



# Equine Medical Associates, PSC



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## Deworming Schedule (revised 3/20/2019)

A parasite control program should be customized to your farm in consultation with your veterinarian and farm manager. Below are two suggested schedules. Due to growing number of resistant parasites, we strongly recommend option # 2. Quest should be used sparingly and should be reserved for use on advice of your veterinarian

### OPTION #1 – Rotational Program

#### Foals:

Every 2 months starting at 1<sup>st</sup> month of life.

Rotate dewormers between pyrantel pamoate (Strongid), oxbendazole (Anthelcide), and ivermectin (there are many brand names of ivermectin products)

To control tapeworms need to use pyrantel pamoate (Strongid) at 2 times the dose at 5 months of age and then ivermectin plus praziquantel at 11 months of age.

#### Yearlings, Adults:

Every 2 months.

Rotate dewormer between pyrantel pamoate (Strongid), oxbendazole (Anthelcide), and ivermectin (there are many brand names of ivermectin products). (Can use moxidectin (Quest) in place of ivermectin products once yearly at a maximum.)

To control tapeworms need to use pyrantel pamoate (Strongid) at 2 times the dose or ivermectin plus praziquantel once or twice a year.

Fecal egg counts should be performed at least twice per year to determine efficacy of deworming program. These fecal samples should be obtained 10 days after deworming.

\*Ivermectin: .09 mg/lb, only one that will kill bots besides Quest, won't kill tapeworms or encysted small strongyles, however; Quest will kill encysted small strongyles.

\*Strongid (Pyrantel Pamoate): 3mg/lb won't kill bots or small strongyles, but at double dose (6mg/lb) will kill tapeworms, so recommended on first trip to pasture.

### OPTION #2 – Strategic Selective Program

Due to resistance developing on some farms that have been on a rotational schedule for years and due to increasing knowledge about parasites, some farms may be better served by developing a rigorous program of fecal egg count monitoring and selective deworming in consultation with their veterinarian.

#### An example of such a program:

##### Foals up to 1 year:

At 2 months of age – deworm for ascarids with oxbendazole (Anthelcide).

At 4 months of age – deworm for ascarids with double dose pyrantel pamoate (Strongid).

Before weaning (2 to 4 weeks prior) – perform fecal egg counts to determine if medication is needed for ascarids and /or strongyles and deworm as recommended by your veterinarian. Also, all new shipped-in foals over 2 months should have fecal egg counts performed.

At approximately 9 months of age (late fall) – deworm for strongyles and tapeworms with ivermectin plus praziquantel.

At approximately 11 to 12 months of age (winter – after the New Year) – deworm for strongyles and tapeworms with double dose pyrantel pamoate (Strongid).

**Yearling to 3 year olds:**

Deworm this group 3 to 4 times yearly. Do not need to perform fecal egg counts on this group; unless recommended by your veterinarian. However, all new shipped-in horses should have fecal egg counts performed.

April/May (at start of grazing season) – deworm for strongyles with ivermectin.

July/August (mid-summer, before the sales) - deworm for strongyles and tapes with double dose pyrantel pamoate (Strongid).

October/November (end of grazing season) - deworm for strongyles and tapes again using ivermectin plus praziquantel. Moxidectin plus praziquantel (Quest Plus) may be substituted on advice of your veterinarian.

January/February (winter) – In this region most do not need deworming at this time. Consult your veterinarian to see what best fits your situation.

**Broodmares, Teasers and Stallions:**

Deworm this group 4 times yearly –with an ivermectin product, can rotate this with double dose pyrantel pamoate (Strongid).

Once or twice a year deworm for tapeworms with an ivermectin plus praziquantel product. Moxidectin plus praziquantel (Quest Plus) may be substituted on advice of your veterinarian.

Do not need to perform fecal egg counts 10 days after deworming; instead, need to identify the heavy strongyle egg shedders (>500 epg). Therefore, perform fecal egg counts 2 months after deworming – will need to do this once or twice a year until these individuals are identified. About 20% of the horses in a group will typically fall into the heavy shedder group. Heavy shedders can add additional deworming as recommended by your veterinarian.

Also, all new shipped-in horses should have fecal egg counts performed.