



WENSUM VALLEY VETS NEWSLETTER

What's included in our Worming Scheme?

Our worming scheme offers fantastic value, for only £60 per year, you will receive:

- 4 worm egg counts (WECs)
- 1 tapeworm saliva test (to be done between November and February)
- 10% discount on any wormers required
- 1 faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT)
- Unlimited worming advice by phone

The worming scheme could save you more than £44 per year!

Please speak to your vet at their next visit or call our office on 01328 864444 if you are interested in joining.



A word from Lauren on our Targeted Worming Scheme...

Hi, I'm Lauren and I have worked at Wensum Valley Vets for two years. During this time worm management is something I have become passionate about, having seen horses become ill due to potentially preventable illness caused by worms. I really enjoy interpreting worm egg count results, explaining their significance to clients and making a worm management plan together based on the individual horse. I wrote June's newsletter to cover the principles of targeted worming (using faecal worm egg counts to determine whether a horse needs treatment, and if so with which worming product) and the



01328 864444

1

State of the Art Ovacyte Worm Egg Counting Machine



The practice has invested in a state-of-the-art worm egg counting machine which can identify the species of worm present as well as giving a very precise reading of the eggs per gram present in the faecal sample. This automated process is significantly more precise than the previous method of manually counting and is available for one-off worm egg counts or as part of **our worming scheme**.



benefits to everyone involved, so I wanted to use July's newsletter to tell you more about our scheme.

A recap of the benefits of Targeted Worming

Benefits for your horse include:

- Reduced risk of future wormer resistance
- Stops unnecessary worming treatments
- Reduced risk of illness due to resistant worms
- Reduced risk of illness due to worming

Benefits for you include:

- More cost effective than blanket worming
- Join the clients taking a responsible approach to wormer use
- Monitor the worm status of your horse and pasture

Benefits for your pasture/yard include:

- With reduced wormer use comes improved field environment, soil structure and grass quality
- Reduced risk that the whole yard suffers from a localised wormer resistance issue

Increasingly vets are seeing worm related illness in horses that have been blanket treated with wormers for many years, and the worms present are now resistant to these commonly used worming products. We also see young horses who have been inappropriately wormed with products that do not treat them for the species they are most at risk of.

Why use our scheme?

Many worming/testing schemes are available to you through internet laboratories and feed merchants. These schemes are run by SQPs (suitably qualified people) who have done a short course in equine worming. Like vets, SQPs must complete CPD (continued professional development) each year, however SQPs can complete as little as 3hrs per year compared to vets' 35hrs per year! This can mean that their knowledge is not as up to date as the vets running our worming scheme, and can sometimes mean we have differing aims.

The key aims of our scheme are to keep your horse healthy and reduce unnecessary worming! Lastly, if your horse suffers from colic, diarrhoea or another gut related illness in the future, it helps us as your vet to have a complete worming history on them, meaning we can make a diagnosis knowing whether high egg counts have been an issue in the past and which wormers have been given when. We will also be able to use their faecal sample for sand-testing at the practice to determine their risk of sand colic.

How do I join?

To join call the office on 01328 86444, ask one of the vets about joining at your next appointment or bring a faecal sample in a clean container to the practice for your worm egg count.

