

CALVING DO'S AND DON'TS



Spring calving season is upon us and our vets have already been busy assisting the delivery of calves around the district. Unfortunately, calves have the habit of getting themselves contorted inside their mothers and some are simply unable to be born without help. It is important to be able to recognize when your cow is having trouble calving as early intervention is essential for a good outcome.

IDEAL CALVING: Once a cow is noticed to be forcefully straining in labour, the water bag should emerge within 30min. The calf's feet should follow in the next 30min and the cow should have calved completely within the next 30-60min after that. If the cow is still straining and has not calved within 1-2hrs then intervention is usually necessary. If the cow is unwell or there is a strong smell, immediate veterinary attention for treatment is required. If you are unsure how your cow is coping with the calving, we are always more than happy to attend your property to assess both the cow & it's calf for you.

CALVING DO'S	CALVING DON'TS
• Lube, lube, lube – you can never use too much! • Always check for twins – it is surprising how often this happens! • Once the calf is in the correct position, use only reasonable force to allow delivery. • Ensure all those assisting calvings are Q-fever vaccinated.	• NEVER pull if you don't know where the calf's head or legs are. • NEVER keep pulling if the calf gets 'locked' or stuck at the hips. • NEVER use machinery to pull a calf – this includes 4-wheelers, a buggy, ute or tractor. This amount of force is unnecessary and dangerous (<i>would you care to be pulled across the yards by your nether regions...!?</i>)

SMILE! IT'S DENTAL MONTH > Dental disease affects 4 OUT OF 5 pets!

Dental disease is easily preventable and yet it's one of the most **common problems** that veterinarians diagnose in Aussie pets. More importantly, if it goes untreated, it can lead to other **SERIOUS** health problems such as infections in the kidney, heart and liver which can all significantly impact your pet's quality of life and longevity. In its early stages, it's a disease that's completely reversible! However it can also go undetected for years, despite causing pain and discomfort.

SIGNS OF DENTAL DISEASE

☞ Bad breath ☞ Discoloration/ plaque build-up ☞ Red & inflamed gums ☞ Scratching at the mouth ☞ Difficulty eating/ loss of appetite ☞ Discomfort, lumps or bleeding around the mouth and face.



FREE DENTAL CONSULTS AND BONUS GREENIE TREAT FOR YOUR PETS FROM 10th AUG – 6th SEPT (valued at \$35!) **Bookings essential.

