

Beware the Foxtail

How to Keep Your Pets Safe

What are Foxtails?



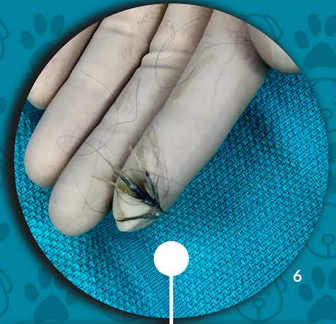
Foxtails are a small, grass-like weed that populate the West Coast of the U.S. During the warmer months, the plant's seeds dry out, and the weeds blanket open fields.¹

Stubborn Weeds



Foxtails can lodge themselves into almost anything that they come into contact with. They can cause irritation and pain if they become embedded somewhere they should not.^{1&2}

Severe Cases



In severe cases, foxtails can be found embedded deep inside the body, such as the gastrointestinal tract, the airways, and the reproductive tract.¹

Symptoms of Foxtails

An embedded foxtail may lead to an abscess; common signs that a pet may be suffering from a lodged foxtail are swelling, redness, constant scratching, discharge, and more.^{1&2}



Sticking to Pets

The most common places foxtails to become embedded are the paws, between the toes, in the ears, the eyes, mouth, and nose.^{1&2}



How to Treat Foxtails

Prevention is best when it comes to foxtails. Take preventative methods, such as clearing up any weeds, avoid grassy areas or brush your dog after a walk.¹

For any foxtail concerns, schedule an exam with your veterinarian as well as a professional grooming.



Sources:
(1) <https://craigrd.com/beware-the-foxtails/> • (2) <https://www.petmd.com/dog/care/how-protect-your-dog-foxtails>

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