



August 2024

## PROUD TO BE AN INDEPENDENT EQUINE PRACTICE OWNED BY VETS

HEAD OFFICE: 64 FORE STREET, NORTH TAWTON, DEVON, EX20 2DT

MEDICATION COLLECTION POINTS: OKEHAMPTON, HATHERLEIGH AND HOLSWORTHY

### OKEHAMPTON SHOW WINNERS



Two of our lovely clients had a very successful day at Okehampton Show in the Side Saddle Equitation Class with Becky White (above) coming first and Lucy Barnes (below) coming second – Congratulations to you both!



### EQUUS VETS NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2024



We have really enjoyed seeing you all for a cup of tea and brownie at Okehampton and Chagford Shows in our new trailer! We were also the Official Show Vets at Okehampton Show.

This week is our last show of the season. We look forward to welcoming you to Holsworthy show, so pop in for some tea and cake!

#### **\*\*\*\*INSOL BOOSTER\*\*\*\***

We are coming up to the end of August when it is the ideal time to give your horse a booster for the off-licence product that assists with the management of sweet itch.

Please get in touch if you would like to book a booster for your horse on 01837 214 004.

#### **PRESCRIPTION CHECKS**

Just a reminder that to be able to get repeat prescriptions, your horse needs to be examined by one of our vets at least once within a 12 month period.

If you think your horse might need a visit, please call our reception team to check on 01837 214 004.

Providing you with a dedicated and experienced team of equine only vets, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week covering Devon and East Cornwall

01837 214004 – [info@equusvets.co.uk](mailto:info@equusvets.co.uk)

## CARING FOR YOUR HORSES IN THE WARMER WEATHER

With the temperatures being a little warmer currently, please find some tips to ensure your horse is comfortable:

### WATER

Ensure that your horse always has access to clean water to prevent any risk of dehydration. A horse on average can drink approximately 25 litres per day which can increase when they are warm.

### SHELTER

Ensure your horse has access to shelter if it is in the field or alternatively bring your horse in to a stable for the warmest part of the day.

### FLY PROTECTION

Ensure that your horse has been covered in fly spray and if sensitive to fly bites a fly sheet and mask can reduce the annoyance from flies. Turning out overnight and stabling during the day can risk annoyance from flies also.

### SUNBURN

Like humans, horses can suffer from sunburn. Horses with pink muzzles are most at risk. Applying sun protection liberally on those pink areas will help to prevent the skin from getting sunburnt along with a mask can also help.

## EYE CONDITION IN HORSES

Eye problems in horses can be very serious, in severe cases they can result in an eye needing to be removed. Conjunctivitis, uveitis and corneal ulcers are all common problems in horses.

### Conjunctivitis

Conjunctivitis (often known as pink eye in people), occurs when either the inner membrane of the eyelid, or the membrane covering the white of the eye is inflamed. The eye is often sore and often has a clear or green discharge.



Arrow pointing to an area of mild conjunctivitis.

### Uveitis



A painful eye with uveitis

Uveitis occurs when there is inflammation to the inner structures of the eye. Uveitis is incredibly painful condition which often results in the horse holding their eye closed with clear discharge present. The eye itself is usually cloudy and the pupil can be very constricted, limiting the horse's vision through the eye.

### Corneal ulcers

Corneal ulcers occur when there is a trauma or scratch to the surface of the eye. A green stain is used to identify a corneal ulcer. Ulcers are again very painful, with the horse holding their eye shut and often with a clear discharge.



Green stain highlighting two areas of corneal ulceration.

### Enucleations



Just a few weeks after an enucleation, the wound has healed, and the horse is adapting well.

In some cases, the damage to the eye becomes irreparable and the best course of action is to remove the eye (enucleation). This operation can be done under sedation and local anaesthetic, either on the yard or in our stocks at North Tawton.

If you are ever in doubt about the health of your horse's eyes, please do not hesitate to contact our reception team to book either an initial phone appointment or visit – early detection of problems is key.

## CORNWALL AREA DAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

W/C 09.09.2024

W/C 23.09.24

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Have you been out riding and got a lovely 'Between the Ears' snap, been out competing and have a lovely picture, or taken a lovely picture of your horse relaxing in the field or their stable? If you have, we would love to see them to be able to share - please email to me [georgie.brown@equusvets.co.uk](mailto:georgie.brown@equusvets.co.uk) upcoming Newsletters

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