



# AGNEW EQUINE NEWS

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## Team Agnew Updates!

HIGHLIGHTS ON WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO THAT YOU CAN FIND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

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**JAN JOINS OUR RECEPTION/ADMIN TEAM!**



**GRASS SICKNESS BREAKTHROUGH FROM EDINBURGH VET SCHOOL**



**SO MUCH SNOW! TWO BOUTS OF THE WHITE STUFF SO FAR THIS WINTER**



**FARRIER'S EVENING WAS A GREAT SUCCESS AT THE HOTEL RUDYARD**

## Why Regular Worm Egg Counts Are Essential for Your Horse's Health

Managing your horse's parasite load is a key aspect of their healthcare routine. Gone are the days of routine deworming without testing—modern veterinary advice focuses on **targeted parasite control**, with regular worm egg counts (WECs) playing a vital role.

### Why Are Worm Egg Counts Important?

A worm egg count is a simple test that examines your horse's manure to determine the number of parasite eggs present. This helps identify whether your horse has a **low, moderate, or high worm burden**, allowing you to treat only when necessary.

Many horses have **low or no significant worm burdens** and do not need frequent deworming, helping to reduce the risk of **parasite resistance**—a growing problem where worms become immune to dewormers. By using WECs, we can ensure that only horses with **high burdens** receive treatment, protecting the long-term effectiveness of deworming drugs.

### How Often Should Worm Egg Counts Be Done?

- **Spring (March-April):** A baseline WEC helps determine the level of parasites your horse is carrying as grazing increases.
- **Summer (June-July):** WECs should be done every 12 weeks to monitor parasite levels, particularly for horses on shared grazing.
- **Autumn (September-October):** A final test can indicate whether any treatment is needed before winter.

We still recommend a dose of Equest Pramox (included in our Worm Packs) in late autumn or early winter to target encysted small redworms and tapeworms (not testable in a WEC) before winter turnout.



1. First Worm Egg Count Collection: March/April 2025  
Date Sample Collected: / / 2025
2. Second Worm Egg Count Collection: June/July 2025  
Date Sample Collected: / / 2025
3. Third Worm Egg Count Collection: Sept/Oct 2025  
Date Sample Collected: / / 2025
4. Dose of Equest Pramox: Dec 2025/Jan 2026  
Date Wormed: / / 2025 or 2026



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\*Contact us to order your 2025 Strategic Worm Pack or visit [WWW.HORSEVETS.CO.UK/SHOP](http://WWW.HORSEVETS.CO.UK/SHOP) - Free shipping and Worm Packs are £74.10 but orders more than one and you get a bulk discount!\*



## Biotex-80

A highly concentrated hoof nutritional formula with zero sugar - formerly known as Help for Hooves - & perfect for getting hooves back on track after winter.

- Over 4x more concentrated than UK bestselling hoof formulas containing 80mg of Biotin
- A complete supplement for hoof strength & growth containing high levels of Zinc, Calcium, MSM & Methionine
- Contains the building blocks of protein in Amino Acids
- Super concentrated only 20g feed rate

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## Preparing your Horse for Spring

As winter begins to fade, February is the perfect time to start preparing your horse for the transition into spring. Seasonal changes can bring new health challenges, so here are some key considerations to ensure your horse stays happy and healthy:

**1. Monitor Weight & Nutrition** - Horses naturally lose or gain weight over winter, depending on their diet and exercise levels. As the grass starts to return, be mindful of sudden changes in diet, particularly for horses prone to laminitis. Gradually introduce spring pasture and consider booking a body condition check-up with us.

**2. Deworming & Parasite Control** - A strategic worming plan for 2025 tailored to your horse's needs will help prevent resistance issues and ensure you keep an eye on your horse's parasitic burden. Contact us for info on our Strategic Worm Packs available now!

**3. Check Hoof Health** - Wet and muddy winter conditions can lead to thrush or weakened hooves. Book a farrier visit to trim and balance hooves, ensuring a strong foundation for increased activity as the weather improves.

**4. Spring Vaccinations & Dental Exams** - Annual vaccinations for equine flu and tetanus should be up to date before your horse starts traveling to shows or events. Additionally, a dental check ensures they can properly chew forage and perform at their best.

**5. Gradual Fitness Conditioning** - If your horse has had a quieter winter, avoid rushing into intense exercise. A slow and steady fitness plan will prevent injuries and build strength for upcoming competitions or leisure riding.

By taking these proactive steps now, you'll set your horse up for a smooth and healthy transition into spring. Contact us with any questions, for a health check or book in for a Saver Day appointment.