



Worming Advice

We have seen increasing numbers of very ill young horses this year likely to have been caused by poor or absent worming. Unfortunately in some cases we have been unable to save these horses despite extensive medical treatment.

Young horses need particular care to avoid damage from a high worm burden, which if left untreated can cause permanent damage to their intestines.

Due to increasing levels of resistance to the worming products we have available, we recommend monitoring levels of worms in your horse with faecal worm egg counts and tapeworm testing, and only worming when required. Gone are the days of automatically worming and rotating between different products. Please make sure you stay up-to-date with current worming advice - our worming programme has been updated to show the best plan and is available on our website or via the office.

If you require particular advice regarding any young or very old horses, or if you are unsure on how best to approach worming your horse, speak to one of our vets.



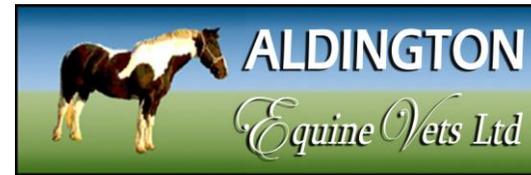
Passports

Passport regulations changed at the start of 2016. A sketch completed by a vet is now required for all new passport applications, and as before all horses must be microchipped. Any microchip only passport application not yet submitted will no longer be accepted. This does not apply to those horses who already have passports.

Half Price Visit Dates for April, May & June

On the dates below, visits are £19. To qualify as half price, visits must be booked at least two days in advance and take place between 9am and 4pm. It is not possible to specify a particular vet for your half price visit. Days book up well in advance and are allocated on a first come first served basis. An additional mileage charge applies if over 20 miles away. Please see our website for details.

April	May	June	Area	Postcode of Stables
12 th & 29 th	10 th & 27 th	14 th & 24 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3
7 th & 15 th	5 th & 20 th	2 nd & 17 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
18 th	16 th	20 th	Ribble Valley West (Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
13 th	11 th	8 th	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, Gisburn)	BB7
11 th & 25 th	9 th & 23 rd	13 th & 28 th	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
19 th & 26 th	17 th & 24 th	21 st & 30 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
6 th	4 th	1 st	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
21 st	19 th	16 th	East Preston	PR3
1 st	6 th	3 rd	Ramsbottom, Edenfield, Bury and Rochdale	BL0, BL9 / 8 OL11/13
27 th	25 th	22 nd	Blackpool – North of River Ribble and South of River Wyre	PR4, FY3, FY4, FY8
20 th	18 th	15 th	Chorley and Samesbury	PR6 & PR5



Spring Newsletter 2016



HORSE OWNERS MEETING

Wednesday 27th April 2016

6.30pm for 7pm start

Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho

BB6 8AB

“Ouch! Could my horse be suffering from gastric ulcers?”

Jessica Putnam BVMed Sci (Hons) BVM BVS (Hons) MRCVS - Aldington Equine Vets Ltd



“Laminitis: ignorance, negligence or just bad luck?”

David Rendle BVSc MVM CertEM(IntMed) DipECEIM MRCVS. RCVS and European Specialist in Equine Internal Medicine - Rainbow Equine Hospital

Supper provided & all welcome!
Please RSVP: info@equine-vet.co.uk
or call 01254888600



Following our recent gastroscopy offer during February and March, and the diagnosis and successful treatment of gastric ulcers in a variety of different horses, our vet Jessica will be giving an overview of the clinical signs, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of equine gastric ulcer syndrome.

We are also excited to welcome David Rendle from Rainbow Equine Hospital for a thought provoking talk on endocrine causes of laminitis. It has been shown that up to 90% of laminitis cases are caused by an underlying hormonal or "endocrine" disease i.e. Equine Cushing's disease (PPID) and/or Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS). David hopes to give us an insight into these two commonly diagnosed conditions and what can be done to prevent and treat them. We hope to see as many of you as possible on 27th!

