



# Gillivervet Ltd.

## Newsletter

[www.gillivervet.co.uk](http://www.gillivervet.co.uk)

Tel: 01257 483161



September

2012



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## Dentistry Month

Oral health is very important for horses of all ages and here at Gillivervet we prefer to take a proactive approach rather than waiting for problems to occur.

Modern equine dentistry requires our vets to perform a thorough oral exam of your horse every 6 – 12 months. Our fully trained team of vets can then recommend any dental treatment and perform the necessary work using our fully equipped modern dental equipment.

We are now offering free dental checks at every annual vaccination (any treatment required will be charged for) and in **September & October we are offering 10% off all dental treatment performed at Garwood when paid for at the time.** In order for our vets to perform a thorough oral exam we often need to sedate your horse which allows for a much more detailed examination and can allow our vets to notice the very early signs of tooth decay and gum disease. We are pleased to offer an all in fee for any dental work inclusive of any sedation required.

**Manual Rasp including sedation - £45**

**Power Rasp including sedation - £60**

For more information about any of these exciting offers please contact our reception staff or speak to one of our vets at the next visit.

## Weaning Foals

Weaning is an important time and the whole process should be done with as little stress and trauma as possible. Weaning is usually done between 5 – 7 months & occasionally earlier. Early weaning may be indicated if the foal is growing too fast or the mare is being pulled down and losing excessive condition.

Ideally the foal should have been introduced to some hard feed and be happily eating grass, hay or haylage.

If the foal is male then castration may be done whilst the foal is still on the mare, the whole operation seems to be less stressful and he can then be weaned a couple of weeks later.

Abrupt weaning is generally favoured with complete separation, this may involve the mare being moved off the yard so that she is out of earshot of the foal.

On the day of weaning the stable should be prepared ready for the foal, well bedded, plentiful hay and water and a top door that can be shut for the first few days until the foal settles. The mare and foal are placed in the stable and the mare taken out and the top door closed.

Ideally the mare should be stabled with no hard feed and reduced water (3/4 of a bucket twice daily) and exercised. Alternatively the mare can be turned out on a bare paddock. Weaned mares should be checked twice daily to ensure the udder is not hard, lumpy or hot which may indicate mastitis and require veterinary attention. **DO NOT MILK MARES AFTER WEANING**, this will encourage further milk production as pressure within the udder suppresses lactation.

The foal once settled can be partnered with a friend so they can be turned out and start their adult routine. Exercise is important to ensure correct skeletal development. Weanling nutrition is paramount and will affect the foal for the rest of its life. Overfeeding & excessive weight gain has disastrous effects, causing growth disorders. Ideally the weanling should be fed a Stud Balancer and have access to quality roughage. Stud Balancers provide all the nutrients (vitamins, minerals, trace elements & amino acids) that they require to develop healthy tissues, joints and bones without overloading them with excess calories and placing too much weight on immature joints & causing subsequent growth problems.



## Laminitis Prevention

Current evidence suggests that up to 90% of horses that have a history of laminitis have an underline hormonal condition. The two most common types of hormonal disorders are Equine Cushings Disease (otherwise know as PPID) and Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS). This means that many cases of laminitis are preventable and unless these conditions can be diagnosed by performing a simple blood test and once diagnosed are both treatable. For more information about the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of these conditions please speak to one of our vets at your next visit or call the practice for an informal chat.

### Visits from the Vet

If you need to book a visit from one of our vets, please can we remind you of the following:

1. Please have your contact number to hand when you ring to make your booking.
2. Please ensure you have your phone with you on the day of the visit.
3. Please ensure your phone is turned on & you are able to answer it on the day of the visit.

Our vets often struggle to contact clients to inform them of an arrival time for their visit, please help us to give you a better service by following the above.



## EQUITOP MYOPLAST

### New supplement promises muscles without hassles

We all know how hard it can be to keep condition on horses as we enter the winter months – especially those with an increased protein requirement. Too many concentrates and oils, and they get fat and fizzy.

That's why we're pleased to be able to introduce **Equitop® Myoplast Power Pearls** from Boehringer Ingelheim into the practice. Equitop Myoplast is packed with 18 key amino acids, including 8 essential amino acids, which your horse requires in its diet.

Scientifically designed to support lean muscle growth, Equitop Myoplast is great for optimising performance in horses in intensive training and competition, as well as bringing on young, breeding, or recuperating animals, and for older horses which lose condition easily.

Equitop Myoplast is endorsed by top British show jumper, Ellen Whitaker from the Whitaker show jumping dynasty, who feeds the product to the horses on her yard, including the power jumper Ladina B:

“I feed Equitop Myoplast to Ladina B- She is an out and out power jumping horse. Since using Equitop Myoplast, her muscle definition and stamina has improved and she is jumping with more scope than ever!”

Equitop Myoplast is available in a 1.5kg tub, which should last a 500kg horse approximately one month. In order to celebrate the launch of the product, clients of the practice can download a voucher from [www.equitop-myoplast.co.uk](http://www.equitop-myoplast.co.uk) offering a £15 rebate against their first purchase of Equitop Myoplast – where you can also get more information about the product as well as hearing Ellen Whitaker speak more about her experiences using it.

For further information or to purchase Equitop Myoplast, please contact the practice on **01257 483161**.

*Please Contact . . .*

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