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## **Foal deworming and vaccination recommendations**

### **Deworming:**

The most important and prevalent worms found in foals and yearlings are ascarids (roundworms). These worms and their larvae are typically found in large numbers in foals during their first 1-2 years of life. If left unmanaged, roundworms can cause life-threatening small intestinal impactions, respiratory infections, and failure of the foal to grow and thrive. As foals reach 1 year of age, strongyle worms typically become the predominant parasite.

Per the AAEP internal parasite guidelines, foals are recommended to be dewormed twice for ascarids during their first year of life. At 2-3 months of age, we recommend deworming with a fenbendazole dewormer (brands include Panacur paste or Safe-Guard paste). At 5 months of age, the foal should be dewormed with an oxibendazole dewormer (Anthelcide paste).

A fecal egg count should be performed at 5-6 months of age to monitor ascarid levels and determine if additional deworming will be necessary.

At 6-9 months of age foals should be dewormed for strongyles and tapeworms. This should be a product that includes ivermectin or moxidectin, and praziquantel (brands include Equimax, Zimecterin Gold, and Quest Plus).

### **Vaccines:**

All foals are required to be vaccinated for Rabies. In addition, we strongly recommend vaccinating foals that live in the northeast United States against the following diseases: Tetanus, Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE), Western equine encephalitis (WEE), West Nile virus (WNV), Botulism, Potomac horse fever (PHF), Influenza (Flu), and Rhinopneumonitis/EHV (Rhino). The recommended vaccination schedule is as follows:

2 months old: Botulism #1 booster

3 months old: Botulism #2 booster

4 months old: Botulism #3 booster, Flu/Rhino #1

5 months old: Core EQ vaccine (includes Rabies, EEE/WEE, Tetanus, and WNV), Flu/Rhino #2, PHF #1

6 months: Core EQ vaccine (Rabies #2, EWT #2, WNV #2), PHF #2

12 months: EWT #3, WNV #3, Flu/Rhino #3

**\*\*This schedule can be adjusted according to the foal's specific needs and travel requirements\*\***

