

LVVS Equine Parasite Control

80% of worms are shed by 20% of the horses in a field. With that and the danger of parasite resistance to current anthelmintics I recommend selective deworming protocols versus a calendar deworming routine.

To do this requires running Fecal Egg Counts (FECs) to determine which horses have the highest parasite burden and then deworming those horses. Our goal is not to eliminate parasites but manage them.

Example:

Spring, deworm with a product containing ivermectin and praziquantel then in 2 weeks run FEC on all horses.

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Desire < 250 EPG
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Repeat process in Fall*

FEC Interpretation

< 250 mild and normal parasite burden

> 250 moderate burden, need to treat

> 1000 Severe

*The 20% will likely need to be monitored 2-3x a year for optimum control and to keep your herd parasite burden low.

Other ways to control intestinal parasites:

- Do not overstock pastures.
- Rotate pastures
- Compost Manure
- Feed and hay off the ground

Foal Deworming:

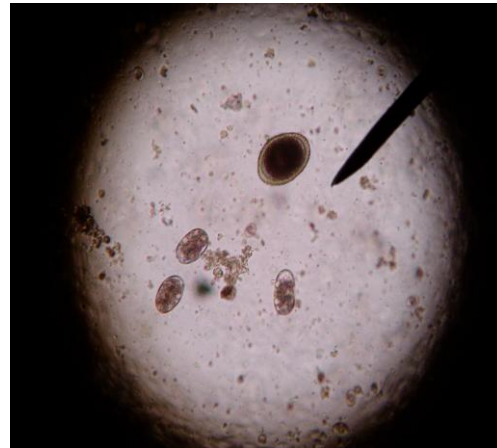
Using FECs, begin at 6 weeks of age. Control strongyles with Ivermectin every 8 weeks as needed. It is safe to use Moxidectin after 12 weeks of age.

If infected with Ascarids discuss treatment with your veterinarian.

→FEC > 250 EPG

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Treat with Moxidectin

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Recheck and treat to control as needed. These horses likely need extra attention.



Other Notes:

What worms do you need to worry about? Roundworms (foals), large & small strongyles and tapeworms.

Horses become resistant to roundworms (ascarids) as they mature, typically about 2 years of age.

Threadworms are red worms seen in feces but are typically only temporary infections.