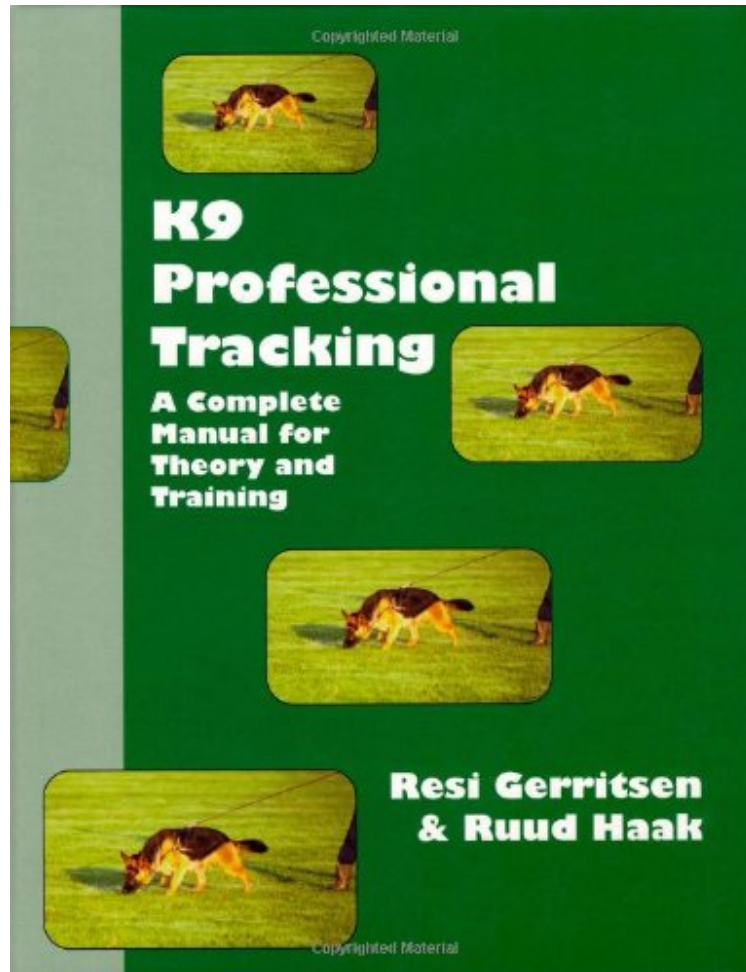


K9 Professional Tracking: A Complete Manual for Theory and Training

Resi Gerritsen, Ruud Haak
*ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook*



#1182408 in Books 2001-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.29 x .55 x 7.50l, .75 #File Name: 1550592238156 pages | File size: 41.Mb

Resi Gerritsen, Ruud Haak : K9 Professional Tracking: A Complete Manual for Theory and Training before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised K9 Professional Tracking: A Complete Manual for Theory and Training:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Tim Informative! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Doberman tracking By jim Got a lot of information from book. this book should be helpful to all that read it. Very glad I purchased the book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A good book for tracking dog handlers By Susan Bulanda This is another great book by Gerritsen and Haak. It is well researched and offers many interesting points and tips about training the tracking dog. It covers many of the myths about odor and explains how a dog detects odor and what they detect. What is especially helpful is the way the authors explain why and how dogs fail

to follow scent. They stress that handler error plays a large part, as well as faulty training. The training methods are detailed with a thorough explanation about what works and what does not. Although this book focuses more on competition, it will help the SAR dog handler as well. There was one point that I did not agree with for SAR work, but I understand why they brought it up for competition. They mention in the chapter on Cross Tracks, that if the track is interrupted, for example the person gets on a bicycle and rides away, that the dog should be stopped because the track ended. In reality the scent from the person riding the bicycle may fall to the ground and a dog can still follow it. All in all, this is an excellent book that will help both the sport tracker and the SAR dog handler. The chapters are: Preface; Introduction; Scent and Perception; The Dog's Nose; The Odors of the Track; By the Sweat of One's Feet; Equipment and Conditions; Common Training Methods; Asking for Trouble; History of Tracking Research; Scientific Aspects; Conditions for Success; Preliminary Exercises; Clean-scent Tracking; Weather Conditions; Cross-tracks; The Limits of Tracking; Epilogue: A Lack of Character; Bibliography; About the Authors.

An incorrect approach to training dogs in tracking can lead to a confused animal and a frustrated handler. The dog's ability to follow a scent is far beyond what humans are capable of, yet unless a handler can make the dog understand which scent he is to follow, failure is bound to follow. Gerritsen and Haak's methods are based on acquiring a clear understanding of what is involved in tracking, what the dog's scent capabilities really are, and what conditions can affect the dog's tracking ability, and how. From this background, handlers can choose from a variety of methods to train their dog to track.

About the Author Dr. Resi Gerritsen and Ruud Haak are world-renowned specialists in the field of dog work and the authors of more than 30 titles on dog training. They train search and rescue dogs for the International Red Cross and the United Nations (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), and they have trained drug and explosive detector dogs for the Dutch police and the Royal Netherlands Air Force. Gerritsen and Haak also act as international judges for the International Rescue Dog Organization. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Introduction: Tracking is... ..to increase the access of our own sense organs, through the use of another creature, to a world that should really be closed to us forever: The world of odors. Indeed, for a dog tracking is the most normal thing in the world. But for a lot of handlers (and instructors), it is frustrating. Handlers often lose heart, and also lose confidence in their dog, which is an important cause of failure. With no other part of dog training is the bond between handler and dog so clearly visible as with tracking. Here you can't achieve anything by violence or pressure. Only a good understanding between handler and dog makes it possible to be successful. With tracking, we must decide if we are willing to follow the dog in his world, and to recognize his superiority in this area. His ability to smell is much better than ours, but of course we have to make clear to the dog what we expect of his nose before we can have confidence in it. The olfactory system and the ability of the dog to smell are great unknowns for many handlers, and that is often clear to see during tracking. In this book you will discover the use and possibilities of the dog's nose. For successful training, it is very important that the handler knows what the dog is doing and what is happening with the track. We often make it very difficult for our dogs, because of human faults, incorrect insights or a wrong approach. A lot of times even experienced handlers find no explanation for their dog's failure with tracking. Words like, I don't understand this, he has to track; a dog is after all a nose animal, isn't it? are characteristic of misunderstandings that exist in this area. Handlers often assume, even though they have an inadequate ability to smell, that the dog understands without any doubt what is desired of him. An absolutely wrong attitude! Of course, a dog has an excellent sense of smell, but we have to teach him to follow a human track. We have to make the dog understand what we desire of him. But then first we have to obtain the necessary knowledge of tracking and the scent perception of the dog's nose. That's why we pay a lot of attention in this book to all theoretical backgrounds. Besides the common training methods for tracking, we also pay a lot of attention to professional tracking, clean-scent tracking. With that, every handler can determine for himself which method he should use for his dog. Because, only with enough knowledge is it possible to be successful in nosework, without a doubt the nicest part of dog training!