

**October
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

Rabbits

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Rabbits make great family pets and can be as loved as the family cat or dog. Just like cats and dogs, rabbits also need regular veterinary treatment to ensure they live a long, happy and healthy life. Here at Rhodes we are able to offer many treatments to your pet rabbit.

Vaccination

Calicivirus is a horrible fatal disease that rabbits catch from mosquitos. Luckily there is a vaccination we can give rabbits to protect them against this. The current recommendation is to vaccinate rabbits every 6 months to cover all strains of calicivirus.

Myxomatosis is another fatal disease that is spread to rabbits by mosquitos. Unfortunately, we do not have a vaccine for this available in Australia. Protecting your rabbit with a mosquito proof enclosure is the best way to try and protect them from myxo.

Dental Disease

Dental disease is really common in rabbits. A rabbit's teeth grow continuously throughout their life and they rely on their food to wear their teeth down to size. ~80% of a rabbit's diet should be grass or grass hay. Overgrown teeth can occur if there isn't enough fibre in their diet or if they have a malocclusion (where their teeth don't line up properly). Overgrown teeth can cause tooth root abscesses, blocked tear ducts and watery eyes, pain, oral ulceration and weight loss. All rabbits should have their front and back teeth regularly examined by a vet to see if they require dental work.

Emergency work up

Rabbits have a very complex digestive system, and so because of this, any rabbit that is not eating is an emergency and needs to be seen by a vet ASAP. We have the ability to take x rays, perform surgery and medically manage sick rabbits.

If you have any questions about your rabbit organise an appointment with one of our vets and we can work out the best way to keep your rabbit happy and healthy.



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

Preg Testing Cattle

Why?

To detect pregnancy.

Accurate pregnancy diagnosis will help you to make feed management, dry off, labour and culling decisions and thus improve your enterprises profitability. When done early in pregnancy it can be used to detect fertility issues whilst there is still time to salvage the situation.



When?

Pregnancy can be reliably detected from 6 weeks.

Foetal aging is most accurate between 6 and 14 weeks.

A dry off/pre calving pregnancy test can also be conducted to confirm/detect those who have slipped. It will vary enterprise to enterprise but as a general rule the ideal time to pregnancy test is:

For dairy:

Accurate aging is ideal to get accurate dry off and thus lead feed times to maximise milk production. Depending on how long you join for this will most likely requires 2 preg tests. The first being 14 weeks after mating start date and then on the second visit, 6 weeks after the bulls come out, we recheck anything that wasn't detected pregnant in the first scan. This protocol will enable us to give accurate aging dates.

For beef:

if you want to separate your cattle into calving batches accurate ageing is required which means preg testing 6 weeks after the bull comes out, up to 14 weeks . If you have a prolonged joining period (>9 weeks) 2 pregnancy tests may be advisable, the first during joining and the second 6 weeks after the bull comes out.

If you are just wanting to know who is pregnant and who is not then pregnancy testing 6 weeks after the bull is taken out is advisable

How?

- We offer ultrasound and manual pregnancy diagnosis.
- Ultrasound offers superior accuracy in foetal aging between 6 and 14 weeks of pregnancy.
- The ultrasound is also a great tool for assessing the reproductive tracts of those who are non - cycling to advise the best program to get them in calf.
- Both Shaun and Mike are Cattle Vets Preg Test Accredited and Jess and Leigh are working towards it.

FINAL RESULTS FOR OUR 2020 RVC AFL TIPPING COMPETITION:

1. Emma / Kosta / Ellis	109
4. Shaun	108
5. Mike	107
6. Cindy	106
7. Sharyn / Janine / Josh	105
3rd to last Jess	77
2nd to last Archer	76
Last Tim / Melissa / Leigh / Kylie	72



Congratulations to the prize winners!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this most unusual season!
Good luck to you if your team is playing finals!