



Lab Notes

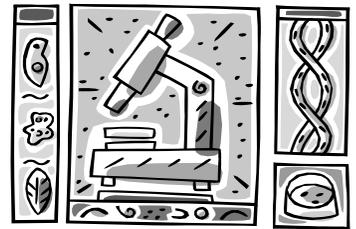
June 2013

Meet Our Staff

Dr. Xie joined the ALPC in October 2011. Prior to his work here, He spent almost 10 years at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science, where he conducted health related scientific research involving immunology, molecular, and neurology and has many papers published. He earned his DVM, MS in Veterinary parasitology, and PhD in medical immunology in China. He had been working about 3 years at a veterinary clinic at North Little Rock. He more recently became a medical technologist at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science, certified as a Medical Laboratory Scientist in American Society for Clinical Pathology, and had been working at the Molecular Diagnostic Lab about one year before joining ALPC. He has been helping oversee the scientific work in serology, bacteriology and virology sections and serves as scientific advisor on tests and new tests. He has developed the lymphoma immunohistochemistry staining procedure.

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK
AND POULTRY
COMMISSION
VETERINARY
DIAGNOSTIC LAB**

Dr. James O. Britt, Laboratory
Director.



Fast Facts-

Cats purr at 26 cycles per second, the same as an idling diesel engine.

Contrary to popular belief, dogs aren't color blind; they can see shades of blue, yellow, green and gray. The color red registers on a grayscale in a dog's vision.

When spoken to, horses distinguish tones rather than particular words.

Dairy cows can produce up to 125 lbs of saliva a day.

Helpful Hints from the Lab—

If you plan on sending over one hundred samples for bovine pregnancy testing, please notify the lab before sending the samples so we can ensure that we have sufficient test kits available.

Also please notify the lab if you plan to send multiple samples for Piroplasmosis testing.

When sending in samples in formalin please make sure the lid is TIGHT on the jar, we have had multiple instances of leakage lately.

If you are sending a pet for necropsy and the client wishes to have the ashes back, please remember that in order to do that, they must go through one of the pet cremation services that will pick up from us. We need to know at the time the animal is submitted that the client wishes to do this in order to ensure that the remains are retained for pick-up. There is also a release form that must be signed and sent with the animal. For more information call the lab.

Rabies cases this year have already totaled 80 confirmed. Pope County is still leading with the highest numbers and most of the cases seem to be in the Northwest Arkansas area. However, there have been cases confirmed in Garland, Hot Spring, Pulaski, and Saline Counties in Central Arkansas. Please encourage your clients to report any suspicious animals and to vaccinate their pets.

Remember, pets
can sunburn too!



Case Notes— Focal Adnexal Dysplasia

FAD is a common proliferative but non-neoplastic lesion in dogs. It is also called a "hamartoma" which indicates that it is just excess but normal tissue types at a site. It consists of a local proliferation or overgrowth of hair follicles with sweat and sebaceous glands in a dense fibrous stroma. There are usually cysts filled with keratin and when these rupture, they invoke a locally severe chronic active or suppurative inflammatory response. Complete excision should be curative but they sometime may seem to be acting growing as the inflammation comes in.



Plants Toxic To Pets

Tulips

The bulbs of a tulip plant contain toxins that can cause loss of appetite, drooling, convulsions, depression of the central nervous system, gastrointestinal irritation, and cardiac abnormalities.

Lilies

Lilies are considered one of the most toxic plants for cats. It is not clear which part of the plant is poisonous but even very small amounts of the plant, if ingested, can cause severe kidney damage in cats.

Sago Palm

The seeds of the sago palm are the most toxic but every part of the plant is poisonous to pets. Even if your pet eats just one or two seeds, they can cause very serious side effects such as diarrhea, vomiting, depression, liver failure, and seizures.

Oleander

All parts of the oleander plant are toxic and can cause serious problems in your pet including abnormal heart function, hypothermia, gastrointestinal irritation, and even death.

Marijuana

Pets that ingest marijuana can suffer from vomiting, drooling, diarrhea, increased heart rate, depression of the central nervous system, incoordination, seizures, and even coma.

