

Herbal Medicines
ALTERNATIVE VETERINARY MEDICINE CENTRE
Information Sheet WS002/07
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**CARE & ADMINISTRATION OF HERBAL MEDICINES
SUPPLIED BY THE AVMC**

Please read all instructions very carefully, before opening the medicines

Herbal medicines are supplied in a variety of forms. The usual forms are leaf, chopped, powdered or liquids. Since they supply material doses of pharmacologically-active ingredients, they must be used with care.

They should be prescribed specifically for a given patient, rather than being supplied 'off-the-shelf', since proper herbal medicine is a holistic practice.

The medicines may contain substances that would show in blood tests, in competition animals and may give rise to tissue or milk residues in food animals.

They should never be given alongside conventional drugs, except under the advice of a veterinary surgeon with appropriate knowledge and experience. This is because they can combine with the drug to produce toxic doses. They may even conflict with the conventional medication.

Herbal medicines can be given with food. If there is a palatability problem, ask us for advice (01367 710324).

Dry herbal preparations should be carefully stored, away from damp and heat. Open packs should be carefully re-sealed after each use.

Adhere carefully to the prescribed dosage régime and, if questions arise, please do not hesitate to ask us (01367 710324). If in doubt at any time, it does no harm to stop the herbal prescription, pending further advice. Repeat prescriptions are only available by arrangement.

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