

Horse health throughout the year

Standardized Blood Tests: Asking your vet to take a blood sample and have it analyzed is a good idea for every owner of a high-performance horse or whenever a horse seems to be a little off-color. Blood tests can help you to make sure your horse is not suffering from any food imbalances or health issues.



Deworming: There are several methods to get rid of parasites in your horse's guts. Today, veterinarians recommend selective deworming, which means constantly monitoring a horse population through fecal egg counts and dosing horses with a high count. Very effective, but also rather complicated - ask your vet for advice!

Vaccinations: Tetanus shots are a simple necessity for every horse - failing to protect your horse against this deadly infection is an animal welfare issue! Other shots can be necessary according to the living circumstances of the individual horse. Horses on the show circuit require more vaccinations according to individual rules.



Clipping: It is better to clip than to let your horse sweat excessively. Especially horses kept in open barns grow a heavy coat in the winter and may need to be clipped if they are worked during the cold months because otherwise their thick coat may lead to circulatory problems and excessive sweating. Clip the bottom side of your horses belly and neck in October and again in late winter or early spring, if necessary, and help him get rid of all the extra heat!

Shedding: While your horse is shedding its old and growing its new coat it may need your help. Support it with feeding linseed, brewer's yeast or other special products and reduce your training somewhat for about six to eight weeks.



Hoof care and shoeing: Choose the hoof care your horse wants and needs - some horses can be kept barefoot, others may need horseshoes, hoof boots or corrective shoeing. Regular trimming and shoeing is essential, with correct intervals ranging from four to six weeks for barefoot hoofs to six to eight weeks for horseshoes.



My advice: Use your TC Planner and your TC Stickers to organize your appointments with your vet or farrier - making sure you never miss an important date or deadline and streamlining training and showing!

