

Wright & Morten Equine Newsletter



www.wmvets.co.uk

June 2020

Coronavirus: What's Our "New Normal"?



Coronavirus has changed the way we do things in every walk of life, and equine veterinary services are no different in that respect. As equine vets we have been led by guidance from both the British Veterinary Association and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, who have provided us with regular updates and advice. As you may be aware, the advice has changed from the initial stance which required us to only treat essential and emergency cases, to the present guidance which reflects the fact that social distancing is here to stay for at least the time being and remains the new normal.

On a practical basis this means you should continue to get in touch with us as you always have done, whenever you need advice or help or you want to talk

about your horse's healthcare needs. We will then try and help you as we always have done. The key difference is the need to keep both yourself and our staff safe by adhering to social distancing at all times. We will continue to ask questions to ensure you are not running a high temperature or have not developed a cough. We will also email you our guidance sheet to remind you what is expected in any vet visits. All of our visits are risk assessed by the attending vet to make sure that both you and ourselves are kept safe.

This means when we come and see you we still need the following:

- Water to allow us to wash our hands.
- As few people around the horse as possible. Preferably one handler per horse, or where we are coming onto a yard to do a number of individuals, one handler per group of horses.
- Please tie up the horses and keep a minimum social distance of 2m from the vet.
- Where it is not possible to adhere to social distancing we will need to think of another way of solving the problem. We may suggest you bring your horse into the clinic where we can attend to him safely whilst maintaining our social distancing.

We are able to do most of the work we were doing pre-Coronavirus, including vaccinations, pre-purchase examinations and dentistry, but we will risk assess every situation to ensure that we are all keeping within these guidelines.

Visits into the clinic have also changed:

- We are running two separate teams, so the clinic vets and the yard vets are socially distancing themselves from each other.
- We have closed reception and we will ask you to wait in your lorry.
- We can pass you the relevant paperwork through our reception window.
- We will ask you to put your horse into one of our outdoor stables and take off the headcollar. We provide our own.
- We will speak to you outside at a 2m distance and can have our usual discussions about your horse's healthcare provisions, diagnosis, treatment plans and options, but we cannot allow you into the clinic.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our amazing clients. You have been so understanding and helpful during these very difficult times, and we appreciate that you have been working with us to find solutions. At present our client evenings and educational events are on hold whilst we plan for better times ahead.

Dentistry



We're delighted that so many clients choose to use Wright & Morten for the dental care of their horses, ponies and donkeys. Excellence in the field of modern equine dentistry is something that we have long prided ourselves on with both Mark and Nic having passed the British Association of Equine Dental Technicians Examination, and Mark retaining his status as an Advancer Practitioner in Equine Practice.

Our vets are well equipped with the full complement of modern power tools. We continue to sedate our horses for routine dentistry. This allows us a full examination of the horse's mouth, and to provide a thorough treatment as required – and it keeps our patients relaxed and is safer for them and you. In particular, with the need to keep our social distance we will continue to sedate our patients.

- Sedated routine dentistry is very cost-effective, at between £75 to £90 depending on the dose of sedative used.
- Most horses only need doing once a year, although if there are underlying dental issues we might arrange revisits for six or nine months.
- We run zone dental visits in different areas of the practice over different days. These book well in advance, sometimes a couple of months – so please give us plenty of notice.
- It's best to get together with your friends – we don't charge a call out fee for yards with more than four horses.
- In addition, Mark will be based at our Somerford Equine Clinic every Tuesday for routine and referral cases. If you would like to bring your horse in for dental work please let us know.

Bank Details

There have been some problems setting up BACS payments to our bank account recently so we wanted to confirm the new details:

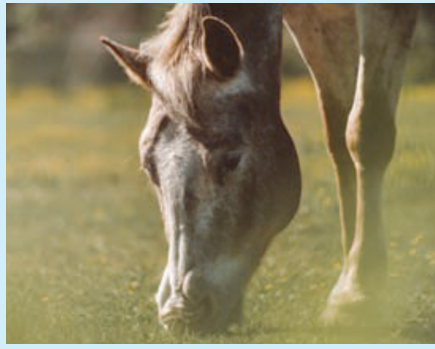
Name: Independent Vet Care Ltd

Sort Code: 40-42-18

Account Number: 12724219

Reference: 2027 "Surname" "Horse name"

Wright & Morten Strategic Worming Plan



The advice and best practice approach to worming our horses has evolved over the years, as our knowledge has developed, and more clinical evidence and technologies have come to the fore. We also know that worming advice can be complex and often contradictory.

