



Toad Toxicity

Toad toxicity occurs when an animal grabs a hold of a cane toad (*Bufo marinus*). The cane toad secretes a toxic venom through glands which are located at the back of their head. The cane toad venom is very sticky and irritating.

Signs that your animal has mouthed of a toad include:

- Excess salivation
- Vomiting
- Bright red mucous membranes (gums)
- In severe cases your animal will also:
 - Muscle spasms
 - Seizures
 - Heart arrhythmias
 - Death

If you see your animal with a toad, you should immediately wipe the gums with a damp cloth, continually rinsing the cloth in-between wipes. This will need to be done for at least 10-15min.

If your animal is showing any of the more severe signs they or the first signs are not resolving your animal needs veterinary attention immediately.

In more severe cases critical monitoring is required, which can include fluid therapy, anti-seizure medications, oxygen therapy, ECG monitoring of the heart and monitoring of the vital signs (heart rate, Respiration, temperature, and blood pressure). Blood tests may also be required to determine hydration status and organ function.