



June 2015 Edition Small Animal Newsletter

# Ikin & Oxenham Sidmouth Veterinary Centre

# **Worming Offer**

Buy a box of 4 tablets and only pay for 3! Offer available on all boxes of four tablets

Small dog/puppy – up to 5kg bodyweight, Adult dog – 5-25kg body weight, Cat 2-8kg bodyweight

(Offer subject to availability of product)

Offers not to miss out on. Come and stock up on your flea treatments today.

# The NEW Leptospirosis Vaccine (Lepto 4)

Vaccinations against Leptospirosis have been available for decades. Previously they have only targeted the two most common strains of the disease.

In recent years, across the UK, Europe and USA new strains have emerged and in many cases these are more prevalent than the original strains.

For this reason experts now recommend the use of vaccines that target the four commoner strains of the disease.

Here at Ikin and Oxenham we believe in providing your pet with the best protection possible. Therefore we now use the latest four strain lepto vaccine. This does mean that when you bring your dog in for his/her booster vaccination we will ask you to bring your pet back four weeks later for another injection to ensure they are fully protected.

## What is leptospirosis?

Leptospirosis is a widespread bacterial disease that affects dogs and can potentially cause life threatening kidney and liver failure. Even when successfully treated with antibiotics, infected dogs can still shed the bacterial in their urine for a considerable period of time.

#### Can it affect humans?

Leptospirosis can affect humans, as it is a 'zoonotic' disease.

Therefore it is very important to prevent your dog from becoming infected and shedding bacteria into the environment via its urine to help minimise the risk to human health.

# How do I protect my dog?

The best way to protect your dog is to vaccinate against leptospirosis. The vaccine provides immunity for 1 year and is typically administered alongside other routine vaccinations as part of the yearly booster.

## Flea Treatment Deal

Buy a packet of 3 Nexgard®, Broadline® or Frontect® and get 1 treatment free of charge

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Buy a packet of 6 Nexgard®, Broadline® or Frontect® and get 2 treatments free of charge

Offer ends June 30th (Subject to availability)

# **Lungworm – Know the facts**

## What is lungworm?

The lungworm (angiostrongylus vasorum) is a parasite that can be fatal in dogs if not diagnosed or treated.

#### How is lungworm spread?

Slugs and snails carry the lungworm larvae and our pet dogs will often eat these (whether it be on purpose or accidentally) whilst eating grass, drinking from puddles or just picking them up with their toys. This is how our pets can become infected.

## Is my dog at risk?

Younger dogs are more prone to becoming infected but all ages and breeds can pick up the parasite.

### What are the signs of Lungworm?

There are a number of different signs of lungworm that may also be confused with other illnesses. Blood testing and faecal sampling can confirm a diagnosis. Some signs are as follows...

- General sickness
- Breathing problems
- Changes in behaviour
- Poor blood clotting

## How can I treat my dog against lungworm?

Preventative products are available. If used regularly prevention is easily achieved. Not all worming treatments are effective against lungworm so check the product you use carefully. The product we have in the surgery, Milbemax®, is licenced to treat against lungworm when administered on a monthly basis.

If you have any concerns that your pet is at risk, please contact he surgery and speak to one our members of staff.



# **Contact Us**

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