



The Team at Vets North are kicking off the winter months with a new working dog newsletter.

The aim is to keep you updated with promotions and new information to help you keep your team in tip-top shape!



Spotlight on Vaccinations

Even though duck hunting season has finished it is likely your dogs will be coming into contact with strange dogs & terrain while out & about hunting. This brings the risk of Leptospirosis which is transferred via rat urine so any type of water system is a high risk area.

Any pig dogs that are entering permitted pine areas are at high risk of catching diseases such as canine cough (Kennel Cough) and parvo. In addition

It is important that you protect your own dogs from these diseases as you never know the history of other dogs that you may come into contact with.

Want More Information

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this newsletter please contact: Chelsea at VN Helensville

Winter Checklist

Kennels – Check the dogs sleeping quarters are waterproof, clean & free from any drafts. The change of season is always a great time to disinfect the kennel area. This can help with parasite control and general cleanliness and health.

Condition - Check the body condition of all your dogs, the leaner they are the harder they will find the winter months. They will use more energy to stay warm so think about increasing feeding quantities to prevent weight loss. *For approximately every 5°C drop in the temperature a dog requires 7.5% more food. So in winter if the temperature drops from 10°C to 0°C your dog would require 15% more food per day, this is actually quite a significant increase in feeding amounts.*

Joints – Remember that the colder months can wreck havoc on the older dogs in the team who suffer from arthritis. Ensuring the dogs are kept warm is very important to help preserve joints and make them more comfortable.



1	Very Thin More than 20% below ideal body weight		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribs, spine and pelvic bones are easily visible (in short haired pets) Obvious loss of muscle mass No palpable fat on chest
2	Thin between 10 and 20% below ideal weight		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribs, spine and pelvic bones visible Obvious waist Minimal abdominal fat
3	Ideal Weight		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribs, spine and pelvic bones not visible but easily palpable Obvious waist Little abdominal fat
4	Overweight 20% above ideal weight		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribs, spine and pelvic bones are hardly palpable Waist is absent Heavy abdominal fat deposits
5	Markedly Obese 40% above ideal weight		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Massive fat deposits on chest, spine and the abdomen Obviously distended abdomen

0800 VTS NTH

AFTER HOURS: 0274 957 986

68 Access Road, Kumeu - P: 09 412 9016 - Kumeu@vetsnorth.co.nz

45 Commercial Road, Helensville - P: 09 420 8325 - Helensville@vetsnorth.co.nz