



Parasite Control Program for Foals

January 2010

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 foal parasite control program, but individual foals and farms need programs tailored to their needs based on fecal egg counts and management practices. **Fecal egg count monitoring and egg count reduction tests are extremely important to provide an effective and safe deworming program in foals given their high susceptibility to certain parasites.** As patterns emerge and change we will continue to adjust our recommendations to stay on top of the parasite resistance problem.

If your foal 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)	Recommended Dewormer	Comments
2 months of age		Fenbendazole (10mg/kg) (This is usually a double dose by weight on regular paste wormer tubes).	During the first few months of life, foals are highly susceptible to Ascarid (roundworm) infection. Pyrantel and Fenbendazole may currently be more effective against Ascarids than ivermectin though varying levels of resistance exist to both of these dewormers. Fenbendazole and pyrantel also have shorter periods of duration thus necessitating more frequent dosing. Pyrantel at twice the regular dosage is also effective against equine tapeworms.
3 months of age		Pyrantel pamoate (Double dose by weight on regular paste wormer tubes).	
4 months of age	FECR (Pre-Deworming FEC and FEC 14 days post deowrming).	Fenbendazole (10mg/kg) (This is usually a double dose by weight on regular paste wormer tubes).	
6 months of age		Ivermectin	Ivermectin has a longer duration of action (6-8 weeks).
8 months of age	FECR (Pre-Deworming FECI and FEC 14 days post deowrming).	Pyrantel pamoate (Double dose by weight on regular paste wormer tubes).	As foals age and immunity develops, deworming can be performed less frequently in most foals. However, foals shedd higher numbers of parasite eggs may require more frequent or altered treatment.
10 months of age		Fenbendazole (10mg/kg) (This is usually a double dose by weight on regular paste wormer tubes).	
12 months of age	FEC	Moxidectin and Praziquantel (According to current weight).	Wait at 3 months to deworm again after using Moxidectin.

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

Fecal Egg Count Sample Collection Instructions: 1. Collect fresh manure (about 3 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.

Everytime You Deworm!!!!....

1. Use a weight tape or body weight equation to estimate your horse's weight.
2. Administer a dewormer dosage equivilant to your horse's weight plus 15%.
3. Make sure your horse's mouth is free of any grain, grass, or hay prior to administering dewormer.

Don't Forget Manure Control and Farm Hygiene.



Modified Deworming Schedule for Broodmares *January 2010*

1. Follow regular adult deworming and fecal egg count recommendations for non-pregnant mares prior to breeding.
2. Do not deworm during the first 60 days of gestation. *Plan ahead to deworm prior to breeding with dewormer most appropriate for time of year and mare's fecal egg count*
3. Resume regular deworming and FEC monitoring following 60 days of gestation.
4. Deworm 30 days prior to foaling date with double dose of Fenbedndazole or Pyrantel Pamoate.
5. Deworm mares 24 hrs following foaling with Moxidectin and Praaziquantel (*Quest Plus*). *Wait 3 months following administration of Quest before deworming again. Only use Quest on mares who have been on regular deworming programs and are in good health.*

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 Mares Low Shedders. High Shedders and 1 to 2yr olds.	Ivermectin (low shedders) OR Check with EEA	Target Cyathostomes (sm 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).
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 mares	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.

Fecal Egg Count Sample Collection Instructions: 1. Collect fresh manure (about 3 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.

Everytime You Deworm!!!!....

1. Use a weight tape or body weight formula to estimate your horse's weight.
2. Administer a dewormer dosage equivalent to your horse's weight plus 15%.
3. Make sure your horse's mouth is free of any grain, grass, or hay prior to administering dewormer.

Don't Forget Manure Control and Farm Hygiene.

Drug Class	Active Ingredient	Common Brand Names
Tetrahydropyrimidines (Pyrantel Salts)	Pyrantel Pamoate	Strongid, Rotation 2
	Pyrantel Tartrate	Strongid C (Daily Feed Additive)
Benzimidazoles	Fenbedazole	Panacur, Safe Guard
	Oxibendazole	Anthelcide
Macrolide (Ivermectin, Moxidectin)	Ivermectin	Eqvalan, Zimmetrin, Equimetrin, Rotation 1, Iver Care
	Moxidectin	Quest
Praziquantel Enhanced	Ivermectin + Praziquantel	Equimax, Zimmetrin Gold
	Moxidectin + Praziquantel	Quest Plus