

**September
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

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Fire Fever at this time of the Year?

At the end of June, throughout July and still now we have cows kicking at themselves. We have been asked by our clients .. What is going on? Do these cows have displacements? Do they have an infection?

NO. These cows often have fire fever. This does not normally occur at this time of the year. Normally it is a problem in the Spring and Summer and is usually associated with crop feeding.

So why now? This year we have had a mild winter and many farmers have planted new grass and this has taken off like a rocket. It is this new growth that has been causing the fire fever problem.

A non digestible source of fibre will help to combat this problem. The best source of this fibre is straw. This straw should be available to the cows as they come and go from the dairy. Hay is too easily digested and a raft of roughage is what is needed.



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

Is a Vegan diet good for your pets?

For humans the move to a vegan diet has become increasingly popular throughout the western world, but in a study in Vet Record researchers from Canada and New Zealand have found pet owners are also choosing to feed their cats and dogs a vegan diet and this has nutritional implications for their companion animals.



In the latest study the team examined survey responses more closely to identify various trends in animal nutrition and found there were correlations with trends in human nutrition, and showed pet owners have explored alternative diet options for their companion animals over the past decade. The researchers examined how ‘unconventional’ diets that included vegan, natural ‘ancestral’ grain-free, home made and raw food diets, may be storing up health problems for animals being fed these type of options, compared to more “conventional” commercial wet and dry dietary choices.

Although feeding practices varied in each country, Australian pets were more commonly fed exclusively on raw food and it was also more common for Australian dogs to be fed exclusively on home made diets. Over half of all animals represented were fed raw animal food while vegetarian food was included in the diets of around one in five dogs and one in twenty cats. Of these, half were fed only plant based foods.



“Avoidance of conventional pet foods in favour of home made and raw product foods may put the health of dogs and cats at risk”, the study claimed, citing published analyses indicating insufficient nutritional levels, or imbalances in these diets and associated health conditions.

“Home made raw food diets pose an additional risk of infection in the absence of chemical or heat treatment steps to kill potentially harmful bacteria and act as a potential reservoir of antibiotic resistant microbes which can be passed on to people.

(Courtesy of The Veterinarian)

Pet Exchange Register

If you advertise a puppy, kitten, dog or cat for sale or to give away in Victoria, you will need a source number from the Pet Exchange Register. This source number must be displayed on all your advertisements, along with the individual animal's microchip number.

The source number of the breeder of any dog or cat, or the source number of the council pound, animal shelter, pet shop or foster carer that owns the animal will be required when implanting a microchip into a dog or cat born after 1 July 2020.

If you do not have a source number you may obtain one via the Pet Exchange Register at <https://pet.animalwelfare.vic.gov.au/>. A source number is valid for one year and can be renewed annually for as long as you need it.

Due to the impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19), the Victorian Government has waived the annual fee to enrol and renew on the Pet Exchange Register for another year until 1 July 2021.



TIPPING LADDER after Round 14:		
1.	Emma	86
2.	Kosta	86
3.	Ellis	85
4.	Mike	84
5.	Janine	84
6.	Shaun	84
7.	Sharyn	84
8.	Josh	83
9.	Alan	83