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USING A PRACTICAL TARGETED DEWORMING STRATEGY

In our last newsletter, we discussed some of the reasons for using a targeted deworming strategy in order to decrease both the development of parasite resistance to dewormers and the amount of dewormers administered to your horses. Knowing the horses in your herd that harbor the vast majority of internal parasites is powerful information that can enable you to target these individuals and ***avoid unnecessary deworming*** of horses that do not need it.

Since the last newsletter, many of our clients have requested a specific schedule detailing recommended products and the timing of the dewormings and fecal egg counts. Keeping in mind our climate, here in the Rogue Valley and that parasite transmission is primarily limited to the spring and fall we have developed the following recommendations.

The fecal egg count (FEC) for each horse will determine the frequency of deworming for the rest of the year. A fecal egg count should be done 8 weeks following a deworming with Ivermectin, or Strongid and 12 weeks following a deworming with Quest or Quest plus.

- Low horses are those with FEC's of less than 150 eggs per gram (EPG)
- Moderate horses are those with FEC's from 150 – 400 eggs per gram.
- High horses are those with FEC's above 400 eggs per gram

- APRIL: Deworm all moderate and high** horses with an Ivermectin product or Quest. Deworming of **low** horses is optional.

- JULY: Deworm all moderate and high** horses with Strongid. Do not deworm Low horses.

- OCTOBER: Deworm all horses** with Quest Plus.

- DECEMBER: Deworm only High horses** with Ivermectin.

For Foals: At 2 months and 4 months of age deworm with Strongid or Fenbendazole (Panacur or Safeguard)
At 6 months of age, deworm with Quest or Panacur Power Pack.
At 8 months and 10 months deworm with Ivermectin or Strongid.
After 12 months, deworm as above.

Note: For elderly horses, substitute ivermectin or ivermectin/praziquantel products for Quest or Quest/Plus.

Targeted Deworming Schedule

