

Worm Control for Your Horse

Routine worming of your horse is no longer recommended in most cases. This is to reduce drug resistance & unnecessary drug administration. Strategic worming at the correct points of the year alongside faecal worm egg count analysis is the preferred approach.

Parasites

- **Large redworms (Strongyles)**
- **Small redworms (Cyathostomes)**
- **Tapeworms**
- **Roundworms (Ascarids)**
- **Pinworms** Your horse may suffer a burden of any of these worms listed with or without symptoms; therefore targeted treatment using the correct drug is required.
- **Bots**
- **Lungworms**
- **Threadworms**

Management

- Remove droppings from pasture daily
 - (450kg horse produces 10tonnes of dung per year).
- Worm all new arrivals with unknown worming history.
- Use correct wormer at correct time of year
- Dose according to body weight.
- Keep a record of what you worm with & when.
- Carry out faecal worm egg count analysis regularly
 - Every 6-8 weeks from spring to late autumn

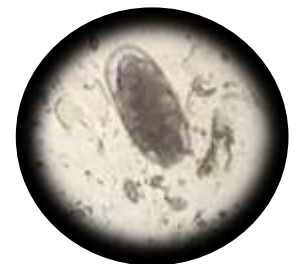


Conditions Caused by a Worm Burden

- Diarrhoea
- Weight loss & lethargy
- Anaemia & protein loss
- Coughing & wheezing
- *Colic*
- Thrombosis & aneurism
- Fatality

Diagnosis of a Burden

- Blaircourt carry out their own in house faecal worm egg count analysis for strongyles (large redworm) and round worm (ascarids)
- Testing for pinworm (sellotape test)
- Tapeworm ELISA – blood sample for detection of a tapeworm burden



Treatment

- On the basis of a worm egg count, treat a known strongyle burden with an Ivermectin wormer throughout the year.
- Treat for tapeworm in autumn with a Praziquantel wormer.
- Treat for Encysted redworm & bots using Moxidectin in December.
- **OR** Treat using Moxidectin & Praziquantel combination product in December.
- Treat positive pinworm burden according to our vet's protocol.
- Dose according to bodyweight.

Special Considerations

Foals, yearlings, pregnant or lactating mares, geriatric horses & donkeys all have special requirements in regard to worming

Please seek advice from your vet in these instances