To assist our clients in this potentially confusing yet essential element of caring for our horses, we have designed a Strategic Worming Plan based on what we believe is current best practice.

The cornerstones of our plan are to:

- ✓ Avoid over worming our horses with chemicals they don't need,
- ✓ Create a plan that monitors and treats high worm burdens as necessary,
- ✓ Provide our patients with best practice solutions for great preventative healthcare.

We have designed our Strategic Worming Plan with the following thoughts in mind:

- Over worming has become such an issue that worms are now resistant to many commonly used wormers. So, our plan is based around worm egg count testing. You only worm if your horse has a high worm burden.
- It's still important to worm over the winter with a wormer that targets small redworm that live in a horse's guts over the colder months.
- It's important to target tapeworm strategically. So, our program treats tapeworm once a year in the winter. And, we also test for tapeworm with the Equisal Saliva test in the Spring / Summer months.
- It needs to be affordable. So, our plan will provide your horse with a free wormer if his worm egg count is too high.

Our Strategic Plan

Our plan will be tailored differently for everyone's individual circumstances, but is based on the following yearly calendar template:

Month Strategy Target

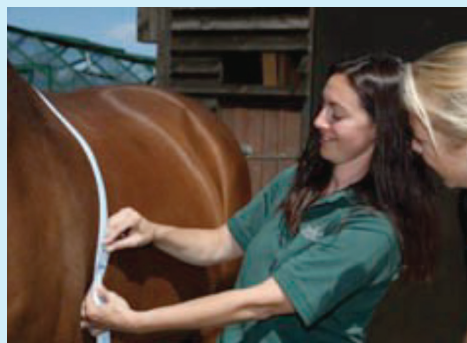
Month	Strategy	Target
November - January	Worm with Equest Pramox	Encysted small redworms and tapeworm
May	Worm egg count	Large roundworms
May - July	Equisal saliva test	Tapeworm
July	Worm egg count	Large roundworms
September	Worm egg count	Large roundworms

How it works

Once you sign up to our Worming Plan, you will get a call from one of our Equine nurses who have trained as SQPs (Suitably Qualified Persons, to deliver worming advice and prescribe wormers) to discuss your horse's individual yard circumstances and to help tailor a plan that suits yourselves.

Please weigh your horse. The easiest way is with a weigh tape.

After this we will send you a pack with a year's supply of consumables. This will include your winter wormer, sample containers for the worm egg counts and tapeworm tests as well as gloves, plastic bags, submission forms and pre-paid envelopes. All you then need to do is post back your horse's faecal samples to our Freepost address at Somerford Park Farm at the correct strategic time of year. Between May and July you would send the Equisal saliva test to an external laboratory



with the provided envelope. Once we have analysed the samples, we will call you with the results. You will receive worming advice based on your own individual circumstances from one of our vets or nurses.

The price for your yearly Worming Plan is £90 for all horses under 700kg in weight, with a 10% discount for subsequent horses owned by the same person. We will provide additional round wormers free of charge on this plan. There is a £25 supplement for horses over 700kg.

Worm egg counts

We use standard Macmaster lab tests to identify worm eggs within your horse's droppings. This is the best method to detect large roundworm eggs. It doesn't detect pinworms, tapeworms or small redworms. We ask you to send us your horse's droppings to our lab and we will call you once the sample has been analysed.

The benefits of our scheme

- Uses up to date knowledge of worming to provide an eco-friendly approach to worm control.
- Uses less chemicals than fixed interval treatments, and prevents your horse being given medicines he doesn't need.
- Provides evidence that your worming control is effective.
- Identifies horses carrying strains of resistant worms.
- Suitable for horses living individually or as part of small or large groups.



Our Gastroscopy Clinic is Back!

And it is even better than last year.

We know that lockdown has been a tricky time with changes in management and riding routines and as such we want to offer you a cost-effective way of looking into those little niggles and concerns.

For just £75 we are offering you a full clinical examination, gait analysis, gastroscopy including sedation, weight check and nutrition consultation, examination of both eyes and a dental examination! (Treatments and dental rasping if needed are extra)

This offer is open for the whole month of June! Just call our office team on 01260 280800 to book your place!



EQUINE CLINIC

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 Like us on Facebook for up-to-date news and the latest events! Search 'Wright & Morten Equine Clinic.'