

**February
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

Q - Fever

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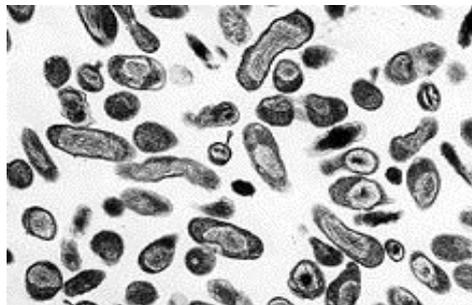
This disease is caused by a bacterium (*coxiella Burnetii*). It affects mammals, large animals, domestic pets and humans. Its spread via contaminated milk, urine, faeces, vaginal mucus or semen. Rarely the disease is tick borne. The incubation period is 9 – 40 days.

Cows, goats and sheep are mostly infected and can serve as a reservoir for the bacteria. It causes abortion, stillbirths, weak young and repeat breeding in ruminants and pets.

If you are worried about your herd having Q-Fever a simple blood test will pick it up. More to the point is the transmission of this disease to your farming staff. It causes flu-like symptoms with a rapid onset of fever, profuse perspiration (sweating like hell), severe headaches, muscle pain, joint pain, loss of appetite, respiratory problems and chills.

A simple prevention is to ensure that your staff have been vaccinated. This is much easier than using QVax, manufactured by CSL to vaccinate your cattle. QVax is a one shot vaccine but the cows should be screened before vaccinating. As a pre-existing immunity may result in severe local reaction.

Prevention is better than cure!



We provide:

- Surgery & Medicine for small and large animals
- Herd Health Advice
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- In House Blood Testing
- Nutrition
- Prescription Diets
- Microchip Identification

Simpson Office:

Our Simpson Office is open
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10am to 3pm
P: 03 5594 3257

Colac Office:

Our Colac Office is open
Monday to Friday
8am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 12 noon
www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au

**We are available 24/7
for emergencies.
Our emergency number
is:
5232 2111**

Preventable Tumours

We have recently done several surgeries on older pets with preventable reproductive tumours.

Pets that are desexed earlier in life do not suffer from these tumours.

In older (over 5 years) un-desexed male dogs we frequently see tumours of the testicles, prostate tumours and perianal (around the bottom) tumours.



In older un-desexed female dogs we frequently see mammary tumours and less frequently see tumours of the ovaries.

All these tumours can be life threatening and usually require urgent surgery.

Please check your older pets for sign of any lumps and consider desexing as a preventative measure.



Room with a View

Dr Cate has recently had an unexpected stay in hospital. After heading to the Drs it was off to surgery to remove her unhappy appendix! Not a bad view from her accommodation!

Summer Break

Dr Mike and some of his family headed to Africa for his January break. They enjoyed the sights and safari adventure and have returned to us safely!

