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THIS VOLUME IS MISSING THE
 FOLLOWING ISSUES:

HORSE WORMS AND THEIR TREATMENT

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Horse worms are a major concern to anyone having horses. Damage to horses ranges from loss of weight to even death.

Numbers of worms in the horses increase in the fall and winter because infection builds up on late pastures, and many horses are held in close confinement in the winter. You should worm horses in the spring before turning them out and again in the fall after frost. Spring worming reduces pasture contamination and fall worming starts horses into the winter relatively free of worms. Worming in the fall after a frost also eliminates the bots.

Four common types of internal parasites exist in horses: strongyles (blood worms), pinworms, ascarids (large roundworms) and bots. The strongyles are the most damaging.

Strongyles migrate through the larger blood vessels of the gut in their cycle of maturing. They can cause irreparable damage in the large blood vessels which can lead to colic and even rupture of the vessel itself. This is fairly common in colts.

Pinworms lead to an irritation of the tail area. Infected horses have characteristics of rubbed places on the rump and tail where there is loss of hair.

Ascarids can cause injury to the liver or lungs in their migration to maturity. The large roundworms can also cause digestive upsets. Like with strongyles, damage is most evident in young upsets.

Bots are not actually a worm but the developing stage of a botfly. They rest in the stomach for many months and cause irritation and digestive upsets.

Treatments

Many products have been developed in recent years for worming horses. The accompanying chart lists these products:

Other Control Measures

In addition to drugs, you should consider sanitation and management. Follow these pointers:

1. Do not spread manure on horse pastures.
2. Pick up manure in small paddocks at least twice a week.
3. Rotate pastures and mow and harrow them frequently.
4. Separate weanlings and yearlings from older horses.
5. Rotate pastures with sheep or cattle. (Horse worms do not infect sheep or cattle.)
6. Supply clean water.
7. Feed in bunks when not on pasture.
8. Worm mares at least a month before they foal and place them in clean pastures or paddocks after foaling.

Every situation is different. Set up a worming and worm prevention program with your veterinarian. If you have a heavy infestation of worms in your horses, you may need to worm them more than twice a year.

Trade names are used in this publication for better understanding of the information presented. No endorsement of named products is intended nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

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PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET FOR WORMING HORSES

Product	Drug	Company	Parasite	Method	Warning
Carbon Disulfide	carbon disulfide	several	ascarids bots	stomach tube	Very corrosive to tissues and can kill horse if given improperly. Withhold feed, no water 18 hr. before treating and for 3 hr. after.
Phenothiazine	phenothiazine	several	strongyles	feed tube	May cause photosensitivity in white horses. Don't use in late pregnancy. Not palatable in feed.
Piperazine	piperazine	several	strongyles (sm) pinworms ascarids	tube	Additive effect if used with organo-phosphates and succinyl choline.
Anthon	trichlorfon	Chemagro	strongyles pinworms ascarids bots	feed	Dose 5 gm/250 lb/body weight. Do not use organo-phosphate insecticides within 1 week before or after succinyl choline, muscle relaxants and tranquilizers.
Banminth	pyrantel tartrate	Pfizer	strongyles (1 g & sm) pinworms ascarids	feed	Dose (5 gm/100 lb. body weight) prepackaged 10, 25, 50 gm for horses of 200, 500 and 1000 lb., respectively. No action against bots; safe for foals and bred mares; safe at 6 week intervals.
Dizan	dithiazanine iodide	Elanco	strongyles pinworms ascarids	tube	Use with care in debilitated animals. Feces turn blue-green after treatment. Dizan stains clothing. Remove stains with bleach and sun exposure. Dose, 1 oz/cwt to 500 lb. - 3/4 oz/cwt 500-1000 lb. Maximum dose - 10 oz. Should not be used with insecticides and succinyl choline.
Dyrex T.F.	trichlorfon phenothiazine piperazine	Ft. Dodge	strongyles pinworms ascarids bots	tube	Not recommended for mares in late pregnancy. Avoid stress and/or surgery and do not use succinyl choline, organo-phosphates or carbamates 1 week before or after. Do not walk patient; do not give morphine. Restricted to sale by veterinarian. Not for slaughter horses.
Equigard	dichlorvos	Shell	strongyles (3 sp) pinworms ascarids bots (2 sp)	feed	Use with caution on debilitated horses. Avoid use of muscle relaxants, tranquilizers, insecticides 1 week before or after. Do not use on horse with chronic heaves. Use drugs immediately after opening. Do not store opened drug or unused feed. Avoid skin contact. Use only for horses, ponies, donkeys, mules. Not for animals to be slaughtered.
Equizole A	thiabendazole	Merck	strongyles pinworms ascarids trichostrongyles	feed	Dose, 1 1/2 oz/5 cwt - premixed medicated feed 1 1/2 lb/500 lb. horse.
Saddlemate	piperazine	Hess & Clark	strongyles pinworms ascarids	feed	Dose, 10 gm/cwt. Maximum single dose-80 gm. Safe for foals 3 weeks old and older. Avoid use of muscle relaxants, tranquilizers and insecticides 1 week before or after deworming. Do not use within 1 week of slaughter.
Strongid	(from veterinarian)	see Banminth			
Telmin	mebemdazole	Pitman-Moore	Strongyles pinworms ascarids trichostrongyles	tube feed	Dose 6 gm/250 lb. Not for slaughter animals.

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