

**September
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 7
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Newsletter

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Digital Rectal Scanner for Cattle

We have finally dragged Dr Mike into the 21st century!

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic has purchased a digital rectal scanner!

This machine is lightweight and less invasive to the cow and will detect pregnancy from 6 to 16 weeks.

Both Dr Mike and Dr Jess are grateful to the clients who have allowed them to improve their skills using our new machine on their cattle. As we master all the features of the rectal probe we should be able to reliably detect pregnancies down to 30 days gestation.

To get the best results from the ultrasound the cows should be pregnancy tested early. This will assist you to know who is pregnant to AI and how many early pregnant cows you may have. This will help you decided if you need to continue your joining programme.

With good yards and more practice it will also be quick!



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



Please remember:

If you require large orders of any medications we need at least 24 hours notice to ensure we are able to fill your order.

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

Fleas

If you have had a break over winter or just haven't been using flea treatment now is the time to get back to using it!! Here is a quick refresher on the flea lifecycle:

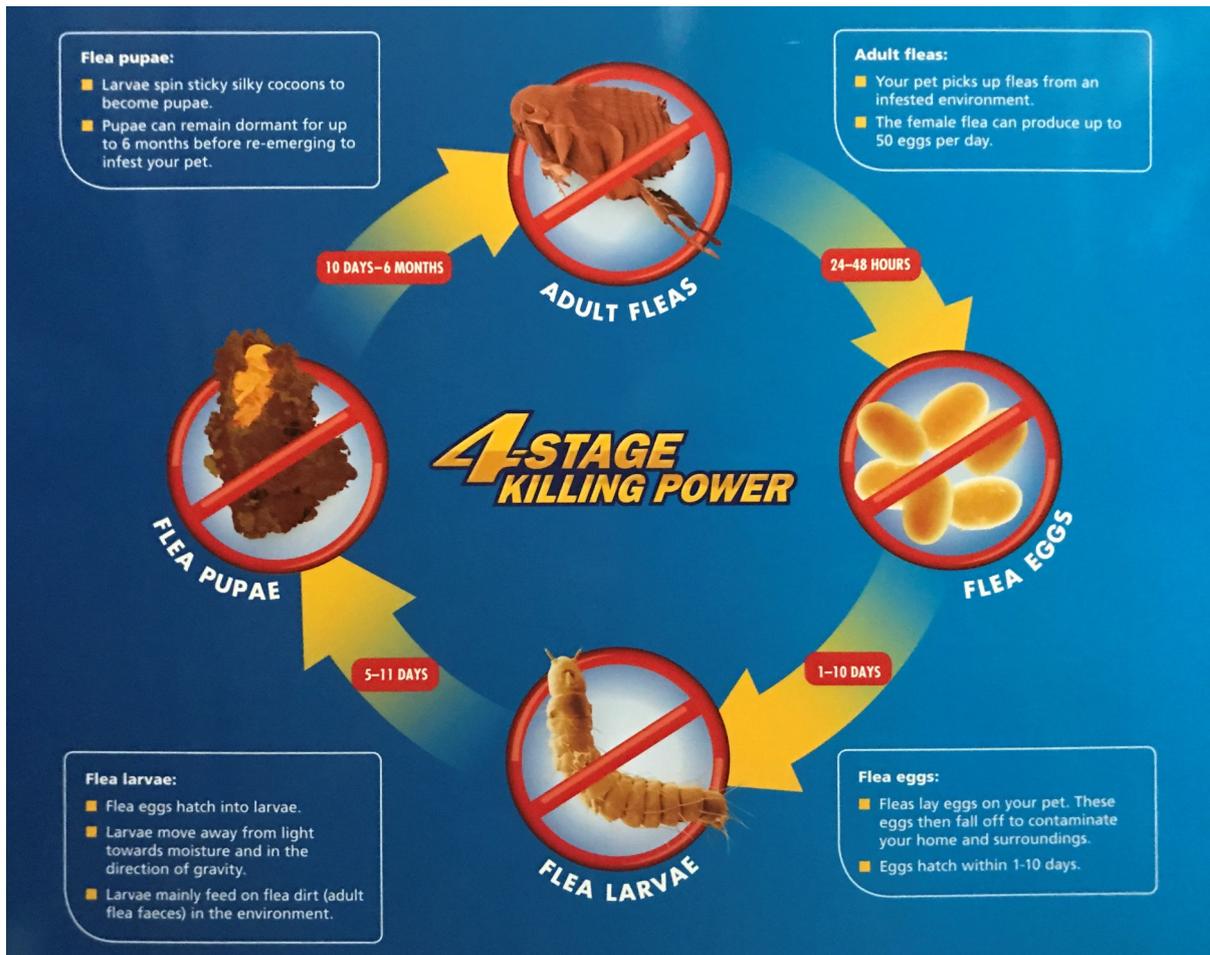


Photo: courtesy of Merial

When the weather is too cold fleas will stay in the pupa stage until conditions improve. In the right conditions (generally speaking this is spring and autumn weather) fleas can complete their life cycle in as little as 21 days.

So what does this mean? When the weather warms up all those flea pupae that are hanging about in the environment (from fleas on your pet or the stray/wild cats/animals that pass through your property) will begin to hatch and jump on your pet. Given how fast fleas can reproduce and how many eggs they lay, the whole situation can quickly spiral out of control! Prevention is better than a cure. This is especially important if you have a pet who suffers from allergies- the last thing they need are fleas too!

So what do we recommend?

A spot on or oral flea treatment used as per the label instructions. Most need to be used monthly. There are a lot of different products available, all have their strong and weak points. The trick is to pick the product that best suits you and your pet's lifestyle.

- * Does your pet swim or get bathed weekly or more frequently? If the answer is yes then an oral flea medication is probably best as it can't be washed off.
- * Is your dog likely to come into contact with foxes or their dens? If so then pick a product that treats fox mange (Sarcoptic mange).

If you need advice please do not hesitate to contact us.