



Hints on Herbs

By Pat Jennings (Featured in the National Angora Club yearbook 1991)

I am a herbal fanatic – so it was natural for me to extend my knowledge for the benefit of my precious rabbits.

There are herbs for nervousness, eyes, worms and probably the most widely acclaimed, blackberry leaves to prevent scours and diarrhoea.

During the winter months I use a mixture of dried herbs in the rabbits diet. There are those I use as an infusion and add to their drinking water such as sage for nervousness.

I collect blackberry leaves, strawberry leaves, wild and green rose leaves, comfrey, groundsel, carrot tops, dandelion, parsley, nettle and hawthorn. I chop rose hips – garden and wild – and black currants and lay to dry with sage, asters, mint, leak, tea leaves, marigold on muslin. When weather permits. The other leaves I microwave after chipping them at 100% (hottest) on a plate lined with kitchen paper with a small container of water in the middle and stir occasionally until shrivelled. (You will need to gather a lot to store enough for winter months). When the herbs are cool I put them in screw top jars. The aroma, when drying is delicious, I have been told by an 'old-timer' that apples are 'Cures for All', god bless them!.