

New Strategies in Deworming

Beating parasite resistance, using less drugs, and saving money

Due to parasite resistance to dewormers and new scientific information there are huge nationwide changes occurring with deworming strategies. Here at Corriente we are dedicated to providing you with the most up to date and effective treatments for your horse.

The goals of the new strategies are:

1. Keep shedding of parasite eggs in each herd/pasture to a low and appropriate level
2. Use available deworming products wisely so that we will be able to use them for years to come
3. Put fewer chemicals into your horse each year
4. Once we've established the low, medium, and high shedders in a herd, be able to save you money by buying fewer deworming products

The theories behind the new strategies are:

1. Only 20% of horses in a herd are high shedders of parasite eggs, the other 50% are low shedders, and 30% moderate shedders
2. Therefore, if we identify which horses in the herd are low, moderate, and high shedders we can reduce the amount of deworming products used in 80% of the horses in the herd.
3. We identify the shedders by doing Eggs Per Gram (EPG) Fecal Examinations
4. Then after deworming we do a Fecal Egg Count Reduction (FECR) to determine if the dewormer used was effective or if the horse is resistant to it
5. The old cookie cutter deworming calendar can no longer be our plan, we must devise individual plans for individual horses and owners

How we will enact the new theories:

1. We will work closely with each horse owner and each barn manager to establish a plan for every horse in our practice
2. The ideal time to start the new plan is in January-March
3. The ideal way to start the new plan is with an EPG Fecal Exam 4 months after your last deworming
4. Based on the EPG we will design a deworming plan for your horse
5. Following deworming we will do a FECR to see if the dewormer is working
6. We have reduced our Fecal Examination prices to help make doing the right thing for your horse more affordable!