



Contact us:

Ashford Clinic
The Barn
Court Lodge
Church Road
Sevington
Ashford Kent TN24 0LD



01233 500505

Canterbury



01227 200992



office@milbournequine.co.uk



canterbury@milbournequine.co.uk

Hawkhurst Surgery
Springfield
Cranbrook Road
Hawkhurst
Kent TN18 5EE

Gastroscope clinics for Hawkhurst are performed at Benenden and booked through our Hawkhurst Surgery



01580 752301



hawkhurst@milbournequine.co.uk

Rye Surgery
Cinque Ports Square
Rye
East Sussex TN31 7AN



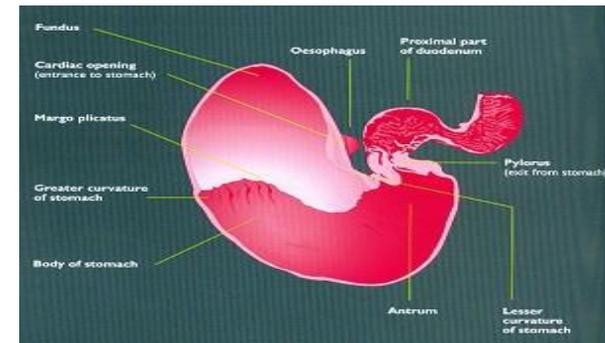
01797 208128



rye@milbournequine.co.uk



Gastrosopy Information



This booklet is intended to provide information for owners of horses undergoing Gastrosopy for diagnosis of Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome (EGUS) at Milbourn Equine.

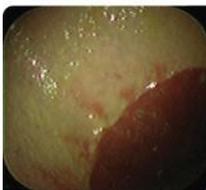
If you have any further queries please contact the surgery

What is Gastrosocopy?

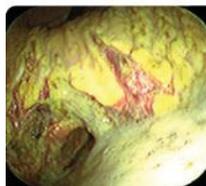
Gastrosocopy involves visualisation of the lining of the horse's stomach using a flexible instrument called an endoscope. This is passed from the horse's nose into the stomach. Ulcers can vary in severity from reddening and inflammation to deep erosions of the stomach lining. The following pictures are examples of ulcers seen via gastrosocopy:



Normal stomach lining



Stomach with small single ulcers



Stomach with deep ulceration

Is Gastrosocopy uncomfortable?

Most horses do (understandably) object to having the scope passed up their nose and are given a sedative. However, unlike humans, horses cannot vomit, have no gag reflex and the gastrosocopy procedure itself rarely causes signs of discomfort.

Instructions prior to Gastrosocopy

- To ensure a clear view of the stomach lining it must be totally empty of food material - no hay or feed must be available for 16 hours prior to gastrosocopy.
- As it is essential that the stomach is as empty as possible, horses should be stabled on inedible bedding during this time.
- It is also important that food is kept out of the horses reach during transportation to the surgery.
- Water should be withheld for 4 hours prior to the procedure.
- If you are likely to experience difficulty withholding food for this time, horses can be admitted 24 hours prior to gastrosocopy at the Ashford Clinic.
- Please remember to bring your horse's bridle with you to the clinic.

Instructions after Gastrosocopy

- Your horse will be able to return home the same day as the procedure.
- As sedation will have been given, food should be withheld for a period of time (usually 1-2 hours) until this has worn off.
- If your horse is diagnosed with gastric ulcers treatment will be prescribed by your vet. This may include a course of medication in addition to advice on changes in management and feeding to help improve the speed of recovery and prevent recurrence.