

# ◆ attention please

## AWNS

### What are awns?

Awns are small, often bristly plant particles that are found, for example, on the ears of various types of grain and enclose the grain. They have small barbs that attach themselves to dog or cat fur, as well as clothing, when they come into contact. During harvest, the awns often come loose and end up on paths where they can be dangerous for animals.

### Why are awns so dangerous?

Walks may cause dogs to struggle with awns in late spring and summer. But it can also be used for cats the plant particles become dangerous. Because of their barbs, the plant parts can get stuck in various parts of the animal's body or even get into the animal as a foreign body. There they can cause inflammation and damage. Areas of the body that are often affected are the ears, paws and nose, but also the armpits and groin, as the skin there is somewhat thinner. The awns penetrate the ear canal of dogs or cats very quickly and are then no longer visible from the outside. Even awns that are inhaled into the nose are often no longer visible to the naked eye. In the area between the toes of the paws, the awns penetrate the skin and form purulent abscesses. These plant particles

You should have them removed by a veterinarian immediately, otherwise they can continue to grow in the tissue like above.

