

**February
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 7
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Newsletter

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic
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FIRE FEVER

Normally one has to worry about this problem in the feed growing months of spring and autumn. SO why bring it up now? It has been an extraordinary year for plant growth, especially crops. They have all taken off and your cattle are in the process of either eating them or they have just finished eating them.



The warm rains that we have been having in January and February have allowed for a large amount of regrowth. It is this regrowth that you should be wary of. The plant most likely to cause photosensitization is rape. The build up of the phototoxins occurs in the morning. Thus it is a great idea to feed the regrowth after midday when the sugar content is high and the phototoxins are low. Feeding them on pasture / hay / silage prior to putting them on crops is a great advantage.



If the cows show the classic signs of photosensitivity (eg redness and swollen teats, constant tail flicking, seeking shade, kicking milking cups off, rapid drop in milk production) then rapid treatment with anti-histamines and vitamins twelve hours apart will stop it immediately.

So please keep your eyes open if you are feeding crops!

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**

Adding a special family member

If you are considering adding a new member to your family please feel free to call in and discuss with us any concerns you may have regarding species, breed etc.

Bringing a new pet into your home means there are lots of things to consider to ensure your pet stays happy and healthy and forms a good bond with you as its owner.

Establishing a routine from their very first day or night in the home is one of the most important things you can do.

Important things to consider:

1. When and where they sleep
2. When and where they eat
3. When and where they will go to the toilet
4. Regular worming and flea treatment
5. Vaccinations
6. Identification (microchip / tags)
7. Training / exercise
8. Desexing



Our Staff can help you with any questions you have with your new pet.



FOOTY TIPPING:

Believe it or not but Footy is back next month....

Join us in our weekly tipping competition for the AFL season which begins soon!

Tips must be either emailed (cindy@rhodesvet.com.au), faxed (5231 5892) or delivered to the clinic by 5pm on the day of the first game of each round.

If tips are not received by the closing time you will receive the week's lowest tipping result less one point. Tips will not be accepted by telephone.

We will accept several entries from each house if more than one person wishes to participate just ensure the tips are named.

The leader board will be emailed out to participants weekly.

Please advise us ASAP if you wish to participate. There is a small cost of \$1/round or \$23 for the season.

As per other seasons we will have a small get together at the end of the season to present the winning tippers with their rewards