

**February  
2020**

# Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 10  
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**Newsletter**

## Shipping Fever

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic  
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**Veterinarians:**

Dr Michael Rhodes  
Dr Jess Thomas  
Dr Shaun Armistead  
Dr Leigh Moyle  
Dr Fiona Pearson

**Practice Manager:**

Cindy Schoell

**Nurses:**

Kirsty Paton  
Kaylene Swayn  
Sarah Williams

Shipping Fever is a term used to describe sick animals that have usually been transported in a truck 2 to 6 days earlier.

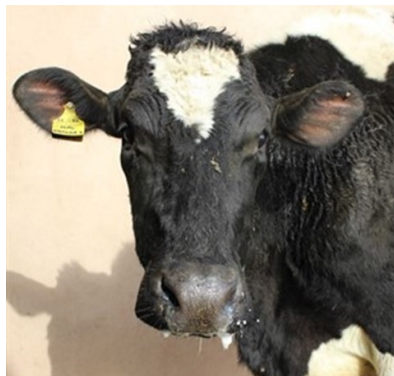
This is usually shown as signs of upper respiratory infection. The cattle have very high temps with a nasty cough and a runny nose which may or may not be a coloured discharge.

This disease is caused usually around this area by a virus called Infectious Bovine Rhinitis (IBR). This virus, unlike the Chinese corona virus is a herpes virus. This virus, like all respiratory virus spreads very rapidly from cow to cow when confined in tight spaces for a length of time, such as transporting cattle in a truck - hence the term shipping fever.

As you have guessed treatment for a virus with any anti bacterial is usually a waste of time, especially if the cow's nasal discharge has no colour. Non steroidal anti inflammatories can help the animal. They will help reduce the high temperature and make the cow feel better and then she will eat and drink.

Prevention of this disease can only be done by vaccinating your cattle with an IBR Vaccine. They should be vaccinated as yearlings, heifers and a booster prior to calving.

Control of IBR in grazing cattle is generally not necessary as the infection is largely asymptomatic.



### We provide:

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

**Simpson Office:**

Please call 5232 2111  
Orders will  
be delivered to the  
Simpson Clinic daily

**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**

## RVC 2020 Team of Veterinarians



**Dr Leigh Moyle** graduated in 2017 from Melbourne University and has been working in the NSW Mid North Coast dairy area as a Mixed Veterinarian. Leigh likes all aspects of vet work and is happy to treat anything from a goldfish to a bull, but has an interest in agriculture. His free time is spent in the water surfing or on a cliff face climbing.



**Dr Fiona Pearson** also graduated from Melbourne University in 2017. Fiona has since worked across the Northern Territory. She lived in Alice Springs and travelled to remote communities. She has treated a variety of animals from perenties (land crocodiles) to precious pets. A quick stint in Melbourne at an 24hr emergency clinic made her realise the joys of country practice. She is looking forward to getting to know the people and animals of Colac and surrounds.



**Dr Jess Thomas** graduated from Melbourne University in 2014. and joined us as her first placement. Jess enjoys all facets of Veterinary Science and is well known amongst many of our clients. She enjoyed her locum work whilst travelling throughout England and Scotland and got to spend some time with family in England as well as being a tourist in Europe. Jess will be available from late March

**Dr Shaun Armistead** graduated in 2013, also from Melbourne University. 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. Shaun will be available from late March.



**Dr Michael Rhodes** graduated from Melbourne University in in 1984. He began his career in an Equine practice on the outskirts of Melbourne before joining a dairy practice in New Zealand. He has now been in the Colac district for most of his 36 years, initially working beside his father, the late Dusty Rhodes. Dr Mike is a very experienced dairy cattle veterinarian who also enjoys small animal surgery and medicine. Dr Mike is available for pregnancy testing, herd health visits and advice. He enjoys travelling, a bike ride, socialising and a nice glass of red.