



## 1. Welcome

Welcome back to everyone, but our thoughts are also with the members who have lost their buns since our last meeting.

## 2. Myxomatosis

Swollen, weepy eyes, worth having the vet to test a swab of the puss.

Very similar to Pasturella symptoms, and a mild dose of Pasturella can be treated.

Myxo Symptoms: Swollen weepy eyes, blistering on the ears, eyes, genitals. Puss excretes from the eyes and nose. Myxo can be sexually transmitted or by grooming.

Myxo was released in Australia to deal with the wild rabbit plague in 1950.

Vaccinations for Myxo is not allowed in Australia for our domestic pet rabbits, so we encourage you all to sign petitions to have the vaccine made available.

More information on Myxo and its release in Australia is available on the CSIRO website.

### a. Rabbit Food

Jack Rabbit by Leuke, available from stock and fodder shops.

Please do not feed your rabbits the Horse/goat feed as this contains too much molasses and lupins and encourages GI Stasis in rabbits.

*List of Safe and Toxic plants for rabbits available at*

[www.wildwoodbunnies.com](http://www.wildwoodbunnies.com)

**The bunny diet should consist of the following:**

¼ cup of pellets (Netherland dwarf portion) maximum per day

- b. Hay should be available at all times.
- c. Fresh vegetables, for example Celery, buk choy, small portions of basil, mint, sage, endive (keeps the gut moving)
- d. Sweet treats max 1-2 times a week unless sick – apples, banana, grapes, etc. (refer to website for more)
- e. 1-2 inch of carrot is the maximum you should feed a bunny per day
- f. Bunnies can have cabbage, but only in moderation as it can cause an upset tummy and bloating

Discussion of the different types of hay:

**Wheaton hay** is our recommended choice as it offers the rabbit the fibre it needs in addition to working their teeth. Wheaton hay should not contained unidentifiable weeds either

**Meadow Hay** can be given to bunnies if you can get good quality, however most contain a variety of weeds that can harm you bunny, for example Scotch thistle and Vetch

**Lucerne (Timothy, Alpha)** is great to fatten up your bunnies if they have been unwell, it is also great for older buns, baby buns and sick mother buns. Lucerne can be give to healthy adult bunnies as a treat once a week, but more than this and you will find your bunny will have problems caused by weight gain.

Hay is great for your bunny and can not only be eaten but great for bedding and buns becoming mums for their nestboxes.

### 3. Critical Care

Great product to have on hand for sick bunnies, can be given to babies who have not

mother to feed from and is good for buns in poor condition, should be given three times a day.

**4. Next meeting – 15 March 2011**