

Going Away This Summer?

If you are away on holiday this summer, please give a thought to what would happen if your horse became ill or injured while you were away. It is sensible to appoint a specific person to be in charge of your horse and discuss with them what your wishes are should the worst happen. Give them your horse's insurance details and leave an emergency contact number if possible.

We have been in situations where a horse has serious colic and the owner is not contactable. A decision has to be made as to whether the horse should go to a specialist centre for surgery or whether to treat medically knowing the chances of success may be slim. This can be a very difficult situation for everyone involved but it can be much more straightforward if it has been considered in advance

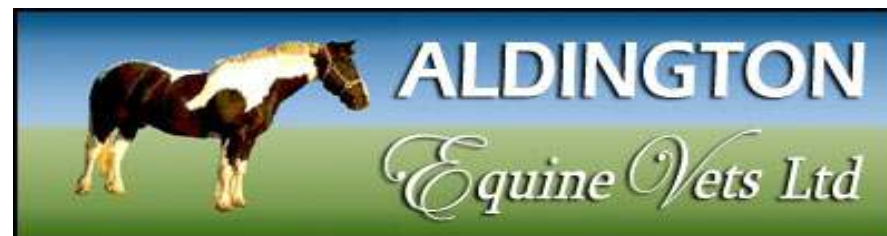
Turn Out Time

Please make sure when you have arranged a visit that you bring your horse in beforehand. If the vet is delayed because your horse has decided he would rather not come in today, we reserve the right to charge a small fee for additional attendance time.

Half Price Visit Dates July to Sept

On the dates below, Economy Visits are £12 + VAT and Premium Visits are £14.50 + VAT. Visits must be booked at least two days in advance and take place between 9am and 4pm to qualify. It is not always possible to specify a particular vet for your visit. Please see our website for further details.

July 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009	Area	Postcode of Stables
14 th	11 th	8 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3,
6 th & 17 th	3 rd & 21 st	7 th & 18 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
22 nd	19 th	23 rd	Ribble Valley West(Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
8 th	12 th	9 th	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, and Gisburn)	BB7
13 th & 28 th	10 th & 25 th	14 th & 29 th	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Briercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
21 st	18 th	15 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
1 st	5 th	2 nd	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
24 th	28 th	25 th	East Preston	PR3
27 th	24 th	28 th	Ramsbottom, Edenfield, Bury and Rochdale	BL0, BL9 / 8 OL11/13



Summer Newsletter

Free Vaccinations and Wormers during July



If your horse is not currently vaccinated against tetanus and flu, June is the ideal time to start to get them protected.

Tetanus is a serious and usually fatal disease and all horses are at risk unless protected by vaccination. Vaccination is a cheap and effective means of protection and following a primary course of two vaccinations and a booster 12 months later, further boosters are only required every two years. Vaccination costs £13 + VAT. Foals can start vaccinations at six months old. Because the disease can be prevented so easily and cheaply, it can almost be considered negligent to leave your horse unprotected. Would you ever forgive yourself if your horse died of tetanus because you decided to save around £8 a year?

We also advise vaccination against influenza, especially for horses kept on livery or competition yards. A flu only vaccination costs £20 + VAT and requires an annual booster following the primary course of three injections.

If you book a visit anytime in June for a first vaccination, you can register online and print off a voucher for a free second vaccination and free Vectin wormer in July. Your horse will also receive a free health check. Visits are charged at our normal rates or you can bring your horse to our surgery to avoid any call out charge. Horses must be over 12 months old and at least three months overdue for a vaccination to qualify. The offer applies to tetanus only, combined flu and tetanus, and flu only (for horse upgrading from tetanus only) vaccinations. Please call our office or see www.vaccinationmonth.co.uk for details,

Tel 01254 888600

24 hour emergencies
Office hours 8.30am – 5.30pm
Saturdays 9am – 12pm

You can now pay on line at..... www.equine-vet.co.uk

Latest Practice News

New Laboratory Equipment



The practice is now equipped with in-house biochemistry and haematology analysis equipment. This means that we can process blood samples at the surgery in a matter of minutes. This is especially useful for emergency cases and at nights and weekends when rapid results are required and commercial laboratories may not be open. Our charges for processing blood tests are unchanged.

Ultrasound Scanning Course

Adam recently attended a three day course at Cambridge on ultrasound scanning of tendons, ligaments and joints. Ultrasonography has progressed over the past few years and more areas of the horse's body can now be scanned. With an increasing number of lame horses attending our surgery for investigation and diagnosis, we feel it is important to keep abreast of the latest techniques so we can make best use of our ultrasound technology.

Course on Wormer Resistance and Equine Influenza

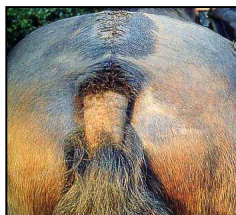
David attended a course in May which included talks on how resistance to horse wormers in the UK is affecting how we should structure a worm control policy (See opposite). There was also an update on how the equine influenza virus is changing and the experience gained from the outbreak in Australia in 2007.

Summer Skin Problems

With increased exposure to UV light, biting flies and midges, horses' skins can have a tough time over summer, but there are several ways you can help your horse out. A physical barrier from strong sunlight and insects is probably the best means of protection. Pale coloured lightweight midge rugs made of a very fine mesh are ideal. Boots are available to protect the lower legs from strong sunlight and soft nose or face covers can help to protect horses with pink skin in these areas.

If you are not using a rug, effective fly repellent is a must. We recommend Coopers Fly Repellent Plus (a sponge-on preparation) because it is one of the most effective and longest lasting. We have a 20% off special offer price of £19.56 inc VAT for June and July.

For horses prone to sunburn, an effective sun protection cream is an alternative to a nose cover and boots. We stock Gold Label Sunguard Cream at £4.31 inc VAT.



Microchipping at Foal Registration Compulsory from 1st July

New horse passport regulations come in to force on 1st July which will require all foals and horses currently without a passport to be microchipped by a vet before a passport can be applied for. A recent poll revealed that 75% of owners were unaware of the new regulations.

If your horse already has a passport, make sure it is up to date with your current name and address and the declaration signed to say whether or not he is intended for human consumption.



Wormer Resistance Warning



Resistance to commonly used horse wormers is becoming increasingly common and the Horse trust is calling on horse owners to stop misusing wormers: "We are asking owners to stop over-worming their animals and instead work with their vet to develop a tailored management programme for each horse". "This not only reduces the risk of worms becoming resistant to drugs, but could also save them money in the long run."

Increasing resistance to wormers means that we may be left without effective products in years to come. It is more important than ever to have a properly structured worming programme, to only worm when your horse really needs it and to make sure the correct dose of wormer is given.

Regularly carrying out worm egg counts on a small droppings sample can help to monitor if worm control measures are effective and they can help to alert you to a possible resistance problem. If worm egg counts come back positive despite recent use of a wormer, you may have a resistance problem. This can be checked by repeating worm egg counts before and after dosing with wormer.

If you do not currently have a structured worm control programme for your horse, either contact us for advice or follow the worming plan available on our website. If you have not had a worm egg count done on your horse's droppings yet this year, we advise you bring in a sample to be tested so we can monitor for resistance. Sample pots and instruction sheets are available from our surgery.