



Dogs' Homes of Tasmania

Operated by the Tasmanian Canine Defence League.
Locations at Hobart, Devonport, & Burnie.

Post Office Box 7
Lindisfarne TAS 7015

www.dogshomesoftas.com.au

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Caring for Dogs~ Maintaining Health & Wellbeing

Grass Seeds, a Problem for Dogs



Summer is the time to be keeping an eye out for grass seeds.

They can cause problems for dogs, most commonly longer haired active dogs that are exercised in reserves or long grassed areas.

A grass seed can get caught in the coat and work its way down through the skin.

Once it is under the skin the body tries to eliminate it and pus is formed that can swell into an abscess. These infections are commonly life-threatening if not treated.

Sometimes the entry hole can heal over leaving no clue to the source of the problem. Areas to particularly check for seeds are ears, between toes, armpits and eyes. It is best to have longcoated dogs trimmed, at least the feet and belly, to reduce the chance of grass seed penetration of skin.

Check your dogs thoroughly for seeds after each walk.

A good rule of thumb is, if you have grass seeds in your socks after a walk your dog is likely to have seeds in his/her coat. Also if sudden sneezing or shaking of the head occur or the eyes suddenly appear red after a walk, this could indicate a grass seed problem.

Check your dog's paws regularly for signs of lesions or infection and if you do notice a swelling or lump on the paws or body, seek veterinary advice.

Burnie Dogs' Home

**170 Stowport Rd.,
Burnie TAS 7320**

Ph: (03) 6431 6199

Devonport Dogs' Home

**Spreyton Park Racecourse
Devonport TAS 7310**

Ph: (03) 6427 2178

Hobart Dogs' Home

**101 Scotts Rd.,
Risdon Vale TAS 7016**

Ph: (03) 6243 5177

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