



SPRING PADDOCKS EQUINE
VETERINARY SURGEONS

E: clinic@springpaddocksequine.co.uk

W: www.springpaddocksequine.co.uk

T: 01926 612937

F: 01926 612545

NEWSLETTER . FEBRUARY 2021

These are difficult times for everyone. We are lucky to be living in the countryside with our horses to keep us busy, even though we could do with more daylight and better weather. Hopefully things can but improve as long as we keep safe and social distance.

Here at Spring Paddocks we are able to do more than we were allowed to do during the last lockdown, in March 2020, but we must still work within the current restrictions. Remember, there is always someone on the end of the phone to talk to you and discuss your problems, and hopefully we shall all be able to be out competing our horses again soon.

If one of our vets does need to visit your yard;

- Please ensure that there is only ONE person present, wearing a mask and that they are not experiencing any symptoms of Covid 19 (fever, cough) and where possible that a 2m distance is upheld
- Please have soap and a bucket of warm water available as our vets will continue their rigorous hygiene standards to ensure we all remain healthy during this tough period for everyone.



Whilst humans are social distancing, the dogs do as they please!

THINKING OF BREEDING?

It's that time of year again! If you are considering breeding from your mare in 2021, now is the time to start planning. Whether they have had a foal recently or have never bred before, it is recommended to check that their reproductive system is healthy with no issues before undertaking any form of breeding programme. This allows any problems to be identified and treated promptly, thereby ensuring the best chance of your mare becoming pregnant.

A pre-breeding check involves assessment of the reproductive tract including vulva, cervix and an ultrasound scan of the uterus and ovaries. This is undertaken at the Spring Paddocks Equine Clinic or at your Yard if there are stocks available. Further diagnostics can be done at this time if required, depending on individual requirements.

Spring Paddocks Equine Clinic is a British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) Accredited Artificial Insemination Centre.

Our vets attend regular training and seminars to ensure we can provide you with the best service and latest techniques. We provide packages for both Chilled and Frozen Semen, please contact us for more information as exact prices will depend on your mare's needs.



Dates for your diary:

Gastroscopy Clinics - £150 per horse
25th January 2021 & 8th February 2021

A few spaces are still available

March is Dental Discount Month

This popular package includes standard sedation plus a routine rasp to ensure any problems are treated before the Spring.

Contact the clinic 01926 612937 for further details

Winter Worming

The importance of **responsible worming** is discussed widely in the equine world because of the huge impact of wormer resistance on the health of the nation's horses.



Most people are aware of the importance of carrying on regular **Faecal Worm Egg Counts** throughout the grazing season, however, it is only recently that testing for other type of worms has become more accessible.

A high tapeworm burden

carries a significantly increased risk of colic, but tapeworm saliva test kits are cost-effective and easy to use. We can supply these and the lab results are then sent to us to assess and report onto you, the owner.



In addition, **encysted equine redworms** are very dangerous to health causing fatal diarrhoea in severe cases. We are now able to offer a newly available blood test which identifies high & low risk horses so we can worm accordingly and therefore reduce the over-use of these vital wormers.

In the winter months, after the temperature has been below 10°C consistently for a few days, is the time to worm for all of the above. We can advise you on the best wormer to use.

Spring Paddocks Discounted Worming Package

February 2021– February 2022

£80 inc VAT

To include:

3 Worm Egg Counts
(March, June and September)

1 tapeworm saliva test
(between September & December)

1 Equest or Equest Pramox
(to be given in January)



Vaccination

Double-check your **VACCINATIONS** are up to date and check competition requirements for the forthcoming season – some are still requiring **6 month influenza boosters.**

We will endeavour to remind you whenever possible but remember it is your responsibility to ensure that your vaccinations fulfill all the current requirements for your discipline.

Remember that ALL horses should be vaccinated for **tetanus** every two years as this disease lives in the soil and vaccination will offer protection on the occasions when minor wounds could be a problem.

Pregnant mares should receive **Equine Herpes Virus (EHV)** vaccinations at months 5, 7 and 9 of pregnancy as this virus is known to cause abortion.

These can all be given on your **free zone day** but we must receive payment on the day to be eligible for this discount.

LAMINITIS... PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE!

DID YOU KNOW that a large percentage of horses & ponies with laminitis will have an underlying condition such as "**Equine Cushings Disease**" (PPID) or "**Equine Metabolic Syndrome**" (EMS)

These diseases can alter various hormones within the body, leaving the animal at a **hugely increased risk of laminitis**. Thankfully, both diseases are easy to diagnose with simple blood tests.

We encourage early, proactive testing before the spring grass starts to grow, as the **new spring grass can trigger laminitis** in these affected horses.

Please ring the clinic **01926 612937** to discuss concerns with one of the vets and make a plan for preventing this potentially debilitating disease.