Office Hours:
8.30am to 5.30pm
Saturdays: 9am to 12pm

01254 888600

24 hour Emergency Cover



www.equine-vet.co.uk



Practice News

Suzy Thomas our receptionist sadly left the practice in February. Suzy worked here for just over 5 years, but has decided this summer to spend more time working with her ponies & trekking clients, and

running childrens' activities. Suzy also has plans to travel and we all wish her the best of luck wherever life takes her next.



We know you will all join us in welcoming Becca Watson to our reception team in April. Becca has a strong horsey background, having obtained NVQ's in Equine Studies as well as a level 3 diploma in work based horse care and management. She joins us having recently worked in hospitality. Becca will introduce herself properly via our Facebook page and our website very soon. Becca joins us at a very busy time of year, but we know we can rely on all our clients support in helping her to settle in.

Later in April we will again be hosting our annual Vets vs. Farriers Karting Grand Prix. This is a great night which the whole team looks forward to and seems to grow year on year. There is always a little healthy (if sometimes lively) competition, and come on vets, this year must finally be your year to win...! We will keep you up to date with how the evening goes via our Facebook page and website.



Reduced Price Stud Packages

As we are a British Equine Veterinary Association approved practice for AI using both chilled and frozen semen, we are expecting a busy stud season this year.

If you are thinking of breeding from your mare in 2016, now is the time to arrange her pre-breeding swab and scan. An ultrasound scan is valuable to make sure she is cycling normally and there are no signs of infection or uterine abnormalities.

A scan at this stage can save considerable expense and inconvenience later if anything turns out to be abnormal.

As usual, we are offering stud packages which allow you to budget for the cost of getting your mare in foal. Our chilled semen package has reduced in price to £300 this year. We are again offering a discounted package of £250 for mares attending Country Farm Stud at Out Rawcliffe. The stud has experienced staff and is a DEFRA approved AI and semen collection centre with excellent facilities for mares and stallions. See www.countryfarmstud.co.uk for full details.

If you are intending to use frozen semen, we offer a package for each individual cycle at £360. Please see our website or contact us for further details.

There have been several outbreaks of strangles in our area lately. Here are some tips on how to keep your horse or yard free from strangles:



Preventing the Spread of Strangles

- All new or visiting horses should be blood tested for strangles before they arrive at your premises. This will give some indication as to whether the horse is infected, or potentially carrying the disease without showing any symptoms (i.e. carriers). This is especially important if you are not sure where the horse has come from.
- Have 'quarantine' stables to house new horses away from all other horses on the yard for the first 2 weeks – remember horses can have infectious diseases other than strangles! This should be at least 10 metres away from other horses, but ideally 25 metres away. New arrivals should be monitored for symptoms such as a high temperature, inappetance, lethargy, nasal discharge, coughing, enlarged lymph nodes or difficulty swallowing. This quarantine area will also be required in the event of an outbreak.



- Vaccines are unfortunately currently unavailable, however will form an important part of prevention when the vaccines return to the market.
- A protocol should be in place in the event of an outbreak. This could be displayed on a yard notice board, or issued to all livery owners. The protocol should include clear instructions about biosecurity i.e. minimising movement between groups of infected and non-infected horses, disinfecting equipment and clothing, and informing visitors to the yard including including vets and farriers.

Although strangles can occasionally develop into a more serious condition (such as 'bastard strangles'), it is usually a mild disease and the vast majority of horses will make a full recovery. Some horses recover very quickly and may not even develop enlarged lymph nodes or abscesses. Unfortunately these horses can still spread the disease so we may need to test your horse for strangles even if the symptoms appear mild. It is important to remember that it is not always the last horse to arrive at the yard, or the horse that currently has the symptoms, that has brought the disease to the yard.

Identifying and treating any cases (symptomatic or seemingly unaffected) will hasten the eradication of the disease from the premises. There is a useful website www.equine-strangles.co.uk where you will find a link to the "STEPS" code (strategy to eradicate and prevent strangles) as well as other information regarding strangles. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.