Azalea

Azalea plants contain toxic substances known as grayanotoxins. These toxins can cause drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, and even a depression of the central nervous system. Severe poisoning from azaleas can ultimately lead to coma and death caused by cardiovascular collapse.

Castor Bean

The poisonous ingredient in Castor beans is called ricin. Ricin is a highly toxic protein that can cause drooling, vomiting, severe abdominal pain, excessive thirst, loss of appetite, and weakness. Severe poisoning from Castor beans can cause muscle twitching, seizures, tremors, dehydration, coma, and even death.

Yew

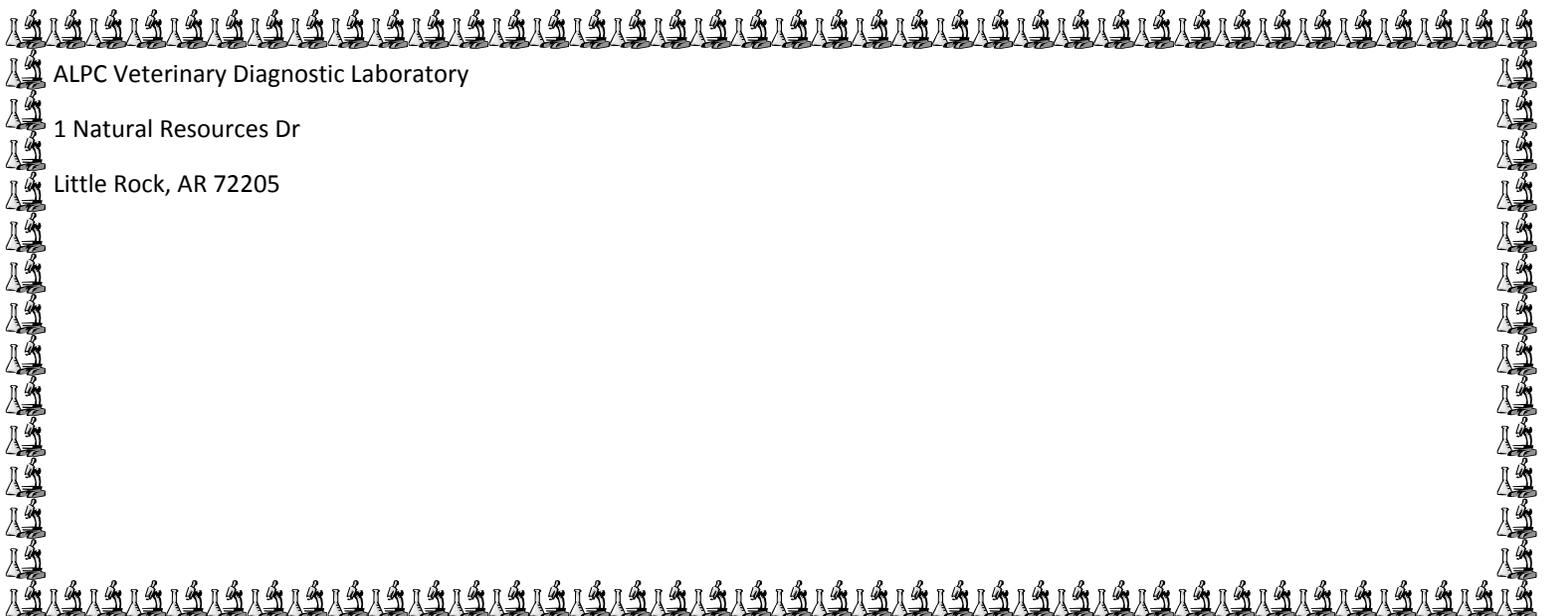
The yew plant contains a component known as taxine that is toxic and can cause issues with the central nervous system including incoordination, trembling, and difficulty breathing. It can also cause severe gastrointestinal irritation, as well as cardiac failure, both of which can result in death.

Chrysanthemum

These flowers contain something called pyrethrins that if eaten can cause diarrhea, drooling, and vomiting. If enough of the plant is consumed, it can cause depression and loss of coordination.

Note: This is not a comprehensive list., for a more complete listing, visit http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/pets/poisonous_plants.pdf

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ALPC Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

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