MBD (Metabolic Bone Disease) – What is it?

MBD is a disease that affects a staggering percentage of the pet Rabbit population in Australia and over the world. It is not a contagious disease, it is caused purely by people feeding their Rabbits the incorrect diet and to a lesser extent, not providing the correct husbandry.

MBD can go undetected for some time without the pet owner knowing their Rabbit is ill. It is only as the diseases progresses to later stages that symptoms start to become apparent. These include teary eyes, dribbling, difficulty chewing, overgrown teeth, obesity, jaw abscesses and even fusing/fracturing of the spine.

MBD is as painful as it is debilitating for the animal, while treating MBD in its later stages can be very difficult, prevention is simple.

How you can stop MBD before MBD stops your Bunny

MBD is 100% preventable, we simply need to provide the correct diet. High fibre grass hay is the cornerstone (such as Vetafarm Fibre Rich Fescue Hay) of a Rabbit’s diet, supplemented with a small amount of Vetafarm Origins Rabbit Diet and dark green vegetables. Avoid grain/muesli/cheap pellet mixes or any diet high in carbs or fats. Using the diet outlined above and providing the opportunity for the Rabbit to exercise outside of their pen/hutch regularly will eliminate the risk of MBD. That’s it!