

Sustainable Worm Control in Horses

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One of the biggest challenges we are facing right now, is how to control worm burdens, without increasing levels of resistance. There are only **three true separate families of wormer** currently available and most products are just different combinations of the same families. Many people believe rapidly rotating different products will overcome worm resistance, but in fact such a practice is more likely to result in resistance.

The best things you can do are:

- Pick up dung whenever possible to decrease the contamination of the pasture.
- Use Faecal Egg Counts to determine which horses need treating, and get away from the old routine of treating every six to eight weeks whether they need it or not.

- Faecal Egg Counts:

\$13.50 per sample (GST included) plus a courier charge. By avoiding unnecessary treatment Faecal Egg Counts may save you money!

All we need is:

- Approximately 1 tablespoon of material to test
- Must be fresh and not have been on the ground for any length of time
- Place in a small plastic bag with owner and horse name on outside
- Drop at the clinic before 11am Monday to Friday
- Keep in fridge over night if needed (away from the salad)

We will contact you within two days to discuss results and advise what product, if any, should be used.

We will never achieve a worm free environment so what we want are healthy animals with controllable worm levels.

If your horses have high burdens, a repeat Faecal Egg Count test 14 days after treatment will show if they have drench resistance. We would then discuss further strategies to overcome this.