

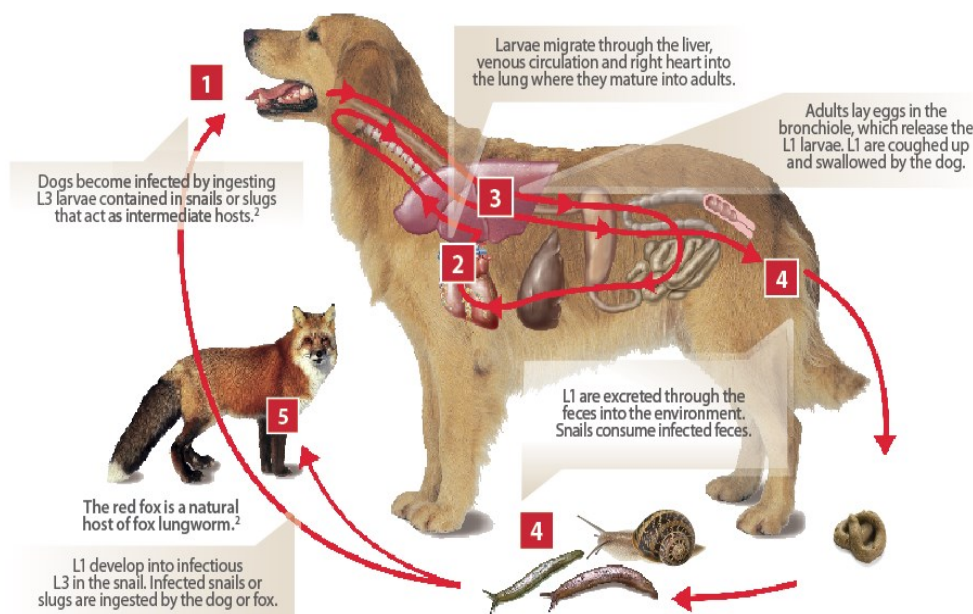
Companion Animal Newsletter - August 2017

LUNGWORM

Lungworms are acquired through ingesting infected snails or slugs. The parasite can also be transmitted by rodents, birds and foxes. Unfortunately it is common for dogs to eat slugs and snails when exploring their surroundings and drinking from contaminated puddles. Outdoor cats which hunt are especially at risk. Pets which are infected can then spread the parasite into the environment which then allows other animals to become affected. Lungworm is becoming an increasing problem as it is no longer isolated to the South of England and Wales; confirmed cases have been reported in Northern England and Scotland in both dogs and cats. The reason as to why lungworm has escalated may be related to the recent population explosion in slugs and snails, urban foxes may also be to blame as their population also continues to rise, therefore spreading the parasite.

Lungworm has the potential to cause life threatening symptoms in cats and dogs. It is essential to recognise the signs of infection as early as possible so treatment can be given quickly. A mild lungworm infection in a dog may go unnoticed as it produces vague, non specific signs, but heavier infections may be associated with a persistent cough, breathing difficulties, an inability to exercise and even death. Young dogs and small breeds seem to be particular at risk. Lungworm in dogs is especially dangerous as it can cause blood-clotting problems such as nose bleeds and skin bruising, heart failure and seizures. Fortunately for our feline friends, the most severe problems are rare in cats.

Lungworm Life Cycle



Diagnosis of a lungworm infection has traditionally been done by analysing a faecal sample, but recently a blood test has become available to test dogs.

The severity of the lungworm infection determines the best course of treatment. However, Lungworm **can** be prevented therefore, it is important to discuss parasite control with one of our vets, nurses or AMTRA qualified staff, especially if you suspect that your pet is ingesting snails and slugs. Please contact the surgery on 01729 823538 for more information.

SHOW TIME

This year we will be attending:

- **Malham Show on Saturday 26th August**
- **Bentham Show on Saturday 2nd September**
- **Hodder Valley Agricultural Show on Saturday 9th September**

This is a great chance to get involved with your local community and have a great day out with all the family and of course your pet pooch! Come and see us on our stand for a catch up, brew and biscuit.

We look forward to seeing you there.



MEDICAL PET SHIRTS



Medical pet shirts for dogs, cats and rabbits offer protection and comfort after operations or in cases of skin disease, whilst allowing the pet to retain its freedom of movement. They effectively provide a barrier to the treatment area and are soft, lightweight and flexible. It can, in some situations, eliminate the need for a plastic collar, body or leg bandage. With a double layer of material around the belly and hind area it enables pads to be inserted in the case of fluid loss, incontinence or when in season. The cat shirt has tailored space underneath the tail allowing

for the use of a litter tray. Popper stud fastenings make them easy to get on and off and they can be washed at 30 degrees. With a huge range of sizes available they are excellent during post operative recovery. Providing protection, comfort and excellent freedom for your pet. Call the surgery to have one fitted today.



WORDSEARCH

B	A	L	L	W	L	P	V	T	M
Q	F	L	E	A	D	K	H	B	G
U	T	O	I	W	L	C	T	O	D
P	O	O	B	A	G	S	R	W	C
G	Y	A	D	T	O	W	E	L	I
B	S	P	A	E	R	N	A	S	F
E	J	X	L	R	T	M	T	O	O
B	E	D	D	I	N	G	S	F	O
T	I	C	K	H	O	O	K	N	D
M	E	D	I	C	A	T	I	O	N

Holiday time wordsearch! Can you find what to pack for your four-legged friend on holiday?

- BALL
- BOWLS
- BEDDING
- FOOD
- LEAD
- MEDICATION
- POOBAGS
- TICKHOOK
- TOYS
- TOWEL
- TREATS
- WATER

