



DEWORMING

Information

COMMON WORMS

At Elder's Equine, we prioritize your horse's health and well-being. In our new Client Corner, we'd like to highlight common worms. By providing you with this information package.

ROUNDWORMS (PARASCARIS EQUORUM)

- Most common in horses less than one year old and in very old animals due to decreased immunity
- Migrate through the trachea and live in the small intestine
- In young horses, roundworms cause poor growth and development as well as respiratory signs. Young animals with very heavy burdens can have obstructed intestines — leading to colic and possibly death.
- Older affected horses may have a poor hair coat, weight loss or decreased performance

BLOODWORMS (STRONGYLUS VULGARIS)

- Can migrate through the arteries around the large intestines and cause colic
- Bloodworms used to be a major problem in horses, but their occurrence and significance has decreased with appropriate deworming

CYATHOSTOMINS

- Live in the large intestine and migrate into the wall of the intestine
- Cyathostomins cause severe gastrointestinal signs such as decreased appetite and diarrhea
- Resistance to dewormers is increasing in these worms, so targeted deworming is especially important

PINWORMS (OXYURIS EQUI)

- Most common in horses less than two years old or in horses with poor management
- Worms live in the large intestine, but they deposit their eggs around the horse's anus — causing the horse to have an itchy hind end.
- It's difficult to treat and control pinworms so good horse and pasture management is important

TAPEWORMS

- Tapeworms are uncommon on the prairies, but the most common tapeworm in Canada is called *Anoplocephala perfoliata*. Since these worms spend part of their life living on mites, they are difficult to control.
- Tapeworms don't seem to cause much disease in horses. While colic is considered a risk with this type of worm, the incidence is quite low.

BOTS FLIES (GASTEROPHILUS)

- Bot flies lay their eggs on the horse's coat in late summer and early fall. The eggs show up as small yellow specks, mainly on the horses' legs.
- Horses ingest bot eggs while licking or scratching their legs, then the eggs develop into larvae in the equine stomach and small intestine. The larvae are passed out through feces and hatch in the spring.
- Bots rarely cause clinical signs in horses, but they can cause gastric ulcers.



If you have any questions please reach out to our office @ **1-204-864-2888**.
Or you can email at : **office@elderequineclinic.com**