

Manufacturer recalls thousands of faulty microchips

According to Independent Online, thousands of Back Home Biotec microchips - used for tracking pets - have been recalled by the manufacturer after a "functionality issue" was detected with some of the microchips used since June 2010.

The local distributors of the microchips said the problem was detected in February this year and - during a trial in Europe - it was decided that there should be a worldwide recall of the product.

Harry Edwards, Companion Animal Range manager at local microchips distributors Virbac SA, said a particular batch of microchips were not readable by scanners. "We don't know exactly what the problem is, it's an international problem," Edwards said, "it seems that moisture was getting into the chips. But we do not know which ones are faulty, that is why they have all been recalled."

Edwards said that local pet owners who had bought their microchips within the specified period had already been notified to take their pets to their vets to have the microchips replaced for free, Independent Online reports.

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