

**August
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 10
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Newsletter

COVID 19 Update

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We are all experiencing trying times right now. Whilst our local positive numbers are still increasing it is great to see that most of our small community is doing the right thing to ensure we all stay safe.

Masks are a requirement now when we leave home for any reason. All businesses have sanitiser available and have limits on the number of people allowed inside at any one time.

We would just like to remind you of some of the extra precautions you can take to ensure that we as a clinic are still able to operate and be available to assist you with your pets and farm animals.

Please phone (03) 5232 2111 ahead and make a booking for everything. STRICTLY NO WALK INS. This includes surgery drop offs, pick ups and large animal drug collections.

Please bring minimal people to each appointment - normally we love kids being involved in their pets care, but at this time, if possible, please keep to 1 person per appointment.

Hand sanitiser is provided on our front counters and please maintain at least 1.5m distance from others.

If you would be more comfortable not entering the clinic we are happy to see you and your pet in the car park and complete the payment over the phone. Please notify us of this at time of booking.

if you are in Quarantine/Self isolation or have any Flu like symptoms please tell us and we will discuss options with you. We will not refuse your pets care.



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

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

5232 2111

Mastitis: Common Pathogens

Mastitis: Inflammation of the udder. Usually due to infection by time it is detected.

Clinical Signs: Heat, swelling, pain in the udder, changes to milk consistency, colour, smell and sometimes unwell cows. These changes can tell us a lot about what is going on!

There are two main causes of mastitis.

Firstly there is environmental. This means from places outside the dairy, like drains. Muddy areas, calving down paddocks and wet areas around hay.

Secondly there is dairy spread. This contamination occurs in the dairy and is caused by cracked rubberwear, poor vacuum, milk line too narrow, over milking, poor hygiene, not wearing gloves, not using enough teat spray ... this list goes on!

Staph aureus: (Black mastitis). This bacteria may or may not show mastitis signs. Usually the milk will be watery with little clots and may have some blood involved. If the cow is older she is more likely to have a mild cell count higher than the rest of the herd with no clinical signs. This is very is very hard to treat and culling the cow is often the best treatment.

Strep uberis: this infection is usually seen in early lactation coming off the calving pad and poor teat hygiene. It spreads easily from cow to cow. Treatment is effective but it tend sto re-occur if hygiene is not done to perfection.

Strep agalactiae: this shed bacteria is passed by machine and operators. It loves to persist in moist conditions so wet liners can spread it from milking to milking. It is hard to get rid of while the cows are in lactation. Dry cow will often be the way of removing it from your Herd. Culling is a good option also.

Many of the bacteria are preventable with good hygiene (clean, dry teats before cups go on) and teat spray. Teat canals are open for 30 mins after milking so are susceptible to infection, teat spray kills any pathogens on the teat to prevent this, not walking through teat deep mud also helps. If a cow is running milk before calving her teat canals are open and susceptible to infection- Start milking her to reduce the mastitis risk.



2020 RVC AFL TIPPING LADDER after Round 9:

1.	Mike	54	5.	Kosta	51	9.	Glenn	50
2.	Shaun	52	6.	Emma	51	10.	Duane	50
3.	Shannon	51	7.	Chris	50			
4.	Ellis	51	8.	Kirsty	50			