



CHB VETS LTD

Veterinary newsletter

August 2019



Joint Health, Quality of Life!

PCSO-524® is the name given to the marine lipid oil that is sourced from the mollusc Perna canaliculus (Green lipped mussel) in Nelson, NZ. Due to our supercritical, environmentally-friendly and state-of-the-art extraction process the oil is unique and 100% natural. It consists of up to 91 free fatty acid components, sterol esters, polar and non-polar lipids along with carotenoids. The PCSO-524® oil is mixed with olive oil and Vitamin E oil to make Antinol® a great NZ natural product.

Because it provides nutrients that are essential components of body tissues, Antinol® supports cats' and dogs' healthy joints, mobility and skin.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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Senior Pet Wellness

As your pet ages, there are important areas in their lives to monitor:

- **Diet and nutrition**—geriatric pets often need foods that are more easily digested, have different calorie levels and ingredients, as well as anti-aging nutrients.
- **Weight control**—weight gain in geriatric dogs increases the risk of health problems, whereas weight loss is a bigger concern for geriatric cats.
- **Parasite control**—older pets' immune systems are not as healthy as those of younger animals; as a result, they cannot fight off diseases or heal as fast as younger pets.
- **Maintaining mobility**—as with older people, keeping older pets mobile through appropriate exercise helps keep them healthier and more mobile.
- **Vaccination**—a pet's vaccination needs may change with age so we can discuss vaccination programmes specific for geriatric pets.
- **Mental health**—pets can show signs of senility. Stimulating them through interactions can help keep them mentally active. If any changes in your pet's behaviour are noticed, let us know so we can help them with this.
- **Environmental considerations**—older pets may need changes in their lifestyle, such as sleeping areas to avoid stairs, more time indoors, etc. Disabled pets have special needs which can be discussed during clinic visits.
- **Reproductive diseases**—non-neutered and non-spayed geriatric pets are at a higher risk of mammary, testicular and prostate cancers.



Predisposing factors include:

- ♦ Rapidly growing pasture is low in calcium
- ♦ Older ewes
- ♦ Ewes with multiple foetuses need more calcium
- ♦ Ewes fed grain (low in calcium)
- ♦ Oat crops are low in calcium
- ♦ Nitrogen and potassium fertilisers can make the calcium levels in the pasture lower



So the big question is how do we minimise this risk? The main way is to minimise time off the pasture. It is best to avoid any sudden changes in feed quality, feed type and feed quantity. For high risk ewes i.e. triplet bearing ewes, injections which contain vitamins A, D and E can be given 6-8 weeks before lambing. The Vitamin D3 can help mobilise the calcium from the bones if given in large doses. The Vitamin A and E both help with the immune response at times of stress. It has been routinely used with cows to help reduce the risk of milk fever. Ewes with milk fever initially stagger, then lie down. They usually sit with head turned into the flank. There is often no reflex when the eye is touched and they usually bloat. If left untreated animals go into a coma after 24 hours and die. It is best to treat with both calcium and glucose (the latter to prevent sleepy sickness which is commonly associated with milk fever). We recommend injecting 100ml of Glucalpos under the skin. Wait 30 minutes before giving other products such as Starter plus or Keto-aid orally. The ewe needs to be able to regain their ability to swallow before drenching.

Urinary Care

Over the winter months we see an increase in the number of cats presented for problems with urination. If your cat is affected you may have noticed he is frequently squatting and straining, he may pee in unusual places and the urine may have blood in it. A healthy bladder starts with the right balance of vital nutrients. Excess minerals can encourage the formation of crystals in the urine, which may lead to the creation of bladder stones. They can cause discomfort and lead to more serious problems that require the care of a veterinarian. Stress in the home has been shown to negatively impact bladder health as well. Hill's nutritionists & veterinarians developed Hill's Prescription Diet™ c/d Multicare Feline Stress specially formulated to support your cat's urinary health while also managing stress. In fact, c/d Multicare is clinically tested nutrition to lower the recurrence of most common urinary signs by 89%.



Be Prepared and Plan Ahead for Rearing Healthy Calves

Calves are valuable as they represent future herd replacements and a source of income. It is worth remembering that they are not a miniature adult, but are new born babies and need to be treated as such.

Healthy calves are the result of a combination of factors: an active immune system, a warm dry environment, low exposure to viruses and bacteria, quality feed and good care on arrival from the sale yard.



Calf Sheds

Preparation of the calf shed for the coming season is a vital part of a strategy to ensure optimum calf health, so taking time before calving starts to plan and prepare for the impending arrival of this season's calves is time well spent.

A clean dry pen is absolutely critical, with no more than 20 calves per pen and a minimum of 1.5 square meters per calf.

Before calving starts, the calf sheds should be completely cleaned out, with old bedding removed and the sheds then sprayed with Vetsan Super Concentrate at a dilution rate of 250 ppm. Once dry, enough new bedding to a depth of 30cm should be introduced and then the pens re-sprayed with Vetsan Super Concentrate at a dilution rate of 250 ppm. A dilution rate of 250ppm is recommended to be effective against hard to kill organisms such as Cryptosporidia.

Ensure there is good drainage as pooling water in pens can be a source of infection. An all-in-all-out system where calves stay in the same group in the same pen until they leave the shed is an ideal way to minimise transfer of disease. Bobby calf pens need to be separate from keeper-calf pens to reduce the possibility of the spread of infection.

Once calves are introduced to the pens a weekly spray program of Vetsan Super Concentrate at a dilution rate of 100ppm is recommended to keep any environmental contamination or introduced infections at a low level.

Vetsan Super Concentrate has a wide range of activity against virtually all micro-organisms including Rotavirus, E Coli, Salmonella sp, Cryptosporidium parvum and Coronavirus. It is non-toxic to humans and safe to use when calves are in the shed (100ppm dilution). Avoid spraying directly into the face of calves, but you may spray around their bodies. Vetsan Super Concentrate has a residual killing activity for 7-10 days.



"A scrumtious scrunchy story...."

Our case of the month is about a cute little black dog called Kwai-Lah. This dear little dog has a history of eating things she shouldn't...

Just about a month ago, she ate a sock which then had to be surgically removed in her hometown. After this ordeal, she came to visit and recover from her surgery here in our beautiful town. Unfortunately, she got hold of something and before anybody could see what it was or do anything, it was gone! Kwai-Lah then wasn't sure if that was the best decision and tried to get rid of it by vomiting, without any success... She came to visit us and we did an x-ray to see if we could visualise and figure out what the mysterious object was? We could see something and everybody had a guess what it could be. After following it for a few days by x-ray and appropriate treatment, hoping it will pass on its own, it got to a point where it couldn't go any further. There was no other option but to open her up and remove the object. It was like Christmas, waiting to unwrap a present, as everybody was waiting around to see what it is! Drum roll.....It was a black hair scrunchy! What a relief, it's out! How on earth is it possible to swallow that without any chewing or any effort? I must admit, I respect her ability to swallow it whole! After a day or two recovering from surgery she was eating and ready to go home...

However....later in the day I got the dreaded call that she was looking worse again. She was admitted immediately and treated, unfortunately she only got worse every-day after that. She was so brave, never did she once vomit or cry or try to bite. She was such an awesome patient, knowing her way around the clinic and when one of the staff took her out for a toilet break she knew where she wanted to go and would pull us there. How could this be? She was doing so well? We reassessed and decided she had to be opened up again as she developed secondary complications after the previous two surgeries, was she going to survive this? Hopefully we will have a better ending next time..



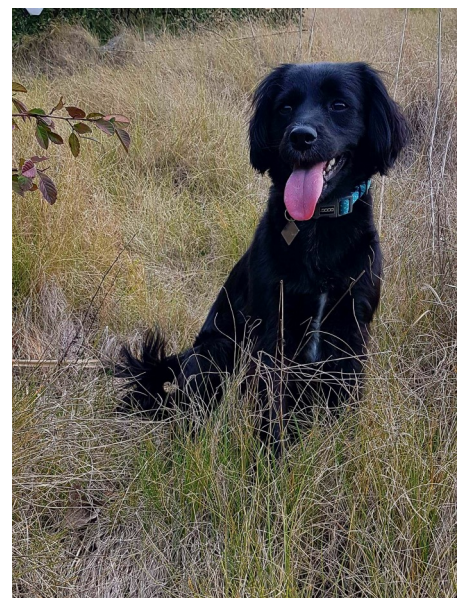
The offending black scrunchy



Sad little Kwai-Lah

Nah, just kidding!

This brave girl pulled through and fought so hard to live. After lots of prayers, love from our team and her family and her will to live she just went from strength to strength each day! After a few days she went home but was under strict house arrest and went back to mom and dad on the weekend. We are so grateful for her wonderful recovery and hope to see her when she comes to visit for some *edible doggy treats!*



Happy now and back to normal!

Moral of the story, make sure you act quickly if your dog swallows something and try keep things they might want to eat out of reach, they might just surprise you!