

**January  
2020**

# Rhodes Vet Clinic

**2020**  
— HAPPY NEW YEAR —

**Volume 10  
Issue 1**

**Newsletter**

## Listeriosis

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Listeriosis is caused usually by silage. It can be seen in pit silage and also in round bale silage. It shows up in the silage as mould although there can be pockets of listeria in "good quality silage" where there is no actual mould to be seen.

Listeria is caused by a high pH (pH 5 or higher). If the pH of the silage is less than pH 5 then listeria bacteria will not grow. It is very important to reduce air into your silage when wrapping or rolling.

The signs of listeria are very obvious as the cow will start to walk in circles, only in one direction. She appears not to be able to see and runs into obstructions. This is because the listeria attacks the brain stem but usually only one side and that is why they one way circle.

It affects young ruminants more than the older cows.

The bacteria can get into the cow via damage to the mouth eg erupting teeth or cuts to the cheek by sharp teeth etc.

It is a hard disease to treat as the bacteria is very resistant to antibiotics and the treatment has to be given IV. Recovery is poor so please keep an eye out for mouldy silage!



### 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](http://www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au)

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

**5232 2111**

## Anti-inflammatory Poisoning

Anti inflam poisoning occurs when people give the dose more often that they should or there has been an accidental overdose. Overdoses can occur if the container was left open; the dog may have chewed through the container or giving human medications to dogs where the concentration is much higher.

The signs of this poisoning include:

- Vomiting (with or without food)
- Diarrhoea (sometimes with traces of blood)
- Loss of appetite
- Black tarry faeces
- Excessively thirsty
- Frequent urination
- Lethargy
- General malaise
- Abdominal pain
- Seizures



Treatment must be rapid. This means getting your animal to the Vet as quickly as you can. We need to make the dog vomit to remove the drug from the body.

Please note there is no antidote if your dog is poisoned this way. The worst outcome is death and this can take 10 –16 days to occur.

**BREAKING  
NEWS**

2020 will bring exciting times for us here at Rhodes Veterinary Clinic. We are increasing our Vet power over the next few months.

We are excited to welcome back **Dr Jess Thomas**. Jess enjoyed her locum work whilst travelling throughout England and Scotland. She spent some time with family in England and as a tourist in Europe.

We also welcome **Dr Shaun Armistead** who graduated in 2013. Shaun grew up on a local large scale dairy farm (Scotts Creek). He has 6 years' experience in all facets of both small and large animal cases. He does enjoy his large animal work in both individual and herd health issues. He has extensive experience in pregnancy testing (ultrasound and manual), bull fertility testing, obstetrics and lameness. He will also be available for herd level investigations for the likes of mastitis, lameness and calf scours.

We will advise when we are ready to accept bookings for either Jess or Shaun.