

**IN THE NEWS - Lameness continues to be a problem for nation's horses**

A recent survey carried out by the Blue Cross, the National Equine Health Survey (NEHS), has revealed lameness to be the most common syndrome affecting horses and ponies in the UK. The survey carried out in 2013 attracted many more respondents than previous years. The survey revealed that 18.6% of horses were suffering from lameness in one way or another. The predominant cause reported was degenerative joint disease. The prevalence shows a 5% increase on figures obtained in 2012, which showed lameness as the second most recorded condition, below skin disease. The NEHS is now an annual fixture which aims to produce an online snapshot of common health issues in horses reported directly from owners. Support is growing and participation is up so please register for the next survey through the Blue Cross website. [www.bluecross.org.uk](http://www.bluecross.org.uk). This year's results can be found on the website and downloaded which makes for interesting reading!

Source: British Equine Veterinary Association

**Coming Soon**

In the next few months our website

[www.barnvets.com](http://www.barnvets.com)

will be having a revamp. Keep checking the site which will soon have a dedicated equine page.

Remember to find us on Facebook as well!

**Are you worried about Cushing's Disease?**

During the months of September/October/November, Boehringer Ingelheim are offering **free** Cushing's tests again. A number of clients took advantage of this offer earlier in the year and a number of new Cushing's cases were confirmed. If you would like to book in for the free test, please ring reception. Please note, all other charges will be as normal.

Why not book in on your zone day?!

**The Barn Veterinary Practice  
Equine Newsletter****New Look for our Equine Vets and Nurses**

You may have seen us out and about in them already but our vets and nurses who go out to see our equine clients have brand new Barn Veterinary Practice *Musto* jackets. The jackets were kindly sponsored by Norbrook, who manufacture a number of equine products we use. Unfortunately, we're all hoping for a bit of rain so we can wear them, who knew the British Summer could last so long?! We have also taken delivery of some rather smart *Musto* body warmers, kindly sponsored by Merial who provide our vaccines and some of our wormers. They should make doing dentals in the snow a bit more bearable! Our thanks go to both companies for their continuing support.

**New Equine App****Have you tried Pfizer's brilliant new iPhone App for horse owners?**

Pfizer Animal Health, manufacturer of the market leading equine wormers EQUEST® & EQUEST PRAMOX®, has created Stable Mate, a ground-breaking App that makes it easy for you to manage your horse's daily equine healthcare regime as well as have maximum fun with your horse.

**A virtual stable**

Stable Mate delivers a virtual stable on your phone for up to six horses. The user simply fills in all the pertinent information needed to keep track of each horse's health routine, including worm control, vaccinations, dentistry, farriery and feeding regime. The App then automatically creates a calendar of events, appointments and reminders to make it easy for you to keep their horse's essential healthcare needs on course, at a glance.

**Easy information share**

Horse records can be quickly and easily shared making a temporary transfer of care very straightforward and convenient. Stable Mate also enables you to brush up on general equine health advice whenever you need to, from the essentials of pasture management to understanding vaccination protocols.

**Track My Ride**

Track My Ride is a GPS navigation system that allows you to map the route, duration and speed of each ride. It's a great device to help plan and monitor exercise programmes. It can also be used to help explore new hacking routes safely and to find your way home. Details of each ride are stored in a history log and can be easily shared through social media.

Stable Mate also provides speedy access to the latest equestrian news, direct from *Horse & Hound* to make sure you stay up-to-date with all the important stories in the horse world.

Stable Mate is currently available only for iPhone with Android and Blackberry coming soon.

It's available free from the iPhone App Store <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/stable-mate/id532341393?ls=1&mt=8>. To find out more visit [www.wormingyourhorse.info](http://www.wormingyourhorse.info).

**Zone Day Reminder**

(Wednesdays)

Week One - South Zone  
Week Two - West Zone  
Week Three - North Zone  
Week Four - East Zone  
Week Five - No Zone Visits

**[barnequine.copdock@zen.co.uk](mailto:barnequine.copdock@zen.co.uk)  
01473 730213**

## November Vaccination Amnesty Would you like a free vaccination?



As a practice, we are keen to highlight the benefits of vaccinating your horse(s) against Equine Influenza (Flu). To get you 'Back on Track®' with flu vaccination we are pleased to offer you a flu vaccine amnesty kindly sponsored by Merial Animal Health who provide our flu vaccines. We chose this vaccine because it contains the latest flu virus strains which offer your horse the most up to date protection. Any horse that is older than 12 months of age that has not been vaccinated against flu or that needs to re-start the vaccination course can now have the second vaccine of the primary course for free.\*

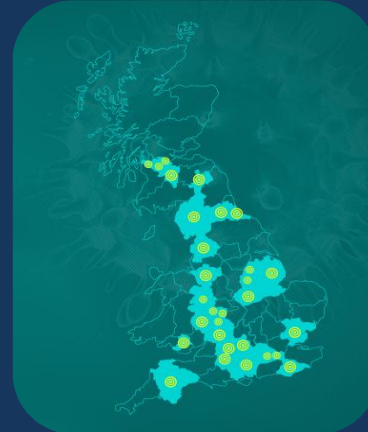
Equine flu is both extremely infectious and contagious and so the best way of stopping both your horse and other horses from becoming infected is to vaccinate. As a disease the signs of flu can vary from a few days of running a high temperature accompanied by the classic snotty nose and harsh dry cough, to serious life-threatening infections especially in young foals.

"Why should I vaccinate?" I hear you cry. Firstly your horse will feel exactly the same as we do when we have the flu – rotten. Also, in becoming infected your horse stands a real chance of infecting many others with the virus. Finally, as you are all probably aware, to compete your horse you will need an up to date passport demonstrating your horse's up to date vaccination status.

The benefits of vaccination were demonstrated very publicly during the 2007 Australian Equine Influenza outbreak. The horse population in Australia had never been exposed to equine flu before and as such, no horses had been vaccinated. Some infected horses entered an Australian quarantine station near Sydney and the virus escaped. The infection spread rapidly and a total of 76,000 horses became infected, located on more than 10,000 premises throughout Queensland and New South Wales. Vaccination, along with the restriction of horse movement, stopped this infection in its tracks and prevented the flu virus from spreading all over Australia. