



# Newsletter

WEBSITE: <http://www.forestlodgevets.com>

ISSUE 17

## Flies and Rabbits

Flies and rabbits don't mix, as blowflies will lay eggs on rabbits that can cause maggot infestation resulting in serious damage if not death. Maggots can develop from eggs in as little 12 hours, so a crisis can rapidly develop.

This is a real problem in hot and humid weather, but also whenever rabbits have problems that stop them keeping themselves clean e.g. obesity, arthritis, dental problems or diarrhoea.

To help your rabbit: keep their living areas clean, dry and disinfected, regularly check your rabbits over - any health problems should be checked out so that your rabbit can stay as dry and mobile as possible.

**REARGUARD** is a liquid that you can paint on your rabbit's hindquarters, to provide 10 weeks worth of protection against maggot infestation.

**CRUSADE** is a household spray which will kill any flies that land on treated surfaces for up to a month. We advise treating the hutch and areas nearby if there are flies about.

## New Spot-On Treatment Against Ticks

Bayer have brought out a new spot-on treatment: **ADVANTIX**, which will not only kill fleas and ticks but also repel ticks and mosquitoes before they feed.

We have been using it since

April and so far it does seem to be highly effective.

It must **not** be used on cats though, so cats that tend to pick up ticks will need to stay on **FRONTLINE**.

## Booster vaccinations

**Intervet**, the drug company whose vaccines we use, have done a lot of work checking how often vaccines need to be given. They are now confident that protection against Distemper, Hepatitis and Parvovirus will last for 3 years after the initial vaccination course (the puppy vaccinations and then the first annual booster). Parainfluenza and Leptospirosis protection only lasts a year in most dogs, so an annual vaccination against these diseases is recommended. As leptospirosis

(Weil's disease in humans) is spread by rat urine especially in water courses, all of our dogs that walk on the forest, clifftops, farmland, or park land should be regularly immunised. This means we recommend an annual check up and appropriate booster vaccinations depending on your pet's age, where you exercise them and local disease outbreaks. If you have any concerns regarding vaccination please feel free to discuss them with us.



We are delighted that Tara Zilic Bvet-Med MRCVS has returned to work with us, following the birth of her daughter Katerina.

Mrs Zilic works 3 days a week at our Lymington surgery, usually Tuesdays, Thursday mornings and Fridays.

Portia Clayton MAVetMB MRCVS joined us in December, after graduating from Cambridge University. Miss Clayton has quickly settled in, and is normally to be found working hard at New Milton.



## Emergency Cover

One of the practice vets is always available on call. As they are often busy we use an out-of-hours reception service which is based in Southampton. Our emergency number—07000 614482 should either be answered by the on call vet or go through to this service. However if it fails, please ring 02380 821527 to call direct.

## Feeding particular breeds

Royal Canin have now produced 3 specific dog foods aimed at optimising the health of Labradors, German Shepherds and Yorkshire Terriers. These are very good but not cheap!

Please ask for more information as they are helpful in combating the common problems associated with those breeds.

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