

**May
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

Cat Fight Abscesses

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In recent weeks we are regularly being presented with cats that are lame, sore and/or not eating. On examination of a cat with cat fight abscesses there is often an elevated temp as well as bite wounds to the legs, top of the head or base of the tail. These areas are often sore to touch with the cat reacting in pain when handled.



At this stage the cat may have developed cellulitis, meaning the area is swollen and sore. If treated at this stage with antibiotics the area often resolves itself and the cat will become itself again within a few days.

If left untreated then the cat will develop a very nasty abscess. The abscess may rupture on its own, but also may require to be opened up by a veterinarian. Either way the abscess will need to be flushed and drained of all of the infection.

It is important to treat these infections promptly, as left untreated the infection may cause problems for the cat's kidneys.



Cat fight abscesses occur all year round, but are more common in spring as this is when cats are most sexually active and out looking for a mate. Neutered cats significantly reduce the amount of cat fights we have, resulting in less cat fight abscesses.

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



RVC Footy Tipping Ladder

At the end of round 7

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Scott (46) | 3. Ray (44) | 5. Len (43) |
| 2. Sharyn (45) | 4. Shannon (44) | 6. Josh (43) |

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**

Cryptosporidiosis

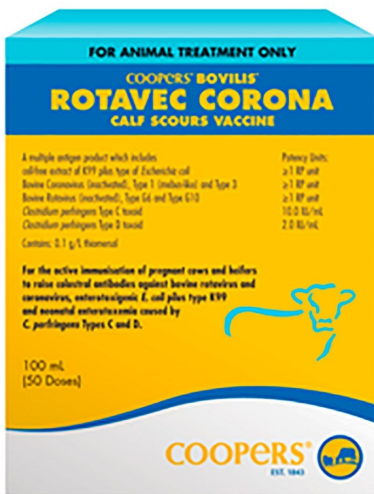
This month, it is important to talk about cryptosporidiosis, as we have had a very wet start to the year with little to no heat. These weather conditions have been perfect for Crypto to survive in the environment.

Crypto is caused by the parasite, cryptosporidiosis and is found in the small intestine of calves. It is this infestation that damages the small intestine leading to diarrhoea, dehydration and death.

Once your calf has picked up the eggs "oocysts" they are excreted onto the ground and picked up by the next calf and so begins the cycle causing an outbreak in your herd.



Crypto is a rather hard disease to get on top of once your animals have been affected. Prevention is much better than the cure.



The first step is to vaccinate your cows. This reduces the chance of the calves getting the virus because of the antibodies in the mother's colostrum. This is why colostrum milk is so important to our new born calves. We often find that crypto alone tends to not affect the calves unless it has its friends rota virus and corona virus.

It is very important to clear your calf areas by removing all organic matter and clean the hard surfaces with a product like Virkon. An even better solution (where possible) is to rear your next lot of calves in a totally different area to avoid your calves ingesting these oocysts.

If you do find you do have an outbreak there are medications available to help remove the crypto from the calf. These medications can also be used a preventive. Give us a call if you do have an outbreak and we can talk you through how to treat your infected animals.



Dr Mike will be taking a well-deserved break from Saturday, 1st July.

Dr Leigh Moyle will arrive to cover for Mike from Monday, 10th July.

With no Vet in the clinic from 1st to the 10th July the authorisation of any S4 prescription medications will be strictly prohibited.

Please arrange authorisation prior to the 1st of July for any regular prescription medications you will require over these 10 days.

During this time the Clinic will be open 10am - 2pm Monday - Friday & 9am - 12noon Saturday.

We will be available for future appointments, medication collection, flea and worm treatments, diets and any other over-the-counter supplies.

Our normal service & medication orders will resume on Monday 10th July.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time as we allow our hard working Dr Mike to enjoy a holiday.