

Tapeworm & Redworm Testing

September/October is the time of year that all horses should be treated for tapeworm and redworms. We do not suggest testing at this time of year, but recommend treatment as follows;

- Tapeworm - Praziquantel or a double dose of Pyrantel
- Redworms - Moxidectin

Horses with evidence of tapeworm infestation are more susceptible to large colon infestations. Please speak to one of our vets if you need further advice.

FREE ACTH (Cushing's Test)

If your horse or pony is prone to laminitis, it's important to test for Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction (PPID). As many as 9 out of 10 laminitis cases are caused by an underlying hormonal disease and PPID is a major culprit in horses and ponies over the age of 10.

Finding out if your horse or pony has PPID is an important first step. The voucher can be generated up until 31st October and is valid for testing conducted up to and including 30th November 2017 for all horses that haven't been tested before or that were negative.

So if you have any concerns or have discussed this with your vet recently please call to arrange an appointment. For more information:
www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk

We love to hear from you!

We welcome any feedback on our services please email our practice manager laura.feather@cvsvets.com



Please note that we need a minimum of 48 hrs notice for medication to be collected or posted so the treating vet can approve.



**Expires
31st October
2017**



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Inside this issue: Spotlight on... Winter Feeding · Clipping · Tapeworm Testing



Welcome Liberty Stewart-Moore

Libby joined Scott Dunn's after completing her final exams at Moreton Morrell College, where she studied for a degree in Equine Science and she is now looking to progress her career in care, management and welfare of the horse. Apart from looking after her own horses, Libby has worked as a part-time groom, a nanny/groom and camp yard manager for Wokingham Pony Club. In her spare time she enjoys competing and hacking out on her horses.

Our New Website

The website features a header with the clinic's logo, a search bar, and links for emergencies, calling, and emailing. The main content includes a welcome message, a photo of the clinic's exterior with a car parked in front, and three smaller images showing a horse being handled, two people interacting with a horse, and a medical procedure being performed on a horse. Below these are three buttons for 'About us', 'Equine advice', and 'Our services'.

Have you seen
our sparkling
new website

SCOTT DUNN'S EQUINE CLINIC

Straight Mile Farm · Maidenhead Road · Wokingham · Berkshire · RG40 5RW

Tel: 01344 426066 · Lines open 24/7 · Email: admin.scottdunn@cvsvets.com · www.scott-dunns.co.uk

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday - 8.00am to 6.00pm

Issue 27 :: Winter 2017 - will be available in December 2017.

www.scott-dunns.co.uk

Spotlight on...

Winter Feeding

With the onset of winter, feeding is paramount to maintain condition, energy and intestinal health. Without the high nutritional content of summer grass, replacement energy in the form of hard food (concentrates) and adequate fibre is essential.

Feeding, as always, must reflect the current work and management of the horse or pony. Many horses and ponies work less during the winter due to shorter days and lack of competition opportunity. Others, such as hunters and team chasers have an increased workload.

Reduced exercise should lead to a reduction in protein and energy intake whilst ensuring adequate roughage (e.g. hay) is always available and condition is maintained. Reduction in exercise, reduced turnout and limited access to feed, especially roughage, predisposes horses to impacted colic – the most common winter colic suffered by horses. Horses tend to drink less water when the weather is cold, adding to the risk of impaction, and a significant worm burden affecting blood supply to the large intestine may also be implicated.

To avoid impaction ensure an adequate water intake by adding salt to the food. Ad lib access to hay and regular exercise play a vital role. If horses eat their straw bed, consider changing the type of bedding to shavings or paper. Water should be available at all times, both in the stable and in the paddock. During freezing weather ensure water is accessible – place wood in the water troughs to prevent freezing or regularly break the ice. Older horses commonly suffer from dental problems and require special attention. Easily chewed and digested veteran mixes, Alpha A and steamed hay or haylage may be appropriate. A pre-winter dental check/evaluation would be a sensible precaution for veterans.

Due to the warmth of recent winters, a proficient winter worming programme should be maintained. If you are unsure about your worming regime, please contact the surgery and request our recommended worming programme.

Horses with restricted access to pasture during the winter carry an increased risk of gastric ulceration. Horses which do not thrive, undergo behavioural changes or show discomfort during or soon after feeding should trigger an investigation. A blood sample and/or a gastroscopic examination may be required to identify the problem.

If there are any topics that you would like covered in future issues of '**Scott Dunn's Newsletter**'



Clipping

Clipping can be stressful for both you and your horse.

It is not a natural experience for a horse to be clipped and have clippers vibrating off the horse's skin, along with the loud noise it makes.

- Take your time with the horse and let it examine the clippers with its nose and whiskers.
- Turn on the clippers close to you and again slowly introduce to the horse so that it can become accustomed to the loud sound.
- For the sake of your safety and that of the horse ensure it is comfortable with the noise and the feeling of the clippers and let the horse get used to it.
- A very fractious or nervous horse may need to be sedated – speak to your vet about the correct procedure for sedating and what type of sedation to use.
- Ensure you have someone with you to hold the horse as this will make life easier for the person clipping.

Your Safety

- Hard hat – tie back long hair.
- Steel toe capped or rubber soled footwear.
- Overalls – hair will stick to your clothes.
- A circuit breaker on the extension lead.
- A dry, quiet, wind-free, well-lit area to work in which has a non-slip floor.
- Clip in a familiar place to avoid upsetting the horse.
- One set of clean, newly sharpened blades for the clippers plus a can of lubricant.



Clipping

- Start at the horse's shoulder where the skin is smooth and flat and not as sensitive as other parts of the body.
- Assess the horse's reaction: if it is remaining calm then move on to the rest of the body.
- Always clip using long strokes moving in the opposite direction to the natural lie of the hair.
- When the lie of the hair changes, change the direction of the clippers, so the blades keep cutting in the opposite direction.
- Ensure the blades of the clippers lie flat against the horse's skin; this allows the clippers to work effectively.

The head

- Take your time and do not rush when clipping the horse's head.
- If the horse allows you to clip its head then gently and very carefully move the loose skin on the face so that the clippers can clip around the bony areas.
- Ensure the clipper blades are cool before clipping the horse's head.
- Place your hand over the horse's eyes to protect them.
- When clipping the jaw line, undo the buckle of the head collar and make sure the clipper blades are parallel to the horse's jaw bone.
- To clip the bridle path use the headcollar to pull the mane back but do not clip more than an inch from where the headcollar was lying and avoid taking any part of the forelock.
- Trimmers can be used for the ears and nose.

For the month of October we are offering a 10% discount on the total cost of the sedation and vet time. Sedation is always recommended for your horse – it is safer for you and less stressful for your horse.

please contact us on 01344 426066 or email: admin.scottdunn@cvsvels.com