


## Donkey de worming!

As donkey owners will know, donkeys cannot just be lumped in the same box as our horse and pony friends! Donkeys get redworm like horses and the worm egg counts are just as useful for donkey redworm control as horses - they can be included in our annual worming programme. For the treatment of redworm not all products are licensed in donkeys but due to increasing resistance to wormers an unlicensed product may be required.

Below is an example of the de-worming diary recommended by The Donkey Sanctuary. This gives particular treatments that may need to be carried out, however it should be noted that throughout the whole year it is recommended to perform Faecal Worm Egg Counts (FWECs) every 8 - 10 weeks to specifically tailor make a treatment plan for your donkey. Worm egg counts are performed on a small sample (handful size) of droppings which you can bring into the practice in a small labelled bag (e.g. freezer bag).

Lungworms are a parasite that generally cause little problem for donkeys unless they are grazing with horses. Lungworms only develop fully in donkeys yet the immature forms in horses can be a serious cause of coughing. Therefore, if a donkey's field companions are coughing, it can make sense to test the donkey faeces for lungworm larvae. Please speak to your vet for more worming advice or contact us to register for our worming programme.

<p><b>January to April</b></p>	<p><b>Encysted cyathostomins (encysted redworms)</b></p> <p>FWECs do not evaluate the burden of cyathostomin larvae. Treatment for encysted larvae will assist in reducing future pasture contamination and will guard against gut damage associated with encysted larvae.</p> <p>Treatment options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❗ <b>Equest (Moxidectin)</b> - Not licensed in donkeys but is safe to use</li> <li>❗ <b>5 day Panacur (Fenbendazole)</b> - Licensed in donkeys but lots of resistance so may not be very effective. Good to use in young donkeys/underweight/pregnant jennies</li> </ul> <p>It should be noted that if your donkey has many FWECs that are 0 - there will be no need to treat for encysted cyathostomins.</p>	
<p><b>March to May</b></p>	<p><b>Liver Fluke</b></p> <p>A survey by the Donkey Sanctuary has found that a surprisingly high number of donkeys suffer from liver fluke. As fluke eggs do not show up in a standard worm egg count you might like to also ask for a fluke egg test. If your fields have wet areas or are subject to flooding it would be advisable to test for fluke annually. Spring is the optimum time for testing</p>	
<p><b>November</b></p>	<p><b>Tapeworm</b></p> <p>Tapeworm is much rarer in donkeys than horses but in high risk situations it would still be beneficial to treat once a year.</p> <p>Treatment options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❗ <b>Praziquantel paste (unlicensed) will treat tapeworms only and is available on special order</b></li> <li>❗ <b>Double dose Pyratape P or Strongid P (Pyrantel embonate)</b> - treats for redworms and tapeworm</li> </ul> <p>It should be noted that multiwormers (i.e. Equest Pramox or Equimax) are not advocated in donkeys.</p>	



## Out of Hours Emergency

Milbourn Equine provide our own out of hours emergency service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 365 days a year. If you need us outside of working hours, call your local branch and you will be directed to our out of hours emergency team who will take your details and contact our duty vet. Our vet will then call you back. Always keep our number handy in case you need it in an emergency situation and if your horse is in livery, make sure your yard manager has our details.

## Welcome



We would like to welcome 2 new vets to our Milbourn team. Catarina Stilwell DVM MRCVS joined our Hawkhurst team in July. Catarina graduated from the University of Lisbon in January 2017, after which she proceeded to do an internship at Brazos Valley Equine Hospital in Texas, USA. After finishing she returned to Portugal where she worked at Hippiatrica Equine Medical Center, focusing mostly on the internal medicine and critical care cases. Her main interests are internal medicine, anaesthesia, reproduction and soft tissue surgery. Outside of work she enjoys riding, mostly dressage, reading, entertaining and spending quality time with her family and friends.

Danielle Johnson BVSc MRCVS joined our Sevington team in September after relocating from a mixed practice in Yorkshire. We are sure you join us in welcoming them to Milbourn Equine.

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## Be Clever About Cushing's

Have you heard about equine Cushing's disease (also referred to as PPID), but you are not sure exactly what it is and whether it could affect your horse?

This disease generally affects older horses and ponies and many of the clinical signs can be mistaken for normal ageing. Signs to look out for include a long hair coat, loss of top line and a pot belly appearance.

To find out all about equine Cushing's disease visit the new Care About Cushing's website [www.careaboutcushings.co.uk](http://www.careaboutcushings.co.uk) where you can download an equine Cushing's disease check list to see if your horse or pony could potentially have signs of the condition.

If you suspect your horse or pony is showing signs of equine Cushing's disease, phone us to discuss testing. If we advise you to test for this condition voucher codes for a free blood test\* can be generated at [www.careaboutcushings.co.uk](http://www.careaboutcushings.co.uk)



### References

1. Ireland JL et al. Cross sectional study of geriatric horses in the United Kingdom Part 2; Health care and disease. Equine vet J. 2011;43 ;37-44.



## Help us raise money for Pilgrims Hospice

Milbourn Equine have produced a calendar in aid of Pilgrims Hospice. All proceeds go directly to them. Only £8 and available from your local branch.

## Gastric Awareness Month - October

Boehringer are helping support our Gastric Awareness Month and if your horse requires treatment for ulcers Grade 1 and above, we can provide a 4 week course of ulcer treatment for the price of 3. During October we are offering our usual great discounted clinic promotion rates at Ashford 2nd October and Benenden 24th October.

First Timers £150.00 including sedation for horses being scoped for the first time £200.00 for all other horses. N.B. Any medication or hospitalisation if needed will be extra. Please call your branch to book.



## Dates For Your Diary!

### Don't forget my teeth!

Special Offer throughout September and October - £10 Off Dental Rasping



We recommend that all horses undergo a dental examination at least once a year. Some horses such as those expected to perform at a high level and those with specific dental abnormalities might benefit from more frequent examinations.

Our vets have all received full dentistry training during their time at University and are more than happy to carry out dental treatment on your horse. In addition they can also administer drugs such as sedatives, local anaesthetics and pain killer drugs allowing safer more comfortable treatment. Rasping can also be combined with one of our £10 Zone Visits making us very competitively priced as well as additional discounts if your horse is a member of our Equine Healthcare Plan. Why not call us to find out more!



## REACT to Colic! - Wednesday 10th October

Come along for a free informative evening about Colic, at Bodiam International Arena TN32 5UJ. Our vet Harriet Fairhurst will be advising about what to look out for. Brooke Hospital for Animals will also be in attendance providing a talk about the history and work of Brooke and we will be holding a raffle to help them raise some much needed funds. Call 01580 752301, email [hawkhurst@milbournequine.co.uk](mailto:hawkhurst@milbournequine.co.uk) or facebook to book your place. Keep an eye on our website and social media pages for details of our next evening talk in November about the difficult subject of euthanasia.

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