

Rural Dog Focus

July / August 2015



We hope everyone enjoyed their first little taste of our Rural Dog Newsletter. The positive feedback we received from those who attended our recent Liver Fluke Farm Focus evening has been great. It's great to hear people are interested in information for their working and rural dogs!

Chelsea & the Vets North Team



Focus on Diet

One of the most common health concerns for a large majority of working & hunting dogs is they are underweight. For working dogs the standard & quality of work produced by the dog is largely linked to diet & nutrition. The working dog is one of the biggest assets on any farm, they can go where no machinery can and at a greater speed & agility than any bike! Therefore some respect & thought needs to go into their diet.

A dog in full work needs three times the energy requirement of a pet dog. In order to work at full capacity their diet must provide enough energy & protein in a highly digestible form. Energy is required for all functions of the body including digestion. By feeding food that is not easily digestible there can be a net loss of energy from the body. This is purely just from trying to digest the indigestible.

Most dogs are fed a mixture of commercially made biscuits & meat. This can be a great combination, however not all products are created equal. Many of the more budget brands of biscuits heavily rely on cereal by products that ultimately are poorly digested & therefore passed straight through into the faeces.

In order to provide the best combination of a sustainable energy source, protein for lean muscles & a complete vitamin & mineral source, they need a diet that is complete and balanced. A premium or super premium diet is completely balanced to provide the exact nutrients needed and at the

correct ratios. These diets can be mix fed with meat in order to keep costs down when feeding large numbers of dogs.

Eukanuba Premium Performance is scientifically formulated and proven in clinical trials to represent the best option for NZ working dogs. The price per bag may look like more, but once broken down to cost per day & grams per day, along with reduced feeding amounts compared to less superior food, it makes it easy to see where the value of Eukanuba Premium Performance comes from.

Because Eukanuba is made with premium ingredients at the correct nutritional requirement, you end up with a biscuit that is dense in energy, proteins and minerals. This makes for a reduced feeding amount because it cuts out the fillers & bulking cereals found in less superior diets. It is the cereal by products in other diets that creates excessive defecation, as the majority of the food is indigestible and therefore passed straight into the faeces.



Above you can see the daily requirement of three common types of working dog foods.

Eukanuba has a dedicated rep who will visit you on farm to discuss the best & most affordable way to feed your dogs. This service is obligation free and very educational. If you are interested in this service, please contact Chelsea at Vets North Helensville.

Eukanuba 

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



What's New

Www.farmdogs.co.nz has just gone live with their new website. At this stage it's mainly a classified site with dogs and pups for sale.

They also have an established Facebook page where you can post questions, dogs for sale/wanted, pictures and keep up with some of the new info out there. Make sure you go and check it out!!



Win a Bag of Royal Canin Energy 4800

Answer our quiz correctly to go in the draw.

What am I?

I'm part of New Zealand's heritage although my origin is unknown. There are many different theories on how I came about and some suggest I've been around for 100 hundred years.

Email your answer to: HelensvilleNurses@vetsnorth.co.nz

Winner notified in next issue.



If you are interested in placing a free working dog related ad, please email Chelsea at VN Helensville;

HelensvilleNurses@vetsnorth.co.nz

Worming Program

Worms are always around and can be a real problem!! The worms causing the most problems are Roundworms, Tapeworms (sheep measles), Whipworms & sometimes Hookworms.

Vets North provides a Worming Program for all working and rural dogs. There are two different programs available. The standard program involves an all-wormer being sent out every three months for all animals in the household (yes even the cat). This standard program is suitable for most dogs that are not being fed sheep offal e.g. dairy dogs, hunting dogs, lifestyle block dogs.

The Tapeworm Program involves a tapeworm only tablet sent out during the two months in between the all-worm tablet. This is most important for sheep and beef farmers as the control of sheep measles is very important and these dogs are often eating offal.

Additional flea treatments can be arranged to be sent out at the same time if needed. Please see the attached form if you are interested in joining the worming program. Once your completed form is received, your program will slot in with the next scheduled mail out.

