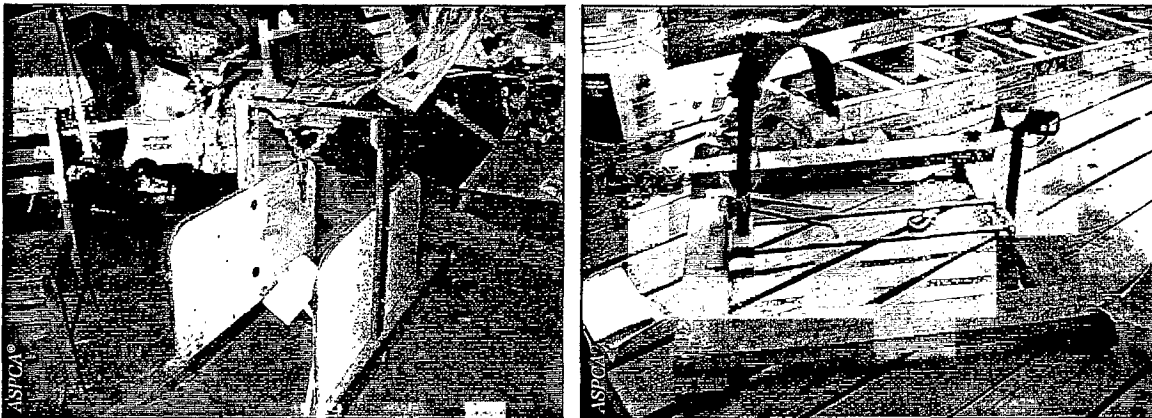


# GLOSSARY

## Dogfighting Terms and Paraphernalia



*Above: a "Treadmill" and a "Rape Stand."*

**Barrels:** Barrels or drums of plastic, or occasionally metal, are often used as shelter for fighting dogs. Placed horizontally, a hole is cut out from one side for the dog to enter and exit. Such housing might not meet state or local standards for required shelter if it does not provide adequate protection from the elements.

**Chains:** Chains of varying length and weight serve a dual purpose; to confine a dog as well as to strengthen their neck muscles. Chains are sometimes attached to buried car axels or other heavy materials to hold dogs in place.

**Bite stick (also known as breaking, parting, or prying stick):** These come in a variety of shapes and sizes, but are usually wooden sticks inserted into the side of a dog's mouth, and then manipulated to make a dog release its hold on whatever it's biting.

**Cat mill or Jenny:** This resembles a miniature horse walker, in which the dog is harnessed to a projecting spoke. A small bait animal is attached to the leading spoke to entice the dog. A variation is a single projecting pole, to which the dog is harnessed.

**Culling:** The process of removing animals from a breeding group of dogs. Usually culling involves killing the unwanted animals by gunshot or drowning.

**Dogmen:** Professional dogfighting trainers or handlers or other deeply committed participants in dogfighting.

**Flirt pole:** A long pole (usually wood, bamboo, or plastic) with a hide or fur lure attached, which is moved around by a trainer to exercise a dog.

**Keep:** The period of diet, exercise, and conditioning a fighting dog undergoes prior to an organized fight. It typically lasts about six weeks.

**Pit:** The main area where a fight is conducted, usually 14 to 16 feet square, up to 20 feet. Sides are usually 2 to 3 feet high. The pit may be constructed of plywood, chain link, hay bales, sheet metal, concrete blocks, or other materials. The floor may be carpeted, covered with canvas, or just dirt. Pits are usually designed to be easily disassembled and may be concealed when not in use.

**Rape stand or "breeding stand":** This is a stand used to strap and immobilize female dogs for breeding purposes.

**Roll:** A fight during the initial stages of a fighting dog's testing and training. These short fights generally begin between 16 and 20 months of age. A series of rolls allow the owner/breeder to assess a dog's gameness, stamina, and fighting style. Such rolls are considered part of the dogs schooling prior to contract matches.

**Scales:** Used to weigh dogs during training and prior to a fight to make sure that the dogs are at the agreed upon weight for competition.

**Scratch Line:** A line drawn in each corner of the pit that opposing dogs must cross to initiate or continue a fight. A dog which will not cross the line fails to "scratch."

**Slatmill:** A type of treadmill whose running surface is composed of wooden slats.

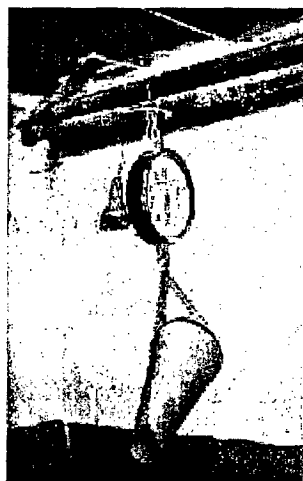
**Spring Pole:** Usually consists of a rope, hide, inner tubing, or tire suspended from a strong spring attached to a tree limb, rafter, or pole. It is used to strengthen a dog's bite and neck and leg muscles as he pulls or, in some cases, hangs from the end.

**Treadmill:** A device used to exercise the dog. It may be a modified electric exercise treadmill used by people. Variations of treadmills can have a flooring of wooden slats (slatmill) or carpeting (carpet mill).

**Washtub:** Dogs are washed down in tubs immediately prior to fighting, to ensure they have not been coated with a noxious substance that may be harmful to the opposing dog.

**Weights:** Weights are used for strength training as well, and can be attached directly to the dog's collar. They can also be attached to chains, increasing the weight that the dog has to drag when it moves.

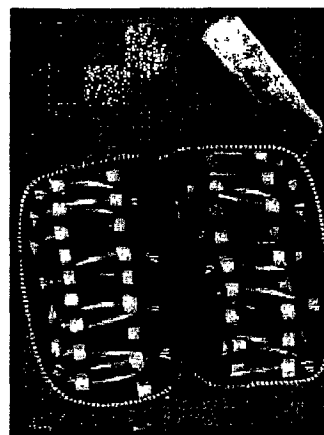
**COCK FIGHTING EXAMPLES**



**WEIGHT SCALE**



**NEEDLES**



**POUCH WITH  
FIGHTING SPURS**



**CAGED BIRDS**



**ASSORTED PARAPHERNALIA**



**SPARRING MITTS**