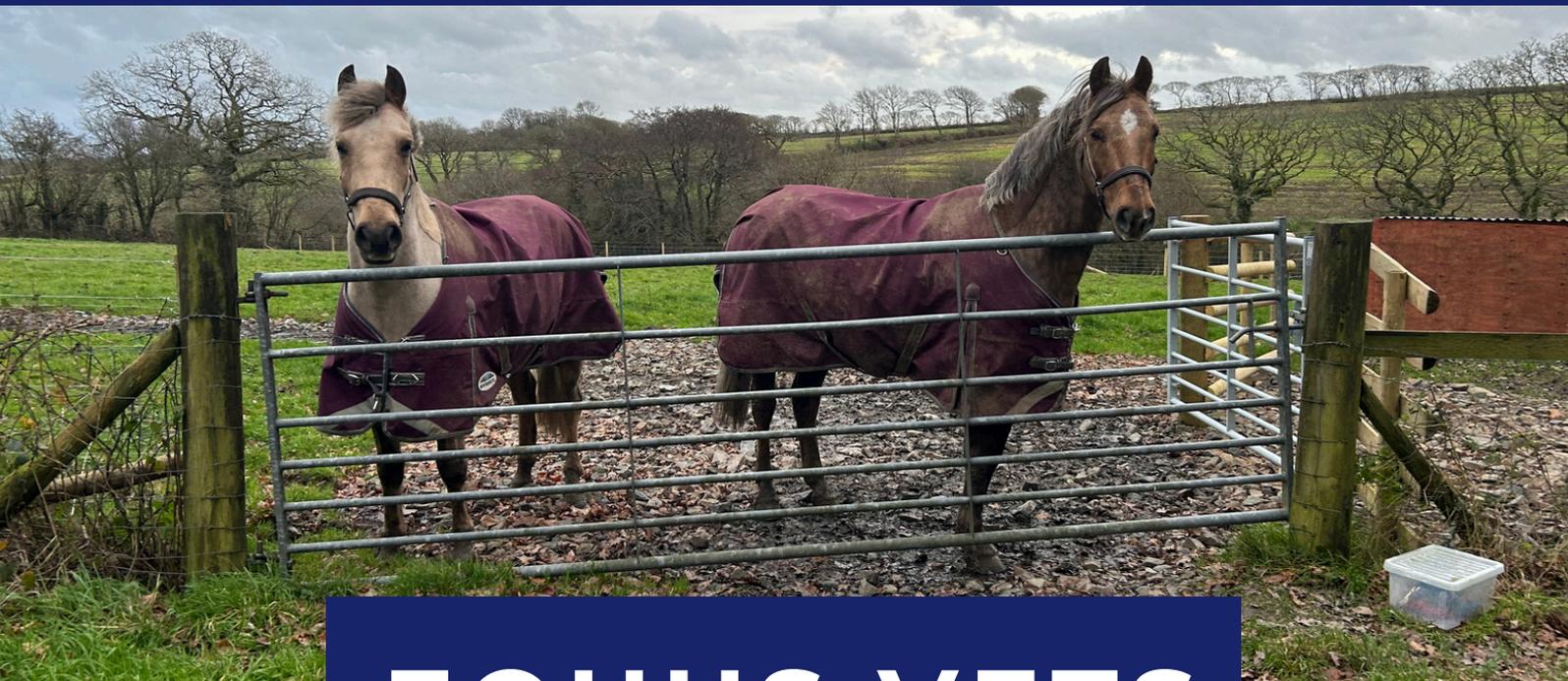


RUN BY VETS, OWNED BY VETS



EQUUS VETS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

This month's cover picture is of the lovely Jo and Coke. They are half brothers who were bred in Canada and are both ride and drive horses.



Our vet Gemma (on the left) has been out competing successfully with three of our other clients - Imogen, Gill and Andrea and as a team were 2nd in the 60cm and 3rd in the 70cm at the Area 19 Riding Club Showjumping Qualifier.

Congratulations team!

MARCH IS ULCER AWARENESS MONTH

We will be offering gastroscopes at a reduced price throughout March, either at your own yard (access to water and electric required) or at one of our gastroscopy clinics at The Grange Equestrian Centre on Thursday 12th March & Wednesday 18th March.

The cost for the Gastroscopy at your yard is £235 plus the visit charge.

The cost at one of our Clinics is £235.

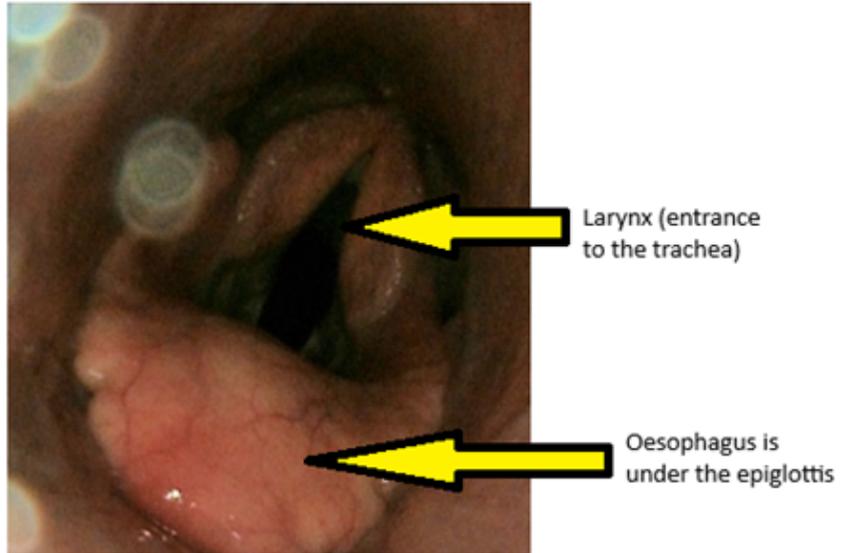


GASTRIC ULCERS

Coming out of the winter is a common time for horses to show symptoms of gastric ulcers.

Gastric ulcers can cause a wide variety of symptoms, which may include:

- Weight loss.
- Discomfort around the girth area, especially seen when tacking or rugging up.
- Poor performance.
- Reduced appetite.
- Recurrent colic, particularly after eating hard feeds.



Gastroscope is passed up the nose to the back of the throat where it is swallowed

Gastric ulcers are diagnosed by gastroscopy. This allows us to assess the location and severity of the ulcers, in order to prescribe the correct treatment for your horse.

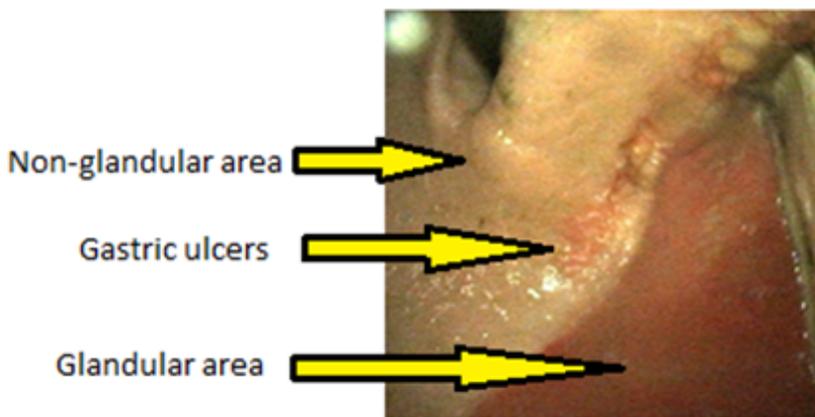
To perform a gastroscopy, your horse must first be starved overnight to allow the stomach to empty. At the visit, your horse will then be sedated and the gastroscope passed up the nose. The horse then swallows the gastroscope, which is passed down the oesophagus into the stomach. The stomach is then inflated with air to allow assessment of the ulcers.

EAST CORNWALL AREA DAYS

w/c 9th March
w/c 23rd March

Worm Egg Counts

For those of you with horses on our worming packages, March is a good time to collect a sample for your first count of the year to send or bring in to us to process.



The stomach is inflated and the junction between the glandular and non glandular portion is assessed

There are two areas of the stomach which require careful attention. The first is the junction between the glandular (acid-producing) area of the stomach and the non-glandular area. Acid often splashes onto the unprotected non-glandular area of the stomach and causes ulcers. The second is the exit from the stomach to the small intestine, which is also prone to ulceration

Depending on the location and severity of the ulcers, a course of treatment will be prescribed, which often lasts 3-4 weeks. A repeat gastroscopy is then performed to check the ulcers have fully healed, or if any further treatment is required.



The exit of the stomach is visualised

One of the most important factors to a successful gastroscopy is to ensure that your horse's stomach is completely empty. If there is any amount of food in the stomach, this inhibits a clear visual surface for the vets to inspect. Our team will be happy to discuss how to ensure this part of the process is carried out successfully at the time of you booking in for a gastroscopy. Please do contact us if you have any further questions or wondering if booking a gastroscopy is the right thing for your horse.

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



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