



USE OF CHEMICAL WORMING PRODUCTS FORMS ONLY A PART OF EFFECTIVE WORM CONTROL

It may be necessary to worm your donkeys although it is important to understand that the use of chemical worming products forms only a part of effective worm control. Donkey owners should always speak to their own vet to work out a suitable programme depending on variable factors such as the type of pasture management, number of donkeys etc.

Rotating paddocks will give the land a rest. Ideally, although rarely possible, pasture should be rested for at least 12 months especially if the land has become badly cut up or damaged. Using cattle or sheep to graze the donkeys pasture will also help to minimise any worm burden, as the majority of equine worms do not survive a ruminant's digestive system and vice versa.

DOES MY DONKEY NEED WORMING?

To avoid the unnecessary use of worming products and help prevent the build-up of chemical resistance in worms The Donkey Sanctuary's preferred method is for owners to take a sample of fresh dung from the ground, taken from centre of pile so not contaminated, and have a faecal egg count done. Your vet can then advise if worming is required and if so with what. The dung sample can only give an idea of what the egg count is on the day it is taken and the test also does not give results for tapeworm, lungworm or encysted or developing Redworms. However, it does help in devising a suitable worming programme. Donkey Sanctuary Foster Owners can get this check done free of charge. Private owners can arrange a faecal count through their own vet or obtain a kit from some saddlers or online. The kits start at around £7.50 at the time of writing.

N.B Samples need to be packaged and sent in accordance with Post Office regulations regarding the posting of hazardous materials.

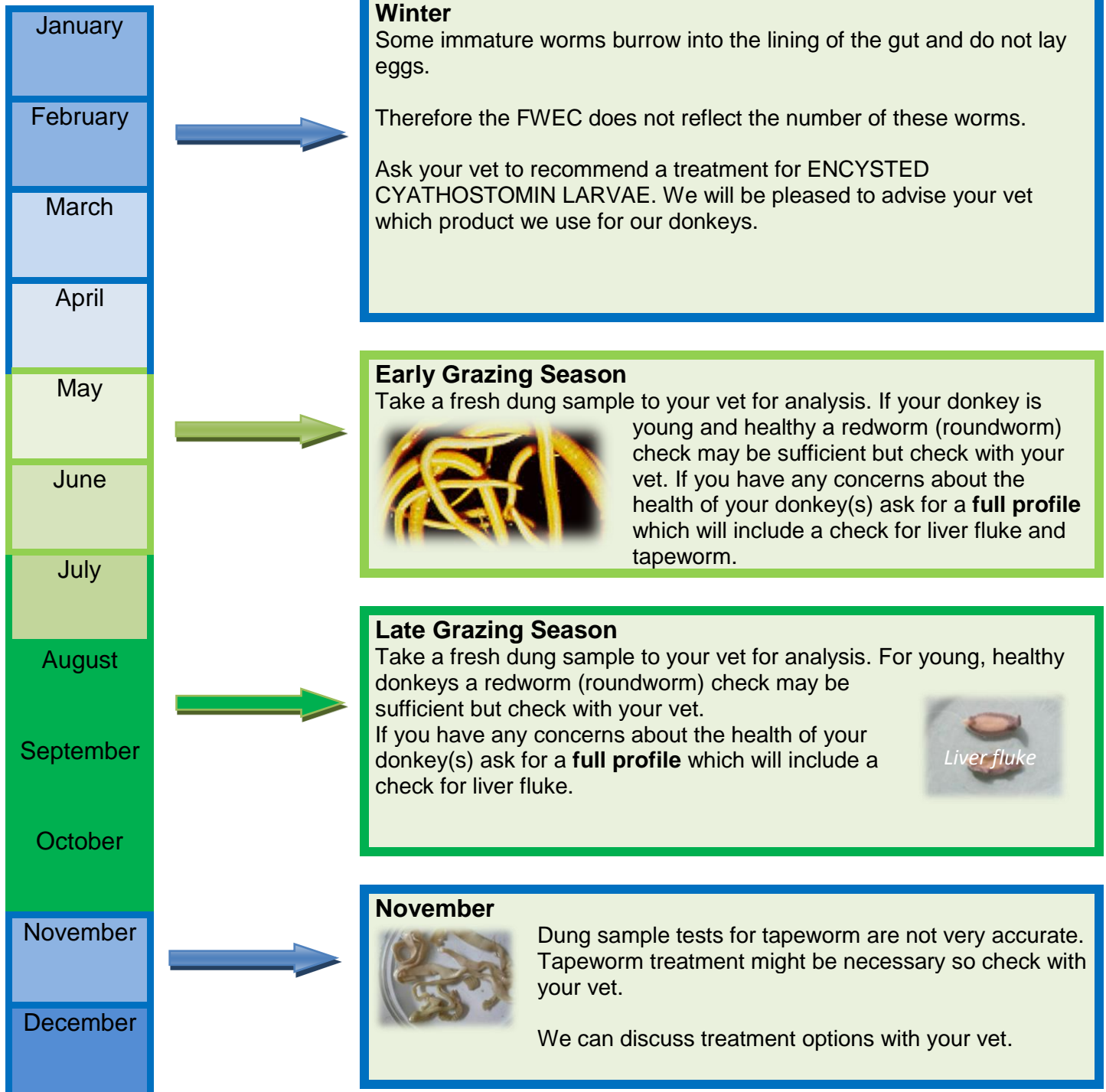
Faecal egg counts should ideally be done four times year.

No one particular wormer will control all types of equine worms. There are only a few types of drug but many different brands and this can make things very complicated. Another reason to discuss worming with the vet!

Ensure you use the weight measurement chart to ascertain the donkeys' weight in order to give the correct dosage as under dosing can influence the effectiveness of the drug over a period of time. At the Sanctuary we round up to the nearest 50kg. Special care must be taken with very young donkeys.

****PLEASE NOTE THAT EQUINE WORMERS ARE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS TO DOGS. ENSURE THAT, AS WITH ANY DRUG OR MEDICATION, THEY ARE KEPT OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN AND ANIMALS. WHEN WORMING THE DONKEYS IT IS ADVISABLE TO KEEP CHILDREN AND DOGS AWAY FROM THE AREA. TAKE GREAT CARE WHEN DISPOSING OF THE CONTAINERS.***

THE DONKEY DE-WORMING DIARY FOR OWNERS



Please remember! Different rules apply to sick donkeys, pregnant and lactating mares and foals.

We are always happy to offer advice to your vet.

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THE DONKEY SANCTUARY

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The Donkey Sanctuary was founded by Dr Elisabeth Svendsen MBE in 1969.

The Donkey Sanctuary (registered charity number 264818) and its sole corporate trustee, The Donkey Sanctuary Trustee Limited (Company number 07328588) both have their registered office at Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, EX10 0NU.

Incorporating: The Elisabeth Svendsen Trust for Children and Donkeys (EST); The International Donkey Protection Trust (IDPT).

WORKING WORLDWIDE