



FLU AND TETANUS VACCINATIONS

If you availed of the 15 month vaccine extension when there was a vaccine shortage earlier this year, please remember that your horse will require the follow up 'yearly booster' nine months after the last one.

We do our best to send out reminders, however please check your passports due to this unusual circumstance.

If you go over due, you could have to restart.

AUGUST 2023

EQUUS VETS AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2023

FOR BREEDING, FOR SPORT FOR LIFE

Providing you with a dedicated and experienced equine only vets, 24 hours a day in Devon and East Cornwall

Aeisha provides us with an interesting and informative read this month on foot abscesses. Foot abscesses can prove to be very painful and in some cases they can be non weight bearing on the affected leg

FOOT ABSCESSSES

- Foot abscesses are a common cause of lameness all year round.
- Foot abscesses can be seen in shod and unshod horses
- In shod horses they are most commonly seen 7-14 days after shoeing.
- Foot abscesses can also occur secondary to laminitis or bruising to the sole.

What causes foot abscesses?

Foot abscesses are caused by a localised bacterial infection, usually in the white line of the hoof. The bacteria produce fluid and/or gas, which causes a pressure build up in the foot, in turn leading to lameness. The lameness can vary from mild to severe, with horses often not wanting to put any weight on the affected foot.

How is a foot abscess diagnosed?

A strong digital pulse and reaction to pressure from hoof testers, alongside a sudden onset lameness in one foot is usually sufficient to diagnose a foot abscess. In some cases, nerve blocks or radiographs may be required to confirm the diagnosis or help locate the abscess.

How is a foot abscess treated?

For the majority of cases, digging out the abscess to relieve the pressure, followed by poulticing to allow the abscess to drain, is all the treatment that is required. Pain relief may be required while the abscess is draining. Antibiotics are generally only required in cases where the infection is suspected to have spread to the pedal bone, causing a pedal osteitis.

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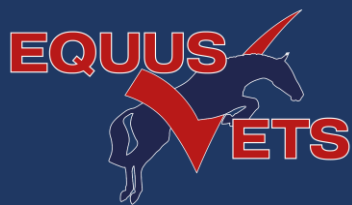
COVERING DEVON AND EAST CORNWALL

HEAD OFFICE: 64 FORE STREET, NORTH TAWTON, DEVON, EX202DT

DISPENSE COLLECTION POINTS HOLSWORTHY, HATHERLEIGH, OKEHAMPTON

01837 214004 – info@equusvets.co.uk – www.equusvets.co.uk





FINAL REMINDER FOR INSOL BOOSTERS

As we are nearing the end of August, we are reaching the end of the time frame to be able to give the Insol top up booster to help manage sweet itch

If you are wanting your horse to have the booster, please call our reception team on 01837 214 004 to book an appointment

CORNWALL AREA DAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

Week commencing
Monday 4th

Week commencing
Monday 25th

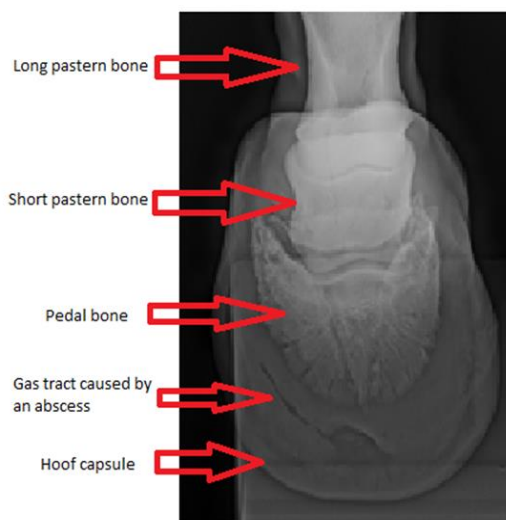


How can I prevent foot abscesses?

Daily foot care, including picking out feet daily, monitoring of signs of graveling and bruising and regular foot trimming/shoeing can all help prevent abscesses. Biotin supplementation has been shown to improve hoof quality for horses with poor feet. Spraying the sole daily with iodine, or a mixture of 2 parts iodine with 1 part surgical spirit can also help harden the sole to prevent graveling and bruising.

Unfortunately foot abscesses are sometimes unavoidable. If you have any concerns about your horse please call the office on 01837 214004.

An example of a view on an x ray of an abscess



DISPENSES FOR SUBESTIN, VENTIPULMIN, DILATEROL

Going forwards, we will HAVE to visit your horse to be able to dispense the above mentioned drugs as they are classified as a controlled drug requiring a visit and assessment of the horse prior to prescribing.



Some of our Equus and North Park Team who enjoyed meeting you at Okehampton Show. They are looking forward to being on our stand at Holsworthy Show on Thursday 24th August

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