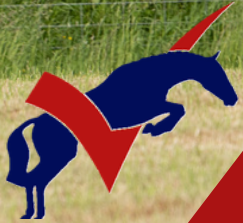


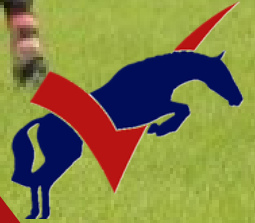
RUN BY VETS, OWNED BY VETS

This months cover pictures include Catherine on her beloved Dante and to the right is Louise and her lovely Tinker. Both clients and their horses enjoying riding out in our beautiful countryside.



EQUUS VETS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026



If you would like you and your horse to feature as our cover photo, please email a picture and a few words to georgie.brown@equusvets.co.uk

All our vets are busy bees when they are not working! Gemma is currently the Chairman of Holsworthy Riding Club and they recently ran the Area Qualifier for the Eventing which included giving out prizes to some of our fabulous clients who were successful on the day! Aisha enjoys spending time with her horse Travis riding out seeing the stunning views on Dartmoor and Jamie can be found running and completing Half Marathons with a goal to complete an Iron man in the not too distant future!

HOT WEATHER & HORSES

The climate over the last few years has changed and the hotter days that we are getting seem to be increasing in temperature with no time to acclimatise for us or our horses!

With this in mind, at times of extreme temperature, we need to make sure that we put additional measures in place to maximise the comfort of our horses.



WATER

Horses will drink approximately 25-55 litres (approximately 3 to 4 buckets) on a 'normal' day. This can increase dramatically in warm weather. Ensuring that access to clean water at all times is very important and if a natural source of water is used ie a stream or river, do check that levels are not too low for them to be able to drink adequate amounts.



SHELTER

During times of heat, it is highly recommended that horses have access to shade whether it is natural from a hedgerow (although with the sun moving throughout the day this form of shade will not be consistent), a field shelter or a well ventilated stable.



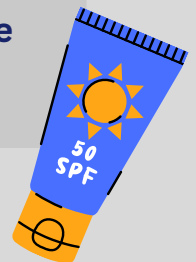
FLIES

The not so lovely horses flies and biting insects come out in force when the weather is warm and there is nothing worse than seeing a horse being harassed by them. To help manage this, perhaps swap your horse to being out over night and in during the day.

There are many wonderful fly masks and sheets available that will offer a layer of protection as well as fly sprays. Keeping your turn out area poo picked and your muck heap away from where your horse is will also limit the amount of annoyances flying near them!

SUNCREAM

Areas with pink skin such as the nose or areas with white hair can be more susceptible to the sun and can burn. Let your horse share your Factor 50 suncream and cover these areas that are likely to be more sensitive.



EAST CORNWALL AREA DAYS

w/c 3rd August 2026

w/c 17th August 2026

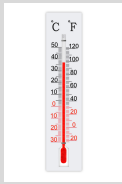


TO RIDE OR NOT TO RIDE

In the same way that it can vary with how people can cope with the hotter weather, the same goes for breeds of horses and different horses of the same breed - it is based on the individual.

Other factors to take into consideration with how your horses might be affected by the the heat include their age - whether young or old, whether they are overweight or whether they have an underlying health condition such as equine asthma or Cushings.

DID YOU KNOW....
Horses sweat to cool themselves and can do this three times faster than a human



Not only is it the sunshine and the temperature that needs to be considered but also the level of humidity. When there is a higher level of humidity, the rate at which the sweat (one of your horses cooling mechanisms) evaporates will be reduced and therefore the rate of cooling decreases.

If there is a way to avoid riding in the heat, that is the easiest solution. At best riding at the cooler part of the day such as early morning, this will minimise any complications for any heat related problems.

However, if you are needing to ride when temperatures are getting to the warmer part of the day, consider riding for a shorter period, and the workload slower than normal. It is also hugely important to ensure you have an effective way to cool your horses down as quickly as possible until their breathing has recovered.

The British Equestrian Federation offers the following suggestions should you be competing. Your horse should be treated as an individual, and if you have any concerns regarding their condition in the heat, please do not hesitate to conatct us on 01837 214 004.

FEED AND WATER

Add salt or electrolytes into your horses diet.
Consider feeding soaked hay to assist hydration.
Put extra water buckets into your horses stable.

TRAVEL

Plan your journey times so you avoid the hottest part of the day.
Carry plenty of water.
Open windows and vents where safe to do so to maximise air flow.

EXERCISE & COMPETITION

Keep riding in the run up to the event so your horse can adjust to the warmth.
Dont over work your horse.
Shortern warm up times and take more breaks than usual.

COOLING DOWN

Remove tack quickly after riding/competing.
Apply continous amounts of cool water all over the body - no scraping - whilst walking to cool them down.
Walking aids circulation & will help cool more effectively.