



# June Newsletter 2018

Abbey Equine Centre  
www.abbeyequine.co.uk  
01873 840069



Celebrating Nine Years at Llansabbath Barns!

## Those Darned Pesky Flies!

Now with the warmer weather approaching (we hope!) make sure you are prepared for those infuriating insects! Here at the surgery we stock a wide range of fly control products. Most products can be ordered for the following morning. So if you are bothered by bugs then give us a call!

## Faecal Egg Counts

Now summer is upon us we need to work together to ensure our horses are worm free. If your horse has been covered for both tapeworm and encysted small redworm over the spring period, we can now monitor for any strongyle eggs in faecal samples and treat accordingly. This method of worming is called 'Targeted' worming and we only worm when there is already a burden and this significantly reduces the threat of resistance to our classes of drugs. The test is very simple, inexpensive and is carried out very quickly at our veterinary laboratory. Please feel free to collect a sample kit from the surgery which contains everything you need, complete with instructions and information sheet.

## Dates for your Diary - June

7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> - Royal Cornwall Show, Wadebridge  
8<sup>th</sup> - Nurse Clinic at Hay and Brecon, Cwmbra  
9<sup>th</sup> - Monmouthshire Hunt Show, Park Farm  
15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> - Royal Three Counties Show, Malvern  
21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> - Hickstead Derby Show  
30<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> July - Chepstow Horse Trials, Chepstow Racecourse

**Bumper Sticker** - The winner of May's Bumper Sticker Competition is Julie Lees. Just for displaying our car sticker Julie wins a lovely prize! Remember to display our sticker and if one of our vets spots it, you could be in for a prize!

## Thinking of purchasing a new horse?

Why not get it vetted? Would you buy a new car without getting it checked first? Give us a call and we would be pleased to discuss any requirements you may have and offer helpful advice if needed on buying a horse or pony.

**Feeling Itchy?** Its allergy awareness month this June, allergens can enter the body in different ways and cause a variety of clinical signs. Allergies can be dermatological, respiratory, gastrointestinal and cause behavior issues. If your horse/pony is showing symptoms of itchy skin, hives, hair loss or respiratory problems please contact the clinic for veterinary and management advice.

**GDPR** - Abbey Equine Vets take the protection of your personal data very seriously. We have always abided by the RCVS professional standards which have stringent guidelines on confidentiality. We will continue to contact our clients to provide information which will help to keep their animals happy and healthy, this includes vaccine reminders and our regular newsletters. To comply with GDPR all promotions will be available via our website and Facebook page, please like our Facebook page to see all of our practice news. If you have any questions regarding our privacy policy please contact us on 01873 840069.

## Ragwort Awareness Month

At this time of the year fields should be kept clear of weeds, particularly ragwort. Ragwort grows from June onwards and can grow from 30-100cm high! Ragwort is one of the most common causes of poisoning in horses. Symptoms include constipation and loss of condition and appetite. During the later stages ragwort poisoning can cause irreversible liver damage resulting in diarrhoea, blind staggers and frequently death. Plants should be pulled up by the roots and since toxins can be absorbed through the skin, gloves should be worn. Care should be taken when disposing of the removed plants as seeds can spread easily from the flowers.

## Laminitis alert!

Spring has arrived at last! Please be careful with the lush grass coming through. Laminitis is a disease that causes the laminae of the hoof to die away due to poor blood flow. The exact cause of this is complex and there are many predisposing factors that can lead to laminitis. Among the most common are grain engorgement, grazing on lush pastures, Cushings and post-foaling metritis. Laminitis tends to be most common in spring, when horses are able to graze upon grasses high in soluble carbohydrates. For this reason, fat ponies can be particularly prone to the disease. A horse with laminitis will be reluctant to move and have a potterly gait. Due to the breakdown of the laminae, the pedal bone may rotate or sink within the hoof capsule, which can be seen with x-ray. Prevention of laminitis is key. Keeping your horse at a healthy weight, monitoring diet and regular farriery are all important. Vets can do more for the laminitic pony in the earlier stages of the disease, so prompt veterinary attention is a must!

## Foal Milk/Colostrum

Don't forget we always have in stock foal milk, colostrum and rubber teats for feeding should you need it.