

Equine EXPRESS

Shotter & Byers Equine Veterinary Services

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Wedding Day Smiles

Leanne & Jez Vause were married on the 7th July 2007 at Alfold Church. You have probably spoken to Leanne on the phone. She is one of the 5 admin. Staff members we have in Cranleigh.

New Baby!

Announcing Karen and Reuben had a baby girl Eva born on December 28th 2007. We wish them all well and look forward to Karen's return.

We regret to announce the departure of Reinder Schruumans from the practice. After spending 3 years in the UK, he has decided to return to Wollega, Holland. He has joined a General Practice there that has an equine department of 6 vets. Reinder will be leaving us the end of March.



Reinder and Stuart at the Surrey Union Hunt
2nd February 2008 at Effingham Park Hotel



Sarah Helm – New Vet

We are pleased to welcome Sarah Helm to the team. She has moved here from Lincolnshire where she was a vet at Avenue Veterinary Centre. Her interests are in soft tissue injuries and wound management. She is also BHS AI. She has also actively competed with her horse "Filly". Sarah has just completed 2 continuing education courses. One in Equine Orthopaedics and the other was Rossdale's Foal Care Course.

We want to provide our clients with a veterinary service dedicated entirely to horses therefore the selection of our vets is very important to us.

Have you booked a place yet?

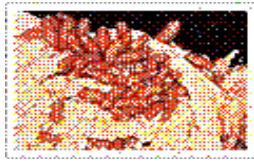
Spring Talk 2008
Wednesday April 9th 2008
7:00 pm
Cranleigh Village Hall

"Shockwave - Indications in the Sport Horse"
Speaker: Michael Byers BVSc, MRCVS

"The Mysteries of Surgical Colic"
Speaker: David Lloyd BVMS, CertES(Orth), MRCVS
(Liphook Equine Hospital)

"Exotic Equine Diseases – Are We Next?"
Speaker: Stuart Vallance BVSc (Hons) MRCVS

Please telephone on **01483 274905** to confirm a place.



Controlling Parasites



There are three groups of internal parasite which can damage the gut and cause disease in the horse. The information below will hopefully explain the importance of developing a good worming regime, using the appropriate products at the correct time:

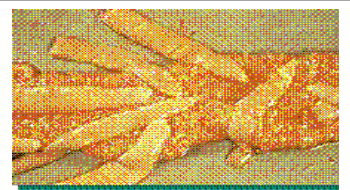
ROUNDWORMS are grazed off the pasture as microscopic larvae which bury their way through the gut and over many months migrate around certain organs of the body. They then return in the larval form to the wall of the intestine where they live for a while before bursting out into the gut to form adult worms which produce eggs to contaminate your pasture.

TAPEWORMS have an interesting life cycle which cannot be completed without an 'intermediate host' known as the harvest mite found on the pasture during the summer and autumn and to a lesser degree in hay. When the horse ingests the mite, the tapeworm is liberated in an immature form and over many weeks, changes into an adult tapeworm.

BOTS are a bee-like fly. Eggs are laid by the fly on the horse, mainly on the legs, which are ingested when the horse's mouth comes into contact with the eggs. The eggs hatch by this process, the larvae bury their way through the back of the tongue and all the way down to the stomach, where they erupt and form masses of large grubs which cling to the stomach wall.

There are many different horse worming products on the market. We believe that **EQUEST** & **EQUEST PRAMOX** will provide the spectrum of ant parasitic cover necessary to protect your horse's health.

Your worm control will only be as good as your management. Using the appropriate wormer, picking up droppings in the field, rotating your grazing fields, and ploughing, liming and reseeding every few years will help prevent pasture. Any new horse introduced to a yard should be wormed with **EQUEST** and kept in a box of couple of days with collection and disposal of droppings prior to any introduction to communally grazing. A worming protocol is advised:



- Winter/Summer: **EQUEST** (Adult and encysted roundworms / Bots)
- Autumn/Spring: **EQUEST PRAMOX** (Adult and encysted roundworms / Bots/Tapeworms)

Remember to either keep the horse in for 24 hours after worming or to make sure that ALL droppings are picked up ASAP. No worm product kills 100% of worms, hence the necessity to follow the above protocol.

Invading Diseases

The ever increasing climate change is increasing the risk of insect-borne exotic diseases in the UK. Bluetongue in cattle and sheep is proof of this. It is thought that as climates warm up, these biting insects will be able to survive and spread these diseases in the UK. As there have not been any reported cases in the UK, yet, we as horse owners and veterinarians need to be aware of the threat of these diseases and the signs of the disease in affected horses.



breathing difficulties, frothy discharge

Equine Infectious Anaemia (Swamp Fever) Clinical signs may be fever, loss of appetite, depression, loss of weight and in-coordination. These horses are a risk to other horses.



West Nile Virus – This causes disease in horses spread by mosquitoes that have fed on infected birds. The clinical signs in horses are loss of appetite, depression, fever, paralysis of hind limbs and in-coordination.



African Horse Sickness – This viral disease is spread from horse to horse via biting midges. The clinical signs include fever, depression, loss of appetite, and sudden death.

Fever) – This is also spread from horse to horse by infected horse flies. Clinical signs include fever, loss of appetite, loss of weight and anaemia, but most infected horses do not develop antibodies to the virus and become carriers of the virus.

Is your horse going through a prolonged recovery period?



Have you thought of trying **Shotter & Byers Haemo Guard** – A Complex Feed Supplement that can help!

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GRASS SICKNESS

Clinical signs are attributable mainly to stasis of the entire alimentary tract, and include depression, inability to swallow, lack of appetite, gastrointestinal distension and impaction, abdominal pain, sweating, elevated heart rate, muscular tremors, weight loss and drooping eyelids. There is no specific treatment for the disease. The majority of affected horses are euthanased on humane grounds, but some horses with mild chronic grass sickness may survive with intensive nursing care.

Chronic grass sickness. These cases are less severely affected than subacute cases and may be able to eat small amounts of food. Some of these horses may survive for considerable periods of time and may respond to treatment.

However many are left permanently damaged, and unfortunately euthanasia is the common outcome. Currently there is no way of treating this disease.

Risk factors include:-

1. Recently introduced to new pasture.
2. Previous history of grass sickness on pasture.
3. No hay or conserved feed being fed.
4. Aged 2 to 7 years.
5. Highest incidence April - July (but can occur all year

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Severe weight loss with 'greyhound' appearance

Acute grass sickness. This is the most serious. It is of rapid onset, the horse is severely distressed, has an elevated heart rate, and patchy sweating, may be dull and depressed. Moderate quantities of green fluid may be produced from the nostrils (this should always be considered a serious sign in a horse). There is lack of gut movements, and usually no faeces will be produced. There are often muscle twitches involving the muscle of both fore legs. Horses with acute grass sickness are often confused with colic, but rarely roll or go down. Veterinary attention is required urgently. Often when a stomach tube is passed a vast quantity of grass fluid will flow back. Destruction

around).

It must be stated however that all horses can be affected by grass sickness. Grass sickness is caused by widespread severe damage to the neurons (nerves) in the autonomic nervous system (this is the part of the nervous system that helps control the intestines).



Patchy sweating is common in all forms of grass sickness

It is not possible to protect your horse 100% from grass sickness. The following advice may help.

INSURANCE CLAIMS

All insurance companies vary in their requirements so please check the policy with your insurance company before submitting your claim. Please complete your section of the claim papers before sending to us. Some insurance companies do not require the completion of a continuation form, and in these instances, it is the responsibility of the policyholder to forward any outstanding invoices directly to the insurance company. Our computerised billing system will continue to generate statements until the balance had been paid. Should your insurance claim remain unpaid on your next statement, please contact your insurance company directly to chase payment on your claim. Should the insurance company for any reason refuse or delay payment of your claim you remain liable for any late payment charges and the outstanding account.

A charge of £11.80 is added to your account for completion and handling of your claim and is the responsibility of the policyholder. A charge of £10.00 is applied for all continuation forms.

We hope this clears up any questions on how insurance claims are processed. If you have any further questions, please contact the office on 01483 274905.

on humane grounds is the only option.

Subacute grass sickness. Affected animals rarely have gastric reflux (green discharge) but will show most of the signs displayed by the acute cases. An inability to swallow is a prominent sign along with drooping of the upper eyelid. Subacute cases are always fatal; the course of the disease is 2 - 7 days.

1. Always feed some conserved forage (hay) even when horses are turned out 24 hours a day.
2. Don't put horses in the at risk age group (2-7 years) out onto pasture where there has been previous cases.
3. Make sure your horse is healthy with regular worming or faecal egg count monitoring.

The cause of grass sickness has remained a mystery for the last ninety years. Research workers have recently made some

interesting advances, but there is still much left to find out about grass sickness. We need to raise awareness and we need more funding for research.

Vaccines: Why and When

We recommend that all horses are vaccinated to protect against Tetanus, Influenza, and the Herpes Virus. Below is a brief description of the diseases and their recommended vaccination regime:



Tetanus

Tetanus is a disease caused by a bacteria, that produces a toxin that attacks the nervous system of the horse leading to neurological signs in the horse which tend to be fatal.

Protection is achieved by two primary vaccinations approximately 1-2 months apart, followed by a third a year later. Boosters are required 18-24 months thereafter.

Influenza

Influenza is caused by a virus. Signs exhibited by a horse with influenza can be high temperature and respiratory signs. Horses generally required long periods of rest due to the damaging effects on the lungs.

The primary course is 3 vaccinations: The interval between the 1st and 2nd shot are 3 weeks-3months and the interval between the 2nd and 3rd shot is 5-7 months. Boosters are required annually within 12 months. Note: Competitions under FEI regulations requires horses to be vaccinated on a 6 monthly basis.

FORT DODGE

Herpes

This infection is caused by the herpes virus. There are several types of herpes virus but the most common type causes respiratory infection. Other types can cause abortion and paralysis in horses.

The recommended regime is 2 vaccinations 4 weeks apart and then a booster every 6 months. A separate protocol is required for pregnant mares.

www.shotterandbyers.co.uk

Our new website will soon be up and running. We are in the final stages of putting a comprehensive and educational site together. It will provide information about the practice and the services we offer. There will also be a download page where you will be able to print off client information sheets as well as our past newsletters.



Tying Up Powder

Shotter & Byers have available an excellent product designed specifically to build and support strong, flexible muscles for a fast recovery after physical effort. Call us if you have any questions regarding this product on 01483274905

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Furzen Farm Contracting



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All aspects of hay making including small bales, large round and square bales. Ground preparation for ploughing, harrowing, re-seeding, fertilizing, rolling, topping and muck removal. Hay, straw and haylage also available.

For details and competitive quotes contact

Call Mike Eely on: 07786 161 666



Continued Professional Development

Murray Shotter has recently attended a course on Equine Ophthalmology in Warwickshire. It covered "The Challenging Eye Case" and how to deal with them. He found it very interesting and informative. All the vets in the practice are required to take Continuing Education Courses on a regular basis. This allows them to keep up-to-date with latest treatment regimes.



Have you tried Shotter & Byers Joint Saver Pro?

JOINT SAVER PRO OFFER

It is an excellent value powder supplement with a high concentration of Glucosamine, MSM and other nutrients to maintain and support healthy joints and cartilage. We are offering a prompt payment discount for purchasing over the phone. Buy one 2L tub for **£76.40** and receive the second