



Park Veterinary Centre

256 Cassiobury Drive. Watford. Herts. WD17 3PA

01923 229300

ADVICE ON THE USE OF WORMERS

Your horse should be wormed once every 6-8 weeks during the summer months (May to September) and every 8-12 weeks at other times. Bear in mind that warm/wet early summer months predispose to an increase in 'worm populations'.

You should change the type of wormer (related to its chemical formulation) approximately every 9-12 months to reduce the development of resistance. Our Year 1 program is based on the drug Pyrantel and the Year 2 on Fenbendazole.

YEAR 1

MONTH	WORMER	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	SPECIAL INDICATIONS
Late March	Pyratape P	Pyrantel	
Early May	Equimax	Ivermectin and Praziquantel	Tapeworm
Early July	Pyratape P	Pyrantel	
Late August	Pyratape P	Pyrantel	
Early October	Furexel	Ivermectin	Bot Larvae
Late December	5 Day Panacur Guard	Fenbendazole	Migrating and encysted larvae

YEAR 2

MONTH	WORMER	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	SPECIAL INDICATIONS
Late March	Panacur paste or granules	Fenbendazole	
Early May	Equimax	Ivermectin and Praziquantel	Tapeworm
Early July	Panacur paste or granules	Fenbendazole	
Late August	Panacur paste or granules	Fenbendazole	
Early October	Furexel	Ivermectin	Bot Larvae
Late December	5 Day Panacur Guard	Fenbendazole	Migrating and encysted larvae

YEAR 3

Return to Year 1 unless worm egg counts carried out in January of Year 3 suggests a 'breakdown' of the suggested program.

- **Pyratape P is the same as Strongid-P**
- **Furexel is the same as Eqvalan, Vectin and Eraquell**

Please note that other brands of wormers can be used provided that they contain the same active ingredient as the one recommended in the program above.

BOT LARVAE

A Bot wormer is included once a year between October and December. Please read the instructions carefully, particularly when disposing of them after use.

TAPEWORMS

A single dose of Equimax (Ivermectin + Praziquantel) or a double dose of Pyratape-P or Strongid-P (Pyrantel) should be given once a year to eliminate the possibility of tapeworm infestation.

MIGRATING AND ENCYSTED LARVAE

A five day Panacur guard course is recommended once against migrating and encysted larvae. October to December is the best time.

WORMING MARES AND FOALS

Foals should be wormed from 1 month of age onwards and mares in foal should be wormed during pregnancy, particularly one month before their 'due date' with 5 Day Panacur Guard.

THE USE OF EQUEST

We recommend that Equest only be used with veterinary advice. We have deliberately not included it in our worming program as we have seen a few colics following its use. In particular, horses with no known worming history should not be wormed with Equest. Resistance to wormers is a problem and we recommend that Equest is reserved for cases where we have known resistance. No new wormers are currently 'in the pipeline' and if you use it indiscriminately you may find that you have a population of worms which are resistant to all of the drugs available.

WORM EGG COUNTS

We have an efficient laboratory service which will carry out worm egg counts on fresh dropping samples and several blood tests, which may help identify a worm problem. If your yard has a 'floating population' it is probably advisable to carry out worm egg counts (involving the whole group) once yearly.

Any new horse entering a yard should have a worm egg count performed before/and after worming to reduce the risk of 'pasture contamination'.

Please note that migrating and encysted larvae are not detectable with any test. Tapeworm is not normally detected in a faecal egg count but a blood test is available.

When collecting droppings for a worm egg count, it would be advisable to group together faeces over a couple of days as enteric pathogens may be shed intermittently.

STRATEGIC WORMING

Strategic worming plans can be prepared for individual yards. These need to be individually tailored to take into account management of the pastures (type of soil, poo picking, density of horses), age of horses, in and out movement of horses. Please contact the equine office if you wish to discuss a worming plan.

PALATABLE WORMERS (TABLETS)

Please be careful if using palatable worming tablets containing Ivermectin. These tablets are extremely dangerous to dogs if accidentally ingested. Collie breeds are particularly affected and even a small dose of wormer could be fatal. Blindness and neurological signs have been observed in other breeds. If you are using palatable worming tablets or a paste containing Ivermectin, please dispose of the packaging and of any leftover safely (in a closed bin).

