## Equine Science Focus - Worm Watch

Throughout their lifetime your horse will come into contact with internal and external parasites. An overburden of these parasites can cause damage and health problems if left untreated. There are 5 Equine worm types to be aware of: small and large Redworm, Tapeworm, Roundworm and Bots.

Signs of worm infestation in horses include:

- **Weight loss**
- **Diarrhea or constipation**
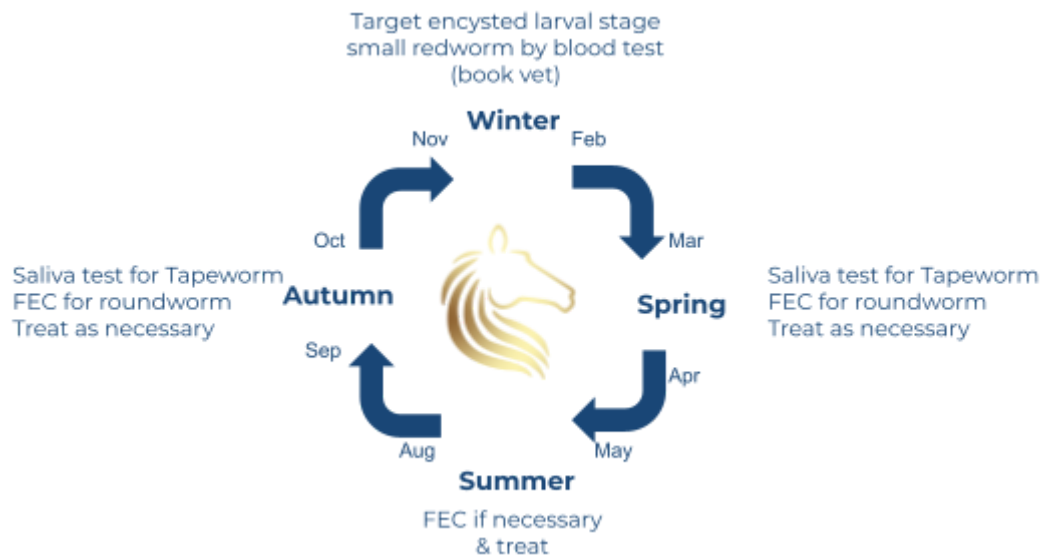- **Colic**
- **Poor hair coat**

If you suspect that your horse has a high worm burden or is showing any of these signs, please contact your local vet immediately. Please also ensure that you are dosing your horse correctly with the right amount for your horse's weight and using the correct products inline with veterinary advice.
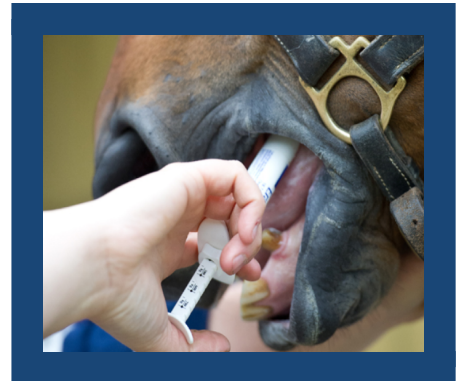
Steps to help reduce the worm burden

- **Remove droppings from the field 3-4 times per week**
- **Avoid overgrazing (allow at least 1 to 1.5 acres of grazing per horse)**
- **Targeted approach to deworming (seek veterinary advice for which products to use)**
- **Avoid harrowing pastures**

As part of a targeted approach to managing the worm burden in your horse, it is recommended that you ask a veterinarian to carry out fecal egg counts (FEC), saliva and blood tests throughout the year. This ensures that your horse is being correctly and appropriately treated and gives them protection from a high worm burden.

Target encysted larval stage small redworm by blood test (book vet)

Winter
Nov — Feb
Oct — Mar

Saliva test for Tapeworm
FEC for roundworm
Treat as necessary
Autumn

Spring
Saliva test for Tapeworm
FEC for roundworm
Treat as necessary

Sep — Apr
Aug — May

Summer
FEC if necessary & treat

Keep this guide and worming log to hand you can, print out and keep in your tack room or download and save onto your phone!

For more information and equine massage bookings please contact me

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Equine Massage Works Equine Worming Log

Horses Name: ....

Vets Name: ....

Date Tested	Horses Weight (Kg)	Test (FEC / Saliva / Blood)	Deworming Required (Y/N)	Date of Deworming	Product Used