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**Milverton-Wellesley  
Veterinary Clinic**

## RECOMMENDED EQUINE VACCINATION SCHEDULE

	ADULT HORSE VACCINATION SCHEDULE	Booster required only if the horse has been previously unvaccinated.		FOAL VACCINATION SCHEDULE			
		1 <sup>ST</sup> BOOSTER	2 <sup>ND</sup> BOOSTER	INITIAL	1 <sup>ST</sup> BOOSTER	2 <sup>ND</sup> BOOSTER	
CORE VACCINES	Rabies	Annually			6 mths old	4 - 8 weeks	
	Tetanus	Annually	4 - 8 weeks		4 - 6 mths old	4 - 8 weeks	Before 12 mths old
	EEE, WEE, West Nile Virus	Annually	3 - 4 weeks		4 - 6 mths old	3 - 4 weeks	Before 12 mths old
RISK BASED VACCINES	Flu/Rhino	Every 6 to 12 mths	3 - 4 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	
	Potomac HF	Every 6 to 12 mths	3 - 4 weeks		6 mths old	3 - 4 weeks	
	Botulism	Annually	4 weeks	4 weeks	6 mths old	4 weeks	4 weeks
	Strangles	Annually	2 - 3 weeks		9 mths old	3 weeks	

Newborn foals should be vaccinated with Tetanus Antitoxin and Selenium within the first 24 hours. Pregnant mares should get their last vaccines 4-6 weeks before foaling. This is the recommended schedule for foals from mares that have been vaccinated pre-foaling.

## PARASITE CONTROL

### PARASITE GOALS & FACTS

<b>GOALS</b>	<p><b>LIMIT infections so that the animal remains healthy.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To control parasite egg shedding;</li> <li>To maintain efficacy of drugs and to slow down drug resistance;</li> </ul>
<b>THE FACTS</b>	<p><b>Complete eradication is impossible and excessive deworming can accelerate drug resistance!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Larval stages of large and small Strongyles worms cause the greatest disease risk;</li> <li>Larvae are not responsive against most common treatments;</li> <li>20-30% of adult horses in a herd shed 80% of parasite eggs;</li> <li>Your veterinarian needs to know the magnitude of egg shedding in individual horses;</li> <li>Performing <b>Fecal Egg Counts(FEC)</b> is necessary to develop an effective Parasite Control Program;</li> </ul>

### LAB TESTING – FECAL EGG COUNTS

<b>REASONS FOR FECAL EGG COUNTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate the efficacy of the dewormers;</li> <li>Monitor the egg re-appearance period;</li> <li>Determine the shedding status of your horse(s);</li> <li>Determine the parasite burden in foals and weanlings (Roundworms vs Strongyles);</li> </ul>
<b>THE SAMPLING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use ziploc bags and remove as much air as possible;</li> <li>Collect a handful of feces, preferably less than 12 hours old;</li> <li>Need to be tested within 7 days of collection, if stored properly;</li> <li>Samples may be refrigerated but NOT frozen;</li> </ul>
<b>LIMITATIONS TO FECAL EGG COUNTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May not reflect total worm burden accurately;</li> <li>No detection of immature stages;</li> <li>Tapeworms and pinworms are most likely missed;</li> </ul>

### DEWORMING SCHEDULE

<b>ADULT HORSES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 or 2 dewormings. Additional deworming depending on fecal egg counts;</li> <li>Late spring and fall (after frost);</li> <li>Use products based on a veterinarian's suggested protocol;</li> <li>Additional deworming only if necessary;</li> <li>Use medication that is effective against bots and tapes in fall;</li> </ul>								
<b>FOALS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deworm 4 times in first year.</li> <li>Foals have specific worm burdens that differ from adults; please consult with your veterinarian regarding which dewormer to use.</li> </ul> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>1<sup>st</sup></th> <th>2<sup>nd</sup></th> <th>3<sup>rd</sup></th> <th>4<sup>th</sup></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2-3 mths old</td> <td>Before weaning</td> <td>9 mths old</td> <td>12 mths old</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	2-3 mths old	Before weaning	9 mths old	12 mths old
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This information is based on guidelines from the American Association of Equine Practitioners ([www.AAEP.org](http://www.AAEP.org))

Pasture Management is as important as drugs to win the war against parasites. Please talk to one of our veterinarians about which deworming protocol to use.

Fergus



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