

# Help us Coordinate Our Spring Schedule!

In order to organize our spring schedule, Dr Anna Wildgrube will once again be offering Regional Call Days.

Regional Call Days are offered to provide you with some savings in caring for your horses. Farm visits allow us to care for your horse in the comfort and low stress situation of home and provide you with the opportunity to ask any questions that you may have about your horses care. Each horse will receive a physical examination and have his/her teeth checked.

Regional Call Days are very popular and we are expanding our offered days! Limited number of Saturday appointments are available as well – please see below and call early to best fit your schedule.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> – March 28<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup> – April 24<sup>st</sup> : Kenyon, East of Faribault, Nerstrand, Northfield

March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup>: Faribault, Kilkenny, Morristown, and West of Faribault

April 6<sup>th</sup> – April 11<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> – May 8<sup>th</sup> : Medford, south of Faribault

April 13<sup>th</sup> – April 18<sup>th</sup> : Owatonna, Ellendale, Clarks Grove, Blooming Prairie

- Please confirm that we have the phone number that you can be reached at on the day of your appointment.
- Payment is required at the time of service in the form of cash, check, or credit card to be run that day.



# Manure – It Holds the Key to Health!

Fecal Egg Counts are an important way to gauge what is going on inside your horse...gaining a lot more information that you think!



A fecal egg count is an important tool that we can use as horse owners to know how many internal parasites our horse currently has. A fecal egg count is performed by Heartland Animal Hospital to give you an idea of which horses in your herd have a high worm burden and which horses have a low worm burden. You are probably asking “Why does this matter? I am going to deworm all my horses!”

We want to know which horses have a high load of parasites and need dewormed to:

1. protect those horses from problems like colic, weight loss and diarrhea and
2. protect the pasture from lots of eggs being passed onto it.

There are different classes of dewormers for horses, but as these dewormers are used more and more, parasites are becoming resistant to these drug classes and our deworming is not as effective. By targeting our deworming, we can use the dewormers we have in the appropriate way to reduce parasite resistance.

Spring time is the perfect time for this investigation, as horses have not gone out to pasture yet. If you choose to run only one fecal egg count per year, run it right before deworming your horse for the first time in the spring. If the number is low (less than 200 – 250 EPG), that particular horse has good natural immunity to strongyles and may not need dewormed as frequently. However, if the number is more than 200 –250 EPG, that horse needs to have closer attention paid to his/her parasite prevention program. This higher level horse is a horse who may not show signs of parasitism, but is carrying lots of adult worms that are laying lots of eggs, spreading them all over your pasture to the other horses. This horse may need dewormed more often than other horses.

Knowing which horses to deworm at the appropriate times will save you money in the long run. Give our office a call at (507)214-7387 to discuss fecal egg count quantitative testing for your horse. Dr Anna can collect samples on your farm in the spring to start your parasite prevention program off on the right foot!

### Which dewormer is right for my horse?

On the next page, you will find a chart that lists the active ingredients in the deworming drugs. As you read the chart, you will notice that one dewormer does not cover for all parasites. As we target different parasites at different times of the year in Minnesota, it is important to use the appropriate dewormer.

Let us know how we can make it easier for you! Be sure to ask Dr Anna any questions that you may have as she visits with you and your horses this spring.

A manure sample can be dropped off at Heartland Animal Hospital anytime for quantitative fecal egg count testing. Results are available within 48 hours.



## So What Do We Know?

Here's what we know:

1. Approximately **20% of horses carry 80% of the parasites!** What does this mean? Many horses are being over dewormed while others need to be dewormed more often.
2. Traditional rotational deworming was first initiated to reduce the presence of large strongyle bloodworms, and was very successful as these worms are now rare in well managed horse herds.
3. Over 90% of horses in Minnesota carry tapeworms – a worm that is hard to pick up with a fecal examination. This means that every horse should be dewormed once a year with praziquantel to kill tapeworms.

### Deworming Charts >>> Clip and Save!

	<b>Strongyles</b>	<b>Roundworms</b>	<b>Tapeworms</b>	<b>Pinworms</b>	<b>Bots</b>
<b>Ivermectin</b>	EFFECTIVE Only adults within lumen	Moderate resistance Larvae (larvicidal) and adults	Not Effective	EFFECTIVE	EFFECTIVE
<b>Moxidectin</b> *Do not use in foals less than 6 months	EFFECTIVE Encysted larvae (larvicidal) and adults	EFFECTIVE Some resistance (utilize FEC)	Not Effective	EFFECTIVE	EFFECTIVE
<b>Oxibendazole</b>	Moderate to high resistance (utilize FEC)	EFFECTIVE Only adults within lumen	Not Effective	EFFECTIVE	Not Effective
<b>Fenbendazole</b>	Severe resistance! Only use as PowerPak (double dose for 5 days) -> encysted larvae (larvicidal) and adults	Some resistance (utilize FEC) Only use as PowerPak (double dose for 5 days) -> larvae (larvicidal) and adults	Not Effective	EFFECTIVE	Not Effective
<b>Praziquantel</b>	Not Effective	Not Effective	EFFECTIVE	Not Effective	Not Effective
<b>Pyrantel</b>	Moderate to high resistance (utilize FEC) Only adults within lumen	EFFECTIVE Only adults within lumen	Not Effective	Not Effective	Not Effective