

The Ferret: Essentials for the Practitioner

Dr. Cathy Johnson-Delaney reviews the basics of ferret husbandry and medicine.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Cathy Johnson-Delaney practiced avian and exotic animal medicine in the greater Puget Sound area of Washington State for over 30 years, retiring from clinical practice in 2013. Dr. Johnson-Delaney was board certified in avian and exotic companion animal medicine, and she has helped to advance the fields of exotic animal and laboratory animal medicine. She has served as President of both the Association of Avian Veterinarians and the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians. Cathy was named the 2009 recipient of the Oxbow Exotic Mammal Health Award and the 2003 Exotic DVM of the Year. Cathy has presented internationally on all aspects of non-traditional companion animals, and she has also written extensively on related topics, serving as co-editor of the BSAVA Manual of Exotic Pets. She is the principal author and editor of the 2017 textbook Ferret Medicine & Surgery.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand how feed contamination events can happen on a large or small scale.
2. Understand how contamination occurs due to formulation errors, adulteration, and natural contaminants.
3. Understand how to sample feed, provide proper legal documentation, and submit samples to a diagnostic laboratory.
4. Know what resources are available to veterinarians and horse owners in relation to feed contamination.

Agenda:

- Introduction
 - When to suspect feed contamination
 - Types of contamination
 - Formulation errors
 - Who to contact
 - Collecting samples
 - Legal considerations
- Case Study
 - History
 - Mycotoxin analysis
 - Labwork
 - Necropsy
 - Histopathology
- Toxic Contaminants
 - Ionophores

- Fumonisin
 - Cantharidin
 - Botulinum toxin
- Conclusions