

Deworming Recommendations

Listed below are several strategies for deworming horses depending on their age and environment.

Some key points to consider:

- Removal of manure from stalls, paddocks, pastures at least twice per week is a crucial part of parasite control in horses and other livestock.
- Fecal parasite egg counts serve as a means to identify individuals that chronically shed high numbers of Strongyle parasite eggs into the environment and are a good assessment of the efficacy of your deworming protocol. This test is not likely to identify other parasites of concern such as tapeworms, bots, pinworms, etc.
- Deworming strategies have evolved in the past 30 years as the target parasite species have changed due to environmental pressures and as drug resistance has become a greater concern.
- Protocols listed below are general guidelines, and may need to be tailored to your unique situation (stocking density, age of horse, age range of animals in your herd, seasonal temperature range, unique parasite concerns, etc.)

1. Adult Horse Paste Deworming protocol: This schedule is recommended for adult horses that do not have chronically elevated fecal egg counts.

- Spring - Fenbendazole (Panacur Power Pac every other year)
- Fall - Ivermectin with Praziquantel

2. Adult Horse Paste Deworming 12 week Protocol: This schedule is designed for horses identified as “High Shedders” based on chronically elevated fecal egg counts. This protocol would also be ideal for horses that have been diagnosed with Cushing’s disease.

- January-Pyrantel Pamoate
- April- Ivermectin
- July- Fenbendazole (Panacur Power Pac every other year)
- October-Ivermectin + Praziquantel

3. Young horses, 1-2 years of age: This age range is still developing immunity against intestinal parasites, and should be treated as “high shedders”. A 12 week deworming protocol is recommended.

- Winter: Pyrantel Pamoate
- Spring: Ivermectin
- Summer: Fenbendazole (Panacur Power Pac every other year)
- Fall: Ivermectin with Praziquantel

4. Foals less than one year of age- This schedule focuses on early control of Ascarids, a type of roundworm that may cause ill-thrift and severe colic in young horses.

- 2 months of age- Fenbendazole
- 5 months-Pyrantel
- 8 months- Ivermectin (with praziquantel if access to green grass)
- 11 months- Fenbendazole (Panacur Power Pac)

5. Daily Deworming Protocol: Possibly recommended for chronic high fecal egg shedders. Deworm in Fall with Ivermectin/praziquantel combination(Equimax) and keep horse on a daily pelleted dewormer, pyrantel pamoate (Strongid C 2 x).

Note* Before starting the daily deworming program, deworm with Quest or a Panacur Power Pac.