

NEWS

SUMMER POISONS



XYLITOL, a 5-carbon sugar alcohol, is an artificial sweetener commonly found in sugar-free chewing gum, veterinary medications and as a sugar substitute in baking. Xylitol is a powerful stimulator of insulin release in dogs; more effective than glucose. This causes low blood sugar levels that can cause vomiting, abnormal heart rates, neurological problems, convulsions and comas. Liver failure has also been associated to the ingestion of Xylitol. Effects can be seen within an hour of ingestion but in some cases may not occur until 24-48



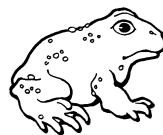
Ingestion of **ANT POWDERS, BAITES OR GELS** can cause poisoning. Common ant killers include carbamates (e.g. bendiocarb), organophosphates (e.g. chlorpyrifos), borax, pyrethroids (e.g. phenothrin), and fipronil. Some of these can cause signs neurological dysfunction, including constricted pupils, salivation, breathing problems, tremor and pyrexia. Others can just cause a minor tummy upset but best to seek veterinary advice as soon as possible.



SLUG AND SNAIL PELLETS - The problem with pesticides is that they may affect animals other than their target species – hardly surprising since they are formulated to be toxic! Of all the substances used regularly in gardens metaldehyde-based slug pellets are among the most dangerous to pets. Even small amounts of pellets can cause significant poisoning, and severe signs can develop within an hour of consumption. Potentially poisoned animals need urgent veterinary referral, as rapid intervention can save the animals life.

Intensive therapy involving heavy sedation, control of convulsions and associated life support measures is needed.

****Not all snail and slug baits contain metaldehyde. Some contain other chemicals such as methiocarb or ferric phosphate – another reason for ensuring the packaging is retained to enable easy identification****



There are two species of **TOAD** native to Britain, the common toad (*Bufo bufo*) and the Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*). The common toad is widespread, while the Natterjack toad (a protected species) is found in the coastal dunes of East Anglia and the north west of England. Most exposures occur between June and August. Toads are mostly active around dawn and dusk. All bufo species secrete a thick milky venom when threatened. The venom contains a cocktail of toxins that can cause rapid onset of effects i.e. irritation to mouth (hypersalivation, frothing, foaming, oral pain), vomiting, breathing difficulties, shaking, pyrexia and collapse. In severe cases convulsions and comas can be seen.

CALM

Common signs of stress

- Changed demeanour.
- House soiling.
- Excessive grooming.
- Reduced play.
- Reduced appetite.
- Change in posture.
- Destructive behaviour.
- Vocalisation.

We have products such as Feliway®, Zylkene® and DAP® which you may have heard of to help with stress, the newest one on the market is CALM FOOD.

Observations of new born and young animals have shown the post ingestion calming effect of milk. Researchers have copied the peptide in the milk and used it in Zylkene®, we have had good results from this supplement. The food also contains this peptide along with “L-tryptophan” which is an amino acid that affects the mood.

Please contact us at the surgery for more information on the new diet.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER.
10% off 2kg bag of food when you come in for a behavioural nurse consultation.

NEW ARRIVALS



CHARLIE
Labrador

MILLI, Crossbreed.



CHOP
Jack Russell



TEDDY
Wheaten Terrier



MISTY
Chihuahua



MIDGE

MARLEY, Labrador retriever





CULLIN
Flat-coated Retriever



OAKE,
Labrador Guide Dog Pup

ERICK
and
DEEDEE



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ALF
Staffordshire Bull Terrier

AMBER
German
Shepherd



HARRY
Cocker Spaniel