



EASTGATE VETERINARY CENTRE

133 Eastgate
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Worried about Worms?!?

Worming is a constant source of worry and confusion for horse owners - but does your horse actually need worming?

Following a complicated and expensive worming programme does not guarantee that your horse will be free of parasites. Growing resistance to some worming drugs means that they may not be effective for your horse. This can only get worse in years to come and there are currently no new worming drugs. Regular worm counts can identify parasite problems, sometimes only affecting one horse in a herd, so they can be correctly treated - or not treated if there is no problem. Counts are used to monitor both large and small round worms, but is not as specific for tapeworms - an extra 'ELISA' test can be done for these if required.

Regular testing can save money on unnecessary worming by effectively targeting affected or problem animals - or can be used to check current regimes are actually being effective. We would recommend counts twice a year, ideally in spring and autumn, to provide good worm monitoring.

Sampling is easy - simply pop into the practice and collect one of our free sampling kits. The kit includes a glove, sealable bag and label - just place a few balls of fresh faeces in the bag and return to the practice the same or next day. Results will be with you within 2 days.

Worm egg counts cost only **£12 per sample**, and you can discuss the findings of your results with a vet, as well as discussing any necessary treatment plans. Discounts may be available on submissions of multiple samples, please contact the practice for further details.

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