

Month of October 2010
15% Off Routine Dentals
*Call for More Details



Fall 2010 Newsletter

Dr. Jerry Black's Retirement Announcement

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Good Luck
To All Our
WEG Participants!!!

Our Ambulatory
Services have
EXPANDED

Drs. [John Knowles](#), [Luke Bass](#), & [Tegan Bosard](#) are available for veterinary evaluation on your farm. Wellness exams, dentistry, lameness evaluations, and reproductive exams are just some of the services available. Areas incorporated in our expansion are the East Bay, Tracy, Copperopolis, and Lockeford areas. Call us to find out when we will be in your area.



To deworm or not to deworm your horse... now that is the question.

With all of the recent talk about deworming and emerging parasite resistance it can be confusing to decide when your horse should be dewormed. The concept of deworming every 8 weeks was developed back in the 1960's. We have now been able to reduce many colics due to parasite migration by large strongyles in the past 30 years. But with the emerging resistance of some parasites, such as small strongyles a shift needs to be made in how we think about deworming horses.

Small strongyle larvae live in the intestinal mucosa and are much more difficult to remove with anthelmintics (dewormers). To complicate factors, there have been no new dewormers introduced for several years, nor are there are going to be any new ones in the near future due to the high cost to develop, test, and market the dewormer. Therefore, we must use what resources we have wisely so that we are not left with resistance to all of our currently available anthelmintics.

The **NEWEST** concept in deworming follows a protocol of deworming the right horses, at the right time, with as many worms in the right stage as possible. To make this successful, those horses that are carrying and shed-



Strongyle Larvae in mucosa

ding high worm burdens need to be tested and identified.

The best way to determine which horses are the biggest carriers and shedders of worms a fecal egg count can be performed. The ideal plan would be to perform a **Fecal Egg Count Reduction Test (FECRT)** in the fall, as long as they have not been dewormed in the past 2-3 months. This will allow identification of which horses are carrying a parasite load and how much they are shedding. Horses can then be dewormed with an appropriate anthelmintic and a repeat fecal egg count can be performed 2 weeks later to determine how effective that deworming was. While this may take more time and money initially, it ensures that the right horses are being dewormed and that the dewormer used is effective on your farm.



Strongyle Egg in feces

The fecal egg count tests can be performed the same day at our hospital. If you are interested in incorporating a **FECRT** into your horses' annual wellness exam or would like to have one of these done, please contact us to discuss **FECRTs** and deworming recommendations for your farm.

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[For More information about our Wellness Packages follow this link!](#)

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