

Such a Wee Mite!

Late summer and autumn time conjure up visions of gathering crops and blackberry picking, but it is also the time when the troublesome harvest mites can cause major irritation for our cats and dogs!

The adult mite lives in plants and other vegetation, but the larvae (*Trombicula autumnalis*) are at the stage in their life cycle where they require a warm blooded host to feed from, and this could be your pet!

Harvest mites are.....

Orange/reddish in colour.

Very tiny and only just visible to the naked eye.

Active during the day in late summer and autumn.

A highly magnified mite. They are actually smaller than 1mm.



The mites go for areas where the hair and skin are thin. Their small hook fangs then pierce the surface injecting a fluid that liquefies cells to enable easy feeding. The larvae will continue feeding for two or three days, increasing in size and causing a considerable amount of itching and discomfort. As your pet scratches and rubs to ease the irritation, skin can become raw and sore, and crusty spots may develop.

Treatment and Prevention

Products are available to deal with harvest mites and our vet will provide instructions for treating and helping to prevent or reduce reinfestation. During the season regularly check around the ears, face, under the chin, the mouth and areas of the body that have no or very little hair. **If you see your pet excessively scratching and nibbling or notice clusters of tiny orange/red flecks on the skin, call us for further advice.** There are many conditions that can cause skin irritation, so it is always best for your pet to be checked over.

Coming Soon to Glaven - **K-LASER**

We are very excited to report that after excellent feedback from our clients whose pets took part in the recent trial of **K-Laser** treatment, Glaven will soon be offering this pain free, non-invasive treatment on a permanent basis!

Drug and surgery free K-Laser therapy can help treat a wide range of conditions effectively in both acute and chronic wound and musculoskeletal conditions.

How it works

K-Laser therapy uses the body's own healing processes.

- regulates nerve activity
- alters nerve pain perception
- improves functionality in damaged nerve cells
- reduces local inflammatory processes

With a combination of wavelengths, power and laser light, improved healing times are achieved, pain and swelling are reduced and circulation increased, without side effects.

How long does it take? Depending on the condition we are treating and the size of your pet, times vary but the majority are less than 8 minutes, initially with a set of 5 to 8 treatments to achieve the greatest benefit, but again this depends on the condition we are treating. Generally no sedation or restraint are required, which is great for your pet! This therapy can be used with other forms of treatment such as surgery, prescription drugs or dietary supplements.

If you would like further information on our new K-Laser Therapy, we would be happy to discuss your pet's condition and how this form of treatment could be of a great benefit to your pet's health.

GLAVEN SURGERY HOURS

We are open for pet healthcare and advice during the hours of

Holt 01263 713200

Monday to Friday
8.30am - 6pm

Saturday 9am - 12noon

Wells 01328 711022

Monday to Friday
9am - 12noon
3pm - 6pm

Consultations with our Veterinary Surgeons and Nurses are by appointment

**24 HOUR 7 DAY
EMERGENCY SERVICE**

01263 713200

www.glavenets.com

- Joint Pain and Osteoarthritis
- Edema and Congestion
- Tendonitis
- Chronic pain
- Neck and Back Pain
- Lameness
- Fractures
- Sprains
- Strains
- Trauma
- Dermatitis
- Infected & Chronic Wounds
- Puncture Wounds
- Hip Dysplasia
- Burns
- Rehabilitation
- Recovery from surgery



It's whizz bang pop time again!

From November until just after the New Year loud bangs and screeches will be heard. As we happily 'oooo' and 'aahh' at the starbursts in the sky and jump at the explosive sounds, sadly for some pets and their owners, it is a particularly distressing time. If your dog or cat is affected by fireworks, now is the time to begin preparations to help make your pet feel more relaxed, comfortable and secure.

Top tips for the firework season

At least 2 weeks before create a safe haven in the house for your pet with few windows. Cover all sides except one and ensure they can easily get in and out. Place inside a favourite toy and blanket, food, water, treats and toys. Even an item of your clothing is good, so your pet senses your scent. Encourage your pet to often visit this safe haven, so they become familiar with the surroundings before the noises start.



NEVER punish or scold a fearful pet. Be happy and provide distractions. Play a gentle game and music to mask the noises outside and offer treats as the aim is to encourage confidence. You could use pheromone plug-in diffusers, sprays or collars, which emit a comforting and reassuring scent.



There are also CDs based on the theory of gradually desensitising your pet to loud noises.

Keep pets indoors as it protects cats from the misuse of fireworks, and exercising your dog during fireworks could cause a distressed dog to run off, especially if off the lead.

Ensure your cat or dog is microchipped, which is now law, as identifiable lost pets are much easier to reunite with owners.

We have plenty of help for nervous pets and advice for their owners, so please do not hesitate to contact us in advance of the firework season.

IMPORTANT....Please Read!

There is a canine disease, which is on the increase here in the UK called **Brucellosis**, also referred to as *Brucella canis*. Generally, we have seen no problems, but with the increase of **rescue and imported dogs from abroad**, Brucellosis is unfortunately now with us and can affect all dogs of any age or breed. However, most at risk from this bacterial disease are **dogs that have not been neutered**.

Canine Symptoms

These can vary, some more severe than others. Affecting the reproductive organs; male and female dogs will show different symptoms.

Females.....the most common:

Stillbirths - Late miscarriages likely followed with a vaginal discharge. This may return with later pregnancies
Infertility - Inflamed uterus
Giving birth to weak puppies

Males..... the most common:

Infertility - Swollen testicles - with long term infection the testicles may shrink
Skin rash around the scrotum

Signs in both male and female

Tiredness - Premature ageing
Swollen Lymph nodes
Back pain and Discospondylitis
Polyarthritis and Osteomyelitis

Transmission of Canine Brucellosis

Through close contact with infected breeding dogs through bodily fluids; semen, vaginal discharge and birthing fluids.

Treatment Currently there is no vaccine available against Canine Brucellosis and unfortunately is very difficult to treat. In the event of your dog being diagnosed, we will discuss the available options, which may control the infection, but no cure for infection is 100% effective.

Human Risk Unfortunately, this disease can be transmitted to humans via bodily fluids and aerosol droplets.

Human Symptoms include:

Fever - Headaches - Lower back pain
Dizziness - Joint and muscle pain
Fatigue - Loss of appetite

Where does Brucellosis originate?

The Americas, Asia and Europe - **particularly in the stray dog populations of Romania, Belarus, Russia, Moldova and North Macedonia** amongst others. If rescuing or importing a dog from these parts of Europe, then advice is to neuter the dog before entering the UK and to test for the disease before leaving their home country.

UK Testing and Glaven Team Safety

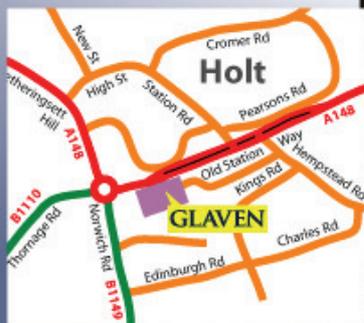
This will probably require a combination of blood tests organised by your vet as no one test is 100% accurate.

We would highly recommend and respectfully ask for a test of high-risk animals prior to any surgery with us, to protect our staff and allow a suitable treatment regime to be placed.

For more information for the owners of imported dogs and dog breeders please see "Brucella canis: information for the public and dog owners". This can be found on the www.gov.uk website.



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