



Gillivervet Ltd.

Newsletter

www.gillivervet.co.uk

Tel: 01257 483161



SPRING

2011



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We are delighted to announce that Gillivervet has been Approved as a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Practice Standards Scheme.



As an accredited practice, we have passed an inspection carried out by an experienced veterinary surgeon focusing on a range of areas, including hygiene, health & safety, clinical governance and the facilities we provide, to name just a few of the many criteria.

The practice will be re inspected every four years and we will be subject to spot checks in the meantime, so we have to keep on our toes.

The Practice Standards Scheme is a voluntary initiative – not all practices are part of it yet. RCVS accreditation means that as a client you can rest assured that our practice offers a high quality of care – in those bits of the practice you can see – and those you can't.

Spring Client Evening

Laminitis - No Holes Barred

Come along to our Spring Client Evening on 7th April 2011 with World Class Speakers

Dr Catherine McGowan BVSc, MACVSc, DEIM, PhD, FHEA, MRCVS

Mr Andrew Poynton FWCF

Louise Jones BSc- Nutritionist with Dodson & Horrell

The evening will be followed by question & answer time – which is your opportunity to ask the panel those questions you have yet to be answered!

The evening starts at 7.30pm at Shaw Hill Golf Country Club, A6, Whittle le Woods, Nr Chorley, PR6 7PP

All are welcome but please ring the office to book your place as Places will be on a strictly first come first served basis.

Sponsored By:



Breeding & Studwork

Spring is just around the corner and mare owners may be thinking about the forthcoming stud season. Whether you are thinking of natural covering or artificial insemination we can help. Gillivervet is a British Equine Veterinary Association approved centre for Artificial Insemination using fresh, chilled or frozen semen. We have "Stud Packages" in place which are optional schemes where the mare owner pays in advance a "one off" fee to cover routine scanning, drugs and fertility treatment for up to 3 breeding cycles. These schemes can be used whether the mare is visiting one of our stud owner clients or here at Garwood.

As mares are required to have had a clitoral swab and blood tests done before going to stud it is necessary to get the wheels in motion in plenty of time. At Garwood we are able to provide excellent stabling for mares with or without a foal at foot.

If anyone is interested in putting their mare/mares in foal this year please ring the practice and we can explain the different procedures and packages we have to offer.

BREED FEATURE

The Gypsy Cob

The Traditional Gypsy Cob has a history that is uncertain as no official records were kept.

One of the most honest, hard working and gentle breeds of horse in the world today.

Bred for generations solely in the UK and Ireland by Romany Gypsy Traveller folk for their temperament, stamina, strength and versatility.

They have gradually found their way into the hearts of many a horse lover who recognise their practicality and adaptability, coupled with the intelligence suitability for many modern day equine disciplines.

Many a traditional cob can be found competing at dressage, pulling a wagon, doing a sponsored ride or at the highest level shows.



Equine Cushing's Disease

Equine Cushing's disease is a very common condition seen in older horses and ponies. It occurs due to degeneration of a gland in the brain, this leads to over production of hormones such as ACTH and cortisol. It is uncommon for horses under 15 years old to develop Cushing's disease. The most common symptoms include a long curly coat, increased drinking and urinating, increased appetite, excessive sweating and recurrent bouts of laminitis. Other symptoms include loss of muscle tone, fat pads above the eyes, recurrent infections and a pot bellied appearance. It is common to see only one or two of these symptoms. Diagnosis can sometimes be made purely based on the clinical signs, in younger animals or those displaying fewer signs, a blood test is required. Cushing's disease in horses is treated with a drug called pergolide, this is taken as a tablet once daily. In the past horses were treated with the human form of the drug, using a prescription from their vets. There is now an equine version available called Prascend, due to licensing laws we can no longer provide prescriptions for human pergolide but you can buy Prascend directly from your vet. You can also increase the comfort of a horse with Cushing's by clipping it's coat and having it's feet trimmed



You can find more details on prascend at
www.prascend.co.uk

Foal IGG Testing

We recommend testing newborn foals when over 18hrs to 56hrs old to check their IgG status. The IgG is the antibodies the foal receives from the mare's colostrum immediately after birth and gives protection to the foal. We advise checking all foals as you cannot guarantee that the colostrum is of good quality or sometimes that the foal has suckled sufficiently.

The most important foals to check are the at risk foals this is when the mare has ran milk >12hrs before foaling or where the foal struggles to suckle or has taken over 6hrs to first feed also premature foals or those born to maiden mares.

The test involves taking a blood sample that we can test at our practice. We get a positive or negative result and if the test result is negative we will then give the foal a plasma transfusion. For further information see the case report on our website www.gillivervet.co.uk

Health Plans

We are pleased to announce that we are launching some new horse health plans. The plans are designed to enable you to plan out your horses' preventative health care over a twelve month period. There are four plans to choose from, ranging from catering for just their vaccinations and routine dental care to vaccinations, routine dental care including sedation, worming tests, blood tests and health evaluation. Each plan includes a full clinical examination, lameness evaluation, condition scoring, dietary advice and health certificate. The different plans thus enable you to choose the right level of care you require at a budget that suits your needs. You can pay on a monthly basis by direct debit or take advantage of a 10% discount off the price if they are paid for in full at the start of the 12 month period. For further information and full details please have a look on our website: www.gillivervet.co.uk



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Please Contact...