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Parasite Control Program for Healthy Adult Horses

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Remember one size does not fit all. Check with us yearly to get the most up to date information!!

Below is the starting point for a parasite control program, but individual horses and farms need programs tailored to their needs based on fecal egg counts and management practices. **Fecal egg count monitoring is the cornerstone of any effective deworming program.** As patterns emerge and change we will continue to adjust our recommendations to stay on top of the parasite resistance problem.

If your horse has not been in a regular preventive health program including deworming or if your horse has any health concerns, check with us before starting the protocol listed below. Also see our notes on parasite control and resistance.

When	Fecal Egg Count (FEC)	Who	Recommended Dewormer	Comments
March 1 (As weather starts to warm up)	Fecal Egg Count!!! <i>This is the most important FEC of the year. This will be the best indicator of a horse's true shedding level.</i>	Treat All Horses Low Shedders. High Shedders and 1 to 2yr olds.	Ivermectin (low shedders) OR Moxidectin with Praziquantel (high shedders)	Target Cyathosomes (small Strongyles), Tapeworms, migrating and adult large Strongyles. Also susceptible Oxyuris (pinworms).
May 1	FEC and fecal egg count reduction test only for horses wormed with Ivermectin in March.	Treat only high egg shedders.	Depends on farm resistance. Oxibendazole or fenbendazole Or Pyrantel Pamoate	Susceptible Oxyuris (pinworms), Ascarids (roundworms), Cyathostomes (small Strongyles).
June 1	FEC and fecal egg count reduction test only for horses wormed with Moxidectin in March.	Treat only high egg shedders.	Depends on farm resistance. Oxibendazole or fenbendazole Or Pyrantel Pamoate Or Ivermectin	Susceptible Oxyuris (pinworms), Ascarids (roundworms), Cyathostomes (small Strongyles).
July 1	None!! Too hot. Go for a dip in the swimming hole to cool off.			
August 15	FEC only on horses with high egg counts in the spring.	Treat only high shedders.	Depends on farm resistance. Oxibendazole Or Pyrantel Pamoate	Only need 4-6 weeks of egg clearance before treating with Ivermectin or Moxidectin in Sept.
October 1	FEC on ALL HORSES. This helps determine effectiveness of overall program.	All Horses	Moxidectin with Praziquantel (Most Horses) Or Ivermectin with Praziquantel	Targets Strongyle transmission, tapeworms, bots, and spirurid nematodes.
December 1 (Weather starts to cool)	FEC only if treated with Ivermectin in September.	Treat only high shedders.	Pyrantel pamoate Or Ivermectin	Tapeworms, bots, Cyathostomes Only need short period of control before winter arrives.

Note: New arrivals should have FEC done and appropriate treatment administered prior to turnout on pastures.

Don't Forget Manure Control and Farm Hygiene.

Fecal Egg Count Sample Collection Instructions: 1. Collect fresh manure (about 5 fecal balls) free of bedding and soil soon after it is passed in a clean plastic bag. 2. Squeeze air out of bag. 3. Label the bag with the names of horse and owner and date. 4. Refrigerate until transport to the clinic (within 2 days). Samples can be dropped off Mon.-Fri. 8am to 8pm.