**In brief**

- **DOG LAWS**: DEFRA has published a leaflet that aims to provide "clear, concise and accessible information" about laws relating to dogs that are dangerous to children and those that are banned. Animal health minister Jeff Beaker said: "Recent tragic cases of dog attacks show we need to give absolute clarity to anyone who owns a dog on their responsibilities under the law."

- **COURT RULING**: The High Court has ruled that Norbrook’s attempt to prevent a farmer from using any pig genotyping to join the Pigs sales team is unenforceable. Norbrook had sought to restrain Farmer from selling pigs and pigs.”

- **PUMP**: The licence range of taping pumps has been extended with the introduction of the Ecotub pumping, available through Michael Smith engineers. According to the company, the pumps are suitable for dispensing most sensitive and delicate liquids used in laboratory, pharmaceutical and biotechnology applications, or whenever "reliable, low-cost pumping with optimum sterility" is required. Visit [www.michael-smith-engineers.co.uk](http://www.michael-smith-engineers.co.uk) for further information.

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**Report prompts rapid angioptosclerosis action**

A VET’S quick thinking – prompted by a news report in Veterinary Times – may have saved the life of a dog that presented with advanced clinical signs of Angiopoptosclerosis (French heartworm) infection.

After reading the report in the April issue which highlighted the increasing problem of A nasu in dogs – vet Saskia Krawczynska called for help when she encountered a one-year-old female with advanced symptoms of the frequently fatal condition. Ms Krawczynska, from the Chase Veterinary Centre in Hastings, was presented with the patient only a day after reading the VT article. She was previously unfamiliar with angiopoptosclerosis in dogs.

The animal was unable to stand and had not eaten for several days. Signs of coagulopathy were predominately associated with a bilateral conjunctival haemorrhage and a partial paralysis of the hindquarters, which suggested bleeding into the spinal cord – symptoms that had been mentioned in the VT report.

Concerned about the chance of survival, Ms Krawczynska immediately referred the case to a colleague, and was put in touch with Bayer’s technical veterinary advisor, Chris Field, who, based on his experience, recommended an appropriate treatment protocol.

Ms Krawczynska had initially given the dog’s owner a very guarded prognosis, due to its obviously poor health.

She explained: “However, once on treatment, the dog’s health improved very quickly. I subsequently saw the dog twice, at weekly intervals, and a recent telephone conversation with the owners confirmed that the dog had fully recovered.”

When a case such as this was identified, Ms Field suggested it was good practice to examine any other dogs sharing the same environment, as it was highly likely that they would have been exposed to the infected intermediate hosts.

He added: “Implementation of a long-term treatment strategy for at-risk dogs is advisable where A nasu has been confirmed in the environment.”