

**July
2019**

Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 9
Issue 6**

Newsletter

Post Calving Flat Cow

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic
74 Gellibrand Street
COLAC 3250
P: 03 5232 2111
F: 03 5231 5892
E: info@rhodesvet.com.au

Veterinarians:

Dr Michael Rhodes
Dr Peter Grieve

Practice Manager:

Cindy Schoell

Nurses:

Kirsty Paton
Kaylene Swayn
Diane O'Keefe
Leanne Haslem

High potassium, good rain, flat cows, low milk—what is going on?

We are attending to many cows that are not pulling their weight. They have low milk yield and are not interested in their feed. They are slow to come and go from the dairy.

These cows are often freshly calved. We check them for a right displaced abomasum or a left displaced abomasum. All clear on that front. The gut sounds are slow to absent and their faeces is normal but the volume is reduced.

We recently have had very good rain and this has caused all the new grass seed to shoot. As we in the south west use potash as part of our fertilizer regime the resultant grass is FULL of potassium. These high levels of potassium cause sodium ions to be pushed out of the cow's metabolism. With low sodium comes all the above symptoms in our cows.

The easy solution is to ensure that once the cow has calved she has access to free sodium in the form of rock salt. This can be put out in troughs for the animal to ad lib feed. These troughs should always be kept topped up.

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 & 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

Lipoma

We are often asked to check a lump on a dog. The owner becomes aware of a slow growing mass and usually brings it to the Vet's attention at the next visit.

We examine the lump and sometimes pronounce it as a benign fatty lump which is called a lipoma. These are the most common type of non cancerous growths in dogs. They typically grow just under the skin on the neck, chest, body, legs.. In fact nearly anywhere.

We are often asked if it should be removed. If the mass is not hindering the daily life of the dog then we do not remove them. If a mass gets so large that it begins to affect the animals' gait then we will suggest surgery.

A simple way to reduce the chance of the dog getting a lipoma is to watch the dog's weight. Fat animals get more lipomas than thin animals. What you allow your dog to eat can have a direct bearing on a lipoma forming. It comes back to exercise and a healthy diet to maintain a healthy body.



Pet Exchange Register

From 1 July 2019, everyone who advertises a puppy, kitten, dog or cat for sale or give away in Victoria will need a source number from the Pet Exchange Register.

Source numbers are valid for one year and can be renewed annually for as long as you need it.

There is no fee to enrol during the first full year of operation. An annual fee will be introduced from 1 July 2020.

Do you need to register?

If you are a registered domestic animal business or voluntarily enrolled foster carer with your local council, there is no need to register as a source number will be provided to you before 1 July 2019 with instructions for use.

Everyone else who advertises a puppy, kitten, dog or cat for sale or give away in Victoria from 1 July 2019 will need to register for a source number.



For further information - www.per.animalwelfare.vic.gov.au



2019 AFL Tipping Ladder after Rd 15:

1. **Ellis** 87
2. **Tim** 85
3. **Scott** 85
4. **Garry** 84
5. **Cindy** 84