



Donkey Worm Control

Though similar to horses in many ways, donkeys have many unique characteristics, and parasites are no exception.

Donkeys are affected by strongyles (Round worm) and tapeworm, just like horses, but there are two other significant parasites

Lungworm

Donkeys, unlike horses, can carry the full lifecycle. Healthy donkeys rarely develop clinical signs but in horses infection can cause severe coughing. A 'zero tolerance' approach should be taken to Lungworm as once established eradication can be a lengthy process.

Fluke

Donkeys grazing wet, marshy paddocks are at risk of liver fluke, and may be at particular risk if grazed with other infected livestock (e.g. sheep or cattle).

Parasite control is about far more than just worming. Targeted worm control provides a tailor made approach designed by our vets, taking into account your individual donkeys needs. With resistance to wormers (where previously effective wormers no longer kill the worms) increasing it is essential that we reduce our reliance on them.

For donkeys we advise three dung samples to be examined every year, with strongyles evaluated in each and both Fluke and Lungworm to be assessed in one of these samples (spring or autumn). A new donkey should have a full screen on arrival.

Kits can be collected from the surgery and our equine vets will tailor your programme.

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