



Worms & Shots

(USPC D Manual, 2nd Ed., p222 – 230)

Worms and Deworming

Worms are Internal Parasites and can damage a horse's intestines, heart, and lungs.

Worms can even kill a horse if left untreated.

A Vet can determine if a horse has worms by testing a sample of the horse's **manure**.



A Dewormer is a medicine that kills the **worms** (usually a medicated paste)

Most horses need to be dewormed 2 to 6 times per **year**.



Some farms have a regular deworming schedule (for example, every 2 months, every 6 weeks, every month in the spring and summer, etc).

-->Ask if they know the deworming schedule at their barn.

-->Ask Who gives the dewormer.

--> Ask if they know HOW it is given. Explain.

Ask your Vet to test your horse for worms and what deworming schedule he/she recommends.

Worms can build up a resistance to the deworming medicine so

- Do not use the **same** medicine over and over
- Rotate different wormers each time.



Sample deworming schedule



Time of Year	Jan/Feb	Mar/Apr	May/Jun	Jul/Aug	Sep/Oct	Nov/Dec
Active Ingredient	Pyrantel	Benzimidazole	Ivermectin	Pyrantel	Benzimidazole	Ivermectin
Product Name	Strongid [®] Paste Exodus [™] 3.60g Pyrantel Pamoate	Panacur [®] Paste Panacur [®] PowerPac [™] Safe-Guard [®] Paste Safe-Guard [®] Equi-Bits [™] Safe-Guard [®] Power Dose Anthelcide [®] EQ	Equimax [™] Paste Zimecterin [®] Paste Zimecterin [®] Gold Paste Quest [®] Gel Quest [®] Plus Gel 1.87% Ivermectin Paste	Strongid [®] Paste Exodus [™] 3.60g Pyrantel Pamoate	Panacur [®] Paste Panacur [®] PowerPac [™] Safe-Guard [®] Paste Safe-Guard [®] Equi-Bits [™] Safe-Guard [®] Power Dose Anthelcide [®] EQ	Equimax [™] Paste Zimecterin [®] Paste Zimecterin [®] Gold Paste Quest [®] Gel Quest [®] Plus Gel 1.87% Ivermectin Paste

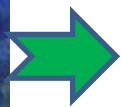
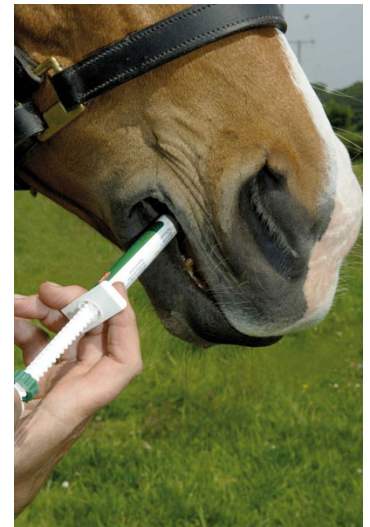
Notice how the horses at this barn get a different dewormer every 2 months.

Talk to a barn owner about their deworming schedule.



Most dewormers are given orally using a medicated paste.

But if your horse acts like this when he sees the dewormer:



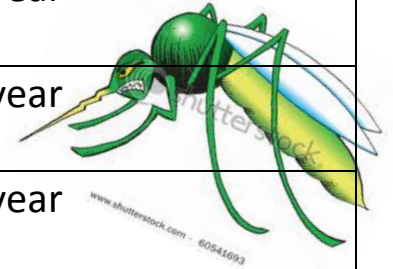
Get help, talk to the **vet** about other methods of giving the dewormer. (Some can be added to the feed bucket)

Vaccinations



Vaccinations (“shots”) protect against certain **diseases**.

What Disease?	How do horses get it?	How often to get Shot
Tetanus	Bacteria in a wound	1 a year
Encephalomyelitis (sleeping sickness)	From birds to mosquitoes to horses	1 a year in the spring
Rabies	Bite from infected animal	1 a year
Influenza (flu)	Coughing (mucus). Very contagious	2 a year
Potomac Fever	Drinking water that has infected insects	2 a year
West Nile virus	From birds to mosquitoes to horses	2 a year



Depending on where you live, there are other shots as well. Your **Vet** will advise you as to which vaccinations are needed and when.

What is a COGGINS?



A Coggins is a **TEST**, a **blood** test.

Generally your vet will take a blood sample in the Spring. The blood sample will be sent to a laboratory. The lab will test your horse’s blood for **EIA**. EIA is “**Equine Infectious Anemia**”

Equine Infections Anemia is **HIGHLY contagious**. And, there is no **cure** for this disease . Horse with EIA may not die, but they will be **carriers** of the disease and will need to be **isolated** for the **rest of their lives**. (*how long?*)

Almost every state in the county requires proof that your horse does not have EIA. This is done by showing a “**negative coggins**”. If the coggins test is returned as being “positive” it means your horse showed signs of the disease.

Horses that test positive can either be put **down**, or put in lifelong, complete **quarantine**. You can't ride a horse who is positive for EIA.