DEWORMING CALENDAR for SOUTHEAST QUEENSLAND

Healthy adult horses with pasture access

SPRING September – November	SUMMER December – February	AUTUMN March – May	WINTER June – August
Deworm IF:	Deworm IF:	Deworm IF:	Deworm IF:
FEC is more than 200 epg or Horse wasn't dewormed with moxidectin in winter Deworm WITH:	FEC is more than 200 epg or Deworming is advised by a vet ¹ Deworm WITH:	FEC is more than 200 epg or Deworming is advised by a vet ¹ Deworm WITH:	FEC is more than 200 epg or Horse has been on pasture during the warmer months Deworm WITH:
Moxidectin (single dose) or Fenbendazole, 10 mg/kg (2X standard dose), daily for 5 days	'mectin (ivermectin or abamectin) or Oxibendazole (best for pinworms) Reserve pyrantel/morantel for tapeworms?	'mectin (ivermectin or abamectin) or Oxibendazole (best for pinworms) Reserve pyrantel/morantel for tapeworms?	'mectin/moxidectin + praziquantel or Pyrantel, 13.2 mg/kg (2X standard dose) alternatively, morantel at 2X standard dose
WHY:	WHY:	WHY:	WHY:
Target small strongyle larvae in bowel wall using larvicidal treatment when conditions most favour parasites on pasture: • once daytime highs are over 25 °C, and • once spring rains begin (Larvae on pasture need both — warmth and water — for rapid development.) Larvae that overwintered inside the horse (in the lining of the bowel) are not yet laying eggs, so target them before they emerge and mature into egg-laying adults. Deworming with moxidectin in late autumn/early winter makes this spring treatment unnecessary in most horses.	Deworm only the horses shedding lots of strongyle eggs onto the pasture. Slow anthelminthic resistance by not deworming low-FEC horses when conditions are unfavourable to parasites on pasture. Use a stretch of hot (>35 °C), dry weather to kill larvae on the pasture, and save the anthelminthics for when conditions favour parasites on pasture. 1 Vet may advise treatment for parasitic disease transmitted by insects, such as summer sores or onchocerca dermatitis/uveitis, or if the horse is showing signs of pinworm or bot infection.	Deworm only the horses shedding lots of strongyle eggs onto the pasture. Slow anthelminthic resistance by delaying deworming of low-FEC horses until conditions favour survival, but not development, of parasites on pasture in this climate. Wait until winter, ideally until after the first frost (if any), because tapeworm transmission relies on a pasture mite that is inactive in winter; bot flies are also inactive in winter (most years)	 Limit anthelminthic use by: targeting all the important parasites* in adult horses in the one dose (* Pyrantel/morantel does not control bots; use the 'mectin/dectin if bots are a problem) waiting until the cool weather sets in and conditions favour survival, but not development, of parasites on pasture By using moxidectin (larvicidal treatment) in the late autumn/early winter, spring deworming may be unnecessary in most horses, and anthelminthic use may be reduced to once a year with good pasture management