

**February  
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# Rhodes Vet Clinic

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**Newsletter**

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic  
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**Veterinarians:**

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## Polyuria and Polydipsia

How much your pet is drinking and urinating is really important to monitor and can tell us a lot about your pet's health. Polydipsia is the technical term for excessive drinking and polyuria is the technical term for excessive urinating.

Polyuria and Polydipsia can be a sign of senior's disease.

### How much is too much water?

Just like us on a hot day your pet may drink a little more than usual but if you have noticed that they are consistently drinking large amounts of water this is cause for concern. If you have noticed a change, this is reason enough for a vet visit. If you are not quite sure you can start by measuring how much water your pet is drinking and then organising a consult so we can work out if it is excessive.



### How much is too much pee?

When it comes to urinating its not just important how big the volume of urine is but also in what manner your pet is urinating. If your pet has started peeing more frequently – doing lots of big or small pees then this is concerning. If your pet is straining while they urinate or squatting without peeing this too if worth investigating and can actually be a life threatening emergency if they are unable to pee. It's also worth checking your pet isn't urinating in their sleep and leaving wet patches on their bed. Any change in your pets normal urinating habits are reason enough for a vet visit.



### What will be wrong with my pet if it is drinking or urinating more?

There are lots of diseases that affect how our pets drink and wee. These can be simple to treat urinary tract infections or serious complex diseases such as diabetes. A visit to the vet to get your pet looked at and discuss the best next tests to diagnose your pet is the way to go to keep your pet happy and healthy.

### We provide:

- Surgery & Medicine for small and large animals
- Herd Health Advice
- Cattle Pregnancy Testing
- Bull Fertility Testing
- Lameness in Cattle
- Equine Consults
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- In House Blood Testing
- Nutrition

**Simpson Office:**

Please call 5232 2111

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

**Colac Office:**

Our Colac Office is open

Monday to Friday

8am to 6pm

Saturday 9am to 12 noon

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

**5232 2111**

## Pink Eye (Infectious Bovine Kerato-conjunctivitis)

This is a bacterial infection, hence the term infectious. This disease will spread rapidly amongst a herd of cattle. It is usually associated with hot weather and a lot of flies. As you may have noticed, this year has not been hot and nor have there been an abundance of flies. However of late we have been asked for lots of pink eye treatments and patches. Why? What is causing this outbreak?

Pink eye is caused by the organism, *Moraxella Bovis*. This little beastly can stay alive and survive on surfaces for three days and lasts up to two days in the gut of face flies. (*Musca autumnalis*). The cows are picking up the problem around the hay stands. The cattle are eating dry matter that has been infected. Dust is created and this dust coats the eye in bacteria and off the disease goes! If we could teach our cows to social distance whilst eating we would have a reduction in the spread.



Vaccination will help reduce pink eye but may not be successful if the strain of *M. Bovis* is not the one that the vaccine covers. Using the appropriate antibiotic and placing patches over the affected eyes really helps reduce the spread. If you have a problem with flies then it is important that you have good fly prevention strategies also. Different strategies should be undertaken depending on your circumstances for maximum efficiency.

If you find that your cows, heifers or calves appear not to respond to treatment then please rethink your problem. The pink eye may not be caused by *M. Bovis* but by a virus called Infectious Bovine Rhinitis (IBR). If this is the case you will need to apply a different strategy and that will include a vaccination programme.

## Microchip Source Number



We sadly bid farewell to Dr Leigh and Dr Fiona this month. We have really enjoyed them being a part of our team for the past twelve months and we wish them all the very best as they head to the NT to the warmer climate.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** 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 [www.per.animalwelfare.vic.gov.au](http://www.per.animalwelfare.vic.gov.au) A source number is valid for one year and can be renewed annually for as long as you need it.