



# WENSUM VALLEY VETS NEWSLETTER

## Worming Scheme:



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

- 4 worm egg counts
- 1 tapeworm saliva test
- 10% discount on any wormers
- 1 faecal egg count reduction tests (FECRT)
- Unlimited worming advice
- **Savings of >£40 per horse per year!**

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



## New Ovacyte Worm Egg Counting Machine

The practice has invested in a state-of-the-art worm egg counting machine  
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Wensum Valley Vets



## Targeted Worming Treatment

Management of worms can be complicated, and it is very easy to be overwhelmed with information – when to worm, what with and why!

The good news is most horses don't require treatment for their worm burden. Studies have shown 4 out of 5 wormers are given unnecessarily as less than 20% of horses carry 80% of the worms\*. Worm Egg Counting has been demonstrated to be more cost-effective than blanket treatment, and reduces the amount of wormer used in individuals, as well as across the whole horse population.

Using wormers can lead to a build-up of resistance (to the wormers), meaning that they may be ineffective in the future, making it difficult to treat horses with worms. Worms with genetics that make them resistant to wormers can build up in the population, and their eggs then contaminate the pasture leading to future problems for nay horses grazed there, There are currently no new wormers coming onto the market, so preserving the ones we've got is essential! By targeting the horses we treat it means that we slow the development of resistance.



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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 accurate than the previous method of manually counting and is available for one-off worm egg counts or as part of **our worming scheme**.

Moreover, unnecessary wormer use has a negative impact on the environment and pasture health as the active ingredients present in many wormers kill the insects and earth worms which pose no risk to horses but benefit the field environment, soil structure and grass quality.

\*Reference: Equine de-worming: a consensus on current best practice

### *What is targeted worming treatment?*

Targeted worming means using faecal worm egg counts (WEC) to determine whether or not a horse needs treatment, and if so with which worming product. The eggs can be identified and their

species identified. This species information is combined with worming history and time of year to decide on the best wormer for your individual horse.

### *Why is everyone moving to targeted worming treatment instead of blanket worming?*

#### **Benefits for your horse include:**

- Reduced risk of future wormer resistance
- Stops unnecessary worming treatments

#### **Benefits for you include:**

- More cost effective than blanket worming
- Join the majority of clients taking a responsible approach to wormer use

#### **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



### *Where do I start?*

1. Collect a small amount, about 3 tablespoons, of faeces into a clean Tupperware from each of your horses (don't forget to label them).
2. Bring the sample(s) to the clinic on a working day or post them to us first class (keep them in the fridge in the mean time)
3. Await your results and worming advice!
4. You may choose to joint the scheme and save >£40 per year, as well as benefitting from unlimited advice and our reminders

