



Sugar Hill Spotlight



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Tidbits

Horse Tapeworms

Horse tapeworms are different than the tapeworms found in most animals, including man. Rather than being composed of long chains of segments, horse tapeworms are pumpkin-seed-shaped parasites roughly 1-inch and 1/2-inch wide. They have four suckers that enable them to attach to the horse's intestinal lining where they absorb nutrients.

Horse tapeworms are also unique in that they require an intermediate host, the forage mite, to complete their life cycles. Immature stages of the tapeworm are passed with manure onto the pasture, where the forage mites ingest them. The immature tapeworms develop within the body cavity of the mite, the tapeworm is released and develops into an adult that attaches to the horse's intestine. Tapeworm eggs are passed in the horse's feces when body segments are either absorbed or disintegrated before being excreted from the horse, tapeworm eggs are never seen in the horse's manure.

AAEP

Bits of Information

9/7 Labor Day

Have a safe holiday!

Good luck to students going back to school!!

Wow! The weather has certainly made us think summer is almost over already, hasn't it? While we have enjoyed our vacations and time off from school, the month of September often brings new routines for our riding lessons, mine included. This past month has been very busy here at the farm. We have a number of new lesson students, both adult and younger.

We have welcomed Sarah, from right around the corner. The fact that she has her own horses at home has provided her with a great foundation on which to improve her skills. She is riding English, and as I watch her from my office, I can see her working very hard! Cindy and Elizabeth both seem to be enjoying the barn and the horses as often as their schedules allow. While Cindy was traveling, Elizabeth has made extra visits to bring peppermints to her special lesson horse.

Emily and Sidney enjoyed lessons as a special treat from their Grandpa. Keira and Alisha spent time here in lessons while on their summer vacations and we hope to see them again-even if we have to wait until next summer! Kylie, Arianna and Casey also spent time with Dynamo, Tu-Sann, Khann Do and Nemo.

I would like to take a minute to thank someone who remains behind the scene here at the farm. The cool temperatures and all the rain has kept our facility manager, Tom, extremely busy this summer. In addition to receiving all the feed and bedding for the horses, Tom is the man who keeps the farm looking so beautiful! He cares for the trees and landscape and he mows and trims the lawns and pastures. He repairs the pasture and paddock fences for the horses too. He single handedly provides our first beautiful glimpse of the barns as we approach the farm. Thank you Tom for all that you do for the horses and for all of us two-legged people who enjoy the farm! The property looks amazing!

The horses and foals are all doing well. The pregnant mares are enjoying the lush grasses of their pastures while the younger horses are beginning some ground schooling in preparation for their show careers. I guess it is just about the same as usual. Everyone is healthy and happy, which is as it should be!

More next month...

Betsy

Jessie, one of our accomplished students, and her friend Nemo!



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