



Make Mine Chocolate!

The Make Mine Chocolate! UK organisation is about changing the way rabbits are perceived and cared for.

This independent organisation is working hard to raise awareness of welfare needs - especially in relation to the problem of impulse buying from the 'cute fluffy' factor.

It is well documented the issue of impulse buying leads significant number of rabbits surrendered to rescue - or worse, neglected or dumped to face certain death. Around 60% of rabbits entering rescue in the UK have been owned for less than a year, with a staggering 40% of these being owned for less than six months!

It is time to make a significant welfare improvement and Make Mine Chocolate! UK is dedicated to this objective. With ground-breaking projects such as the Easter Amnesty, Make Mine Chocolate! UK is working hard to spread the message that rabbits are a life-long commitment; those not ready can buy a chocolate one instead!

In addition, extensive support material for those with rabbits, or those considering obtaining rabbits, is designed to improve rabbit welfare and understanding of their needs, and finally break the cycle of a lack of education in rabbit care.

Vaccinations

Just like cats and dogs, rabbits need annual vaccinations in order to help prevent against two terrible diseases, Myxomatosis and Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease (RHD, also known as VHD).

Why? There's no cure.

Myxomatosis gives rise to a slow and painful death, often over several weeks, whilst the first symptoms of a rabbit with RHD is often finding them dead.

A summary of the key facts

Knowing why vaccinations are so important will ensure the right decision is made. Speak to your rabbit specialist vet for further clarification and to arrange vaccinations

1. Annual Vaccinations - vaccination is required each and every year.

2. The Combined Vaccine is now available - one single shot annually protects against both Myxomatosis and RHD.

3. Myxomatosis is spread by biting insects such as fleas and mosquitos. They are most prevalent during the spring and following wet weather and standing water is the ideal breeding ground for these creatures!

4. RHD is spread by contact; on the sole of shoes, hands or anything else.

5. Houserabbits also need vaccination; it just takes one mosquito or one footprint to pass on a disease.

6. Disease - as these diseases constantly change, it is still possible for a vaccinated rabbit to contract the disease. With vaccination they have a good chance of survival. Without vaccination they are unlikely to survive.

7. Boarding - Good holiday boarding companies will only accept vaccinated rabbits - and only very good boarding companies will insist on checking the vaccination certificate too. Board your rabbits only with the very best - their lives depend on it!

8. Certificates - always keep the vaccination records and certificates to hand in case of emergency (see above!) and don't reply on your vet to send out an annual reminder. Put a date in your diary.

8. Vaccinate! Because there's no cure.



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Rabbit Welfare though Education