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There is recent thought that the old deworming strategy every 6-8 weeks is over-exposing parasites to the dewormers. Our dry summers and cold winters also allow us to decrease the frequency of deworming. My recommendation is to deworm four times a year, making it a more seasonal approach.

Horses that live in confined dry lots may need to be wormed more frequently. Fecal exams (floatations) are a good way to evaluate if your deworming program is working.

I like to see a rotation through three different classes of dewormers as described below.

### **Recommended Dewormers**

**Ivermectin:** Eqvalan, Zimectrin, Equell, Equimax (praziquantel combo)

**Benzimidazoles:** Panacur, Safeguard

**Pyrantel:** Strongid

### **Adult Horses**

Spring (April-May)	Ivermectin
Summer (July-Aug)	Pyrantel or Benzimidazole
Fall (Oct-Nov)	Ivermectin
Winter (Jan-Feb)	Pyrantel or Benzimidazole

### **Foals and Weanlings**

Ascarids (roundworms) are the major parasite problem seen in young horses. The first deworming should be given at 6-8 weeks of age and that schedule should be maintained until one year of age. Strongid paste should be used until six months of age, and then alternate between a Strongid and an Ivermectin wormer. If the first deworming is given after 10 weeks of age, give half the indicated dose and then follow in one week with a full dose. This is done to avoid impactions caused by the die off of a large number of adult ascarids.