

Painted Pony Equine Service

Spring Newsletter 2008



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Health Certificates—WI to MN and Vice Versa

- ❖ As of July 2007, horses coming **TO** Wisconsin **FROM** Minnesota for less than seven days and for the purpose of recreation or show **DO NOT** need a health certificate provided that the horse has a current negative 2008 Coggin's test and ownership does not change in the seven days. In WI, a Coggin's is valid for a calendar year only, therefore, Coggin's tests done in 2007 are not valid in WI. Breed associations or shows *may still require* a health certificate for their event. Check before you travel!
- ❖ Horses going **TO** Minnesota **FROM** Wisconsin **DO NOT** need a health certificate for participation in trail rides, exhibitions and horse shows. A health certificate is required for any other reason. The horse must have a current negative Coggin's within 12 months of the entry date.
- ❖ If you are traveling to any other state, you must meet that state's requirements for entry, the minimum usually being a current Coggin's and a health certificate.

Young Horses Need Dentals, Too!

Starting a young horse this spring? Be sure to have its teeth floated before you start using any kind of bit. Young horses can have MORE dental issues than some of the middle aged ones. Most young horses have wolf teeth—a small tooth in front of the first cheek tooth on the top. Usually horses have two—one on each side, although some horses only have one and some have none. This tiny tooth can cause a lot of aggravation because it can be very sharp and pointy and can pinch the lip between it and the bit. I've removed some wolf teeth that have been fractured by overzealous rein handling—ouch! Young horses also lose baby teeth between one and five years of age. The new teeth coming in can be very sharp and can lacerate the inside of the mouth causing pain and problems eating. Often, small sharp pieces of baby tooth can be found stuck in the gums. These are also painful to the horse and need to be removed. A huge amount of discomfort, pain, behavioral issues and trouble eating can be attributed to dental problems. Having your young horse floated regularly assures that its mouth will be comfortable and will help keep your horse's attention on your training and not on its mouth pain.



JOINT SUPPLEMENTS SIMPLIFIED!

WHO HASN'T LOOKED AT THE MYRIAD OF JOINT SUPPLEMENTS AVAILABLE FOR HORSES AND BEEN CONFUSED AND OVERWHELMED? HUNDREDS ARE AVAILABLE AS PELLETS, POWDERS AND LIQUIDS WITH NUMEROUS COMBINATIONS OF INGREDIENTS AND A HUGE DIFFERENTIATION OF AMOUNTS OF ACTIVE INGREDIENTS. WHICH ONE TO BUY IS A COMMON QUESTION.

THE THREE BASIC INGREDIENTS THAT YOU WANT ARE: GLUCOSAMINE, CHONDROITIN AND MSM. CHOOSE A SUPPLEMENT THAT HAS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF EACH OF THESE PER DOSE. IF YOU ARE COMPARING PRODUCTS, BE SURE TO COMPARE EACH PRODUCT AT A STANDARD DOSE SUCH AS ONE OUNCE (GET OUT YOUR CALCULATOR FOR THIS ONE!). THERE IS NO STANDARDIZATION AMONG PRODUCTS FOR THE AMOUNT TO GIVE YOUR HORSE FOR ONE SERVING. FOR SOME PRODUCTS, AN OUNCE IS A SERVING OTHERS MAY BE 2 OUNCES, 1/3 OUNCE, ETC. COMPARING THEM ALL AT THE SAME MEASURE CAN HELP YOU CHOOSE ONE WITH HIGH LEVELS OF ACTIVE INGREDIENTS.

Vaccinations

The AAEP (American Association of Equine Practitioners) has recently updated their vaccine recommendations for both adult horses and foals, and it's recommended that ALL vaccinations programs be developed in consultation with a veterinarian.

Adult Core Vaccines:

WHICH HORSES MAY BENEFIT FROM SUPPLEMENTS? NEARLY ALL OF THEM. YOUNG HORSES; HORSES IN TRAINING OF ANY KIND; HORSE BEING RIDDEN AT ANY LEVEL; HORSES THAT ARE COMPETING HEAVILY AND/OR COMPETING IN STRESSFUL EVENTS SUCH AS REINING, ROPING, JUMPING, DRESSAGE, EVENTING; HORSES THAT HAVE ALREADY SUSTAINED INJURIES OR THAT HAVE A TENDENCY TO BE GENERALLY STIFF/SORE; HORSES THAT HAVE HAD SURGERY ON ANY JOINT; AND ALL OLDER HORSES, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT HAVE ARTHRITIS AND ANY DEGREE OF CHRONIC LAMENESS.

WHAT DO GLUCOSAMINE, CHONDROITIN AND MSM DO? THEY CAN HELP MAINTAIN HEALTHY CARILAGE AND JOINT FLUID; CAN DECREASE THE INFLAMMATORY RESPONSE IN JOINTS, CAN DECREASE DAMAGE FROM JOINT INFLAMMATION; CAN MAKE YOUR HORSE MORE COMFORTABLE AND DECREASE STIFFNESS; AND CAN HELP DECREASE THE AMOUNT OF BUTE OR OTHER ANTI-INFLAMMATORY IT MAY NEED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SUPPLEMENT.

TO CUT DOWN ON THE MATH FOR YOU, THE FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTS HAVE THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE THREE INGREDIENTS OF INTEREST (ALL ARE FROM CATALOGS/WEBSITES FROM THE COMPANIES LISTED BELOW— NOT ALL OF THE STORES MAY HAVE ALL OF THESE PRODUCTS, SO YOU'LL STILL NEED TO SHOP AROUND): HYLASPORT, JOINT DISCOVERY EQ II (PAINTED PONY EQUINE CARRIES THIS PRODUCT), REISPORT, REISPORT HA, SMARTFLEX III-ULTRA, SMARTFLEX REPAIR, SMARTFLEX SENIOR, AND TRI-SPORT. SOME OF THESE HAVE ADDITIONAL INGREDIENTS THAT YOU MAY BE LOOKING FOR SUCH AS YUCCA, VITAMIN C, ETC.

WHERE DO YOU GET JOINT SUPPLEMENTS? UNITED VET EQUINE, COUNTRY VET SUPPLY, STATE LINE TACK, SMART PAK EQUINE, ETC. ARE GOOD PLACES TO START PRICE SHOPPING. ALL HAVE WEBSITES AND CATALOGS. EVEN THOUGH SOME PRODUCTS ARE EXPENSIVE, YOU GET MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK (HIGHER QUALITY INGREDIENTS THAT ARE IN A FORM THAT YOUR HORSE'S BODY IS ABLE TO USE INSTEAD TRAVELING STRAIGHT THROUGH AND COMING OUT THE BACK END) IF YOU PURCHASE WELL-KNOWN BRANDS IN THE MID TO HIGHER PRICE RANGES.

WHILE THIS ISN'T AN ALL-INCLUSIVE DISCUSSION OF EVERY JOINT SUPPLEMENT OUT THERE, IT SHOULD GIVE YOU INFORMATION TO HELP CHOOSE A PRODUCT TO GET YOU STARTED. HORSES DO NOT RESPOND IDENTICALLY TO SUPPLEMENTS! SOME ARE GREATLY IMPROVED, WHILE YOU MAY NOT NOTICE A DIFFERENCE IN OTHERS. PICK A SUPPLEMENT AND TRY IT FOR A MONTH OR TWO. IF YOU DON'T THINK IT'S HELPING, CHOOSE ANOTHER ONE AND TRY IT. PALATABILITY CAN BE AN ISSUE FOR SOME HORSES. SOME COMPANIES WILL ACCEPT RETURNS IF YOUR HORSE WON'T EAT THEIR PRODUCT. CHECK BEFORE YOU BUY.

WILL SUPPLEMENTATION ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR MEDICATION? NO. YOU WILL STILL LIKELY NEED OTHER ANTI-INFLAMMATORY MEDICATION FOR HORSES WITH INJURIES AND CHRONIC INFLAMMATION, BUT MAY BE ABLE TO USE LESS AND GIVE IT LESS OFTEN, IF YOUR HORSE RESPONDS FAVORABLY TO A SUPPLEMENT.

Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE)
Tetanus

West Nile Virus (WNV)
Rabies

**EEE/WEE/tetanus/WNV are available in one vaccine. Rabies is separate.

Adult Non-core Vaccines

Equine Herpesvirus (EHV)
Influenza (flu)
Strangles
Potomac Horse Fever (PHF)
Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA)
Rotavirus
Botulism
Anthrax

Foal Core Vaccines:

****Please call for assistance in determining the appropriate vaccination protocol for your foal.*

Same as for adult horses, but booster shots will be necessary and the age at which vaccinations are started differ depending on whether or not the mare was vaccinated.

Foal Non-core Vaccines:

Equine Herpesvirus (EHV)
Influenza
EVA-colts only
Botulism
PHF
Strangles

Call or email to receive a copy of the complete vaccination guidelines.



Blanketing

It's that time of year when it can be hard to determine whether your horse's blanket should be on or off. Putting a blanket on a horse is a necessity when:

- There is no shelter available and air temperature OR windchill are below 0 degrees.
- The horse may become wet with ice or rain during freezing/cold temperatures or windchills.
- The horse has been body clipped or trace clipped or is missing hair for any other reason (surgery, skin infection, etc.)
- The horse is very young.
- The horse is not used to the cold (came up from down south or usually lives in a heated barn).

If your horse is stand around and is wet with sweat under the blanket, take it off or replace it with one that's lighter weight. Take blankets off daily to brush your horse and check for rubbing or sores cause by the blanket. Only put clean, dry blankets that fit correctly on your horse. Use water-resistant outdoor blankets for outside use. Indoor stable blankets usually aren't water-resistant and are often not tailored to allow for extra coverage or extra movement. Horses are starting to shed, so it won't be long before you can wash and pack up your winter blankets for a few months!

Painted Pony Equine Service now accepts VISA, Mastercard, Discovery and American Express cards.

New Painted Pony Equine Website Available!

Information about Painted Pony Equine Service is now available online at paintedponyvet.com. The site lists services provided to horses, dogs, and cats; contact information; helpful links; news and educational articles; and the current newsletter. If you have recommendations for



improvements, please email me:
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CAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE—
CHECK THE NEW WEBSITE OR
CALL THE CLINIC FOR MORE
INFORMATION.

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IF YOUR DOG OR CAT NEEDS ITS
VACCINATIONS UPDATED OR IF
YOU NEED DEWORMER, FLEA
AND TICK PREVENTATIVE OR
HEARTWORM PREVENTATIVE,
PLEASE LET ME KNOW IN
ADVANCE, SO I CAN BE SURE TO
HAVE ENOUGH PRODUCT IN THE
CAR DURING YOUR EQUINE
APPOINTMENT. OTHER DOG AND