

**March
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

Heat Stroke

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As the summer months temperature increases we start to see an increase in our pets suffering from heat stroke. Dogs and cats are affected by heat stroke when their bodies cannot regulate a normal temperature. Dog and cats respond differently to heat than humans do. Humans sweat through sweat glands to cool down their bodies. Dogs and cats however only have a few sweat glands on their paws. Therefore, panting is their main way of reducing body heat. It is important to provide cool water as well as a ventilated area to help them cool down easily.

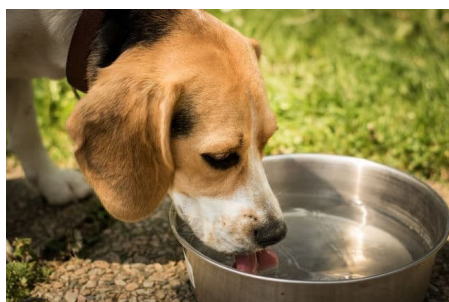


High body temperatures can result in tissue damage as well as damage to the internal organs which can very quickly become fatal. The damaged tissue causes the organs to lose their function, especially the brain. Your pet may need to be placed on a drip and/or oxygen and a blood test can be taken to check for any loss of organ function.

It is important to never leave your pet locked inside of your car as the temperature inside your car increases rapidly. Excessive exercise can also be a cause of heat stroke. Try avoiding long walks on warmer days, especially when there is no wind. Avoiding hot sand, concrete and asphalt is important as the surface can reflect the heat and may also cause the pads of their feet to burn. Remember, if the surface is too hot for us to walk on, it is too hot for our pets.

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



If you notice any signs of heat stroke such as panting, drooling, lots of salivation, vomiting and lethargy it is important to contact your veterinarian ASAP. It is also important to remove your pet from the hot and humid environment and attempt to cool the body down. You can do this by spraying your pet with cool water or placing wet towels over your pet. Providing them with a fan will also offer assistance.

If your pet has any pre-existing breathing conditions such as respiratory disease, obesity, heart problems or is a brachycephalic breed (Pugs, Bulldogs, Persian) please be more aware of heat stress symptoms.

Simpson Office:

Please call 5232 2111

www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au

Colac Office:

Monday to Friday
8am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 12 noon

**We are available 24/7
for emergencies.
Our emergency number
is: 5232 2111**

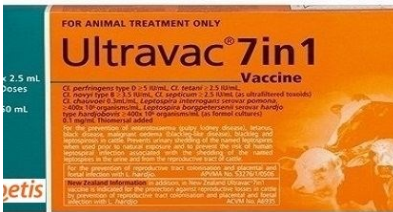
Vaccination Failure

This month's question has been "Did you give your young stock their second vaccination?" We all know the importance of vaccinating our animals. It prevents diseases such as Distemper, Measles, Hepatitis and Kennel Cough in dogs. Prevents FIP and FIV in cats. It prevents Strangles and Tetanus in Horses and prevents Clostridial, Rota, Corona, E.Coli, Vibriosis, IBR and BVD in cattle.



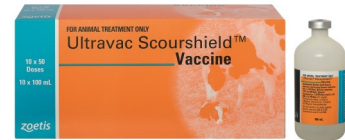
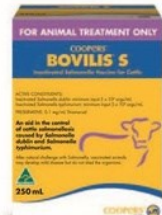
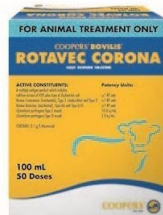
It is very important to vaccinate your mature animals to ensure a good antibody load in mothers milk which then helps protect the young animal for the first 12-16 weeks of life. After this it is important to give on going vaccinations to your young animals.

Problems occurs when young animals do not get their appropriate number of vaccinations. Often people give their animals their first vaccination but forget to follow up with their second. What happens then is the young animals are not sufficiently covered and then we see young animals succumbing to disease.



We will then need to treat the young animals because their mothers antibodies have not been stimulated enough due to their insufficient vaccinations.

The take home message is, do your vaccination schedule properly to all your animals.



2023 AFL Footy is back this month. If you would like to join us for our 2023 weekly AFL tipping competition please let Cindy know by the 10th of March.

Tips must be either emailed (cindy@rhodesvet.com.au), or delivered to the clinic by 5pm on the day of the first game of each round.

Tips will not be accepted by telephone.

We will accept several entries from each house. Please ensure the tips are named if more than one person wishes to participate.

There is a small cost of \$1/round (\$23 for the season).

As per other seasons we will have a small get together at the end of the season to present the winning tippers with their rewards.

Zip now, pay later **ZIP**

We offer zip pay on purchases over \$100