



## VETMED RESOURCE HOT TOPIC:

# Rabbit health and welfare

Rabbits are increasingly popular pets, but there is often a lack of knowledge among owners about their specific health and welfare needs. Many health problems are a result of poor husbandry or a lack of preventative health care. Compared with dogs and cats, there is also limited research on diseases and veterinary treatment of pet rabbits.

**VetMed Resource** contains a wealth of information on pet rabbits, including their nutritional, behavioural and environmental requirements, diseases and injuries, preventative medicine and veterinary procedures. The health and welfare of laboratory and farmed rabbits is also covered; the research often has relevance to rabbits kept as pets.

### VetMed Resource comprehensively covers hot topics that matter

VetMed Resource sources the world literature to provide the complete picture on rabbit health, including information on:

- **Animal welfare:** Lack of owner awareness about environmental, behavioural and dietary needs of rabbits can result in poor welfare.  
*Rabbit welfare: determining priority welfare issues for pet rabbits using a modified Delphi method.*  
*Veterinary Record Open, 2019*  
*Healthy rabbits and communicating with owners.*  
*The Veterinary Nurse, 2020*
- **Fracture fixation:** Bone fractures are relatively common in pet rabbits; fracture management can be challenging.  
*Presentation, treatment and outcome of long-bone fractures in pet rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*).*  
*Journal of Small Animal Practice, 2020*  
*Surgical management of a calcaneus fracture in a pet rabbit.*  
*Journal of Exotic Pet Medicine, 2019*
- **Anaesthesia:** Anaesthesia of rabbits is associated with a higher risk compared with anaesthesia of dogs and cats; monitoring the animal during and after surgery is very important.  
*Peri-anaesthetic mortality and nonfatal gastrointestinal complications in pet rabbits: a retrospective study on 210 cases.*  
*Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia, 2018*  
*Prospective clinical study to evaluate an oscillometric blood pressure monitor in pet rabbits.*  
*BMC Veterinary Research, 2018*
- **Viral diseases:** The viral infections most commonly seen in rabbits are myxomatosis and viral haemorrhagic disease; they are often fatal, but vaccines are available.  
*Clinicopathologic findings of naturally occurring rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus 2 infection in pet rabbits.*  
*Veterinary Clinical Pathology, 2019*  
*Seasonality and risk factors for myxomatosis in pet rabbits in Great Britain.*  
*Preventive Veterinary Medicine, 2020*

# Introducing CABI's VetMed Resource

Support your practice and professional development with the best evidence-based veterinary information available.

VetMed Resource is the most comprehensive collection of published veterinary scientific information available online and it has three times the coverage of any comparable open source database.

VetMed Resource is an essential online tool for veterinarians, researchers, policy makers, students and teachers, providing an evidence base to support decision making, continuing education and professional development.

**“To maximize journal coverage and avoid missing potentially relevant evidence, CAB Abstracts should be included in any veterinary literature search.”**

– Grindlay D.J.C; Brennan, M.L.; Dean, R.S., 2012 Searching the Veterinary Literature: A Comparison of the Coverage of Veterinary Journals by Nine Bibliographic Databases. Journal of Veterinary Medical Education, 39(4), DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3138/jvme.1111.109R>



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Our **Sales** team for more information and to request a free trial:

**CABI** Head Office, Nosworthy Way, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8DE. **T:** +44 (0)1491 829313 , **E:** [sales@cabi.org](mailto:sales@cabi.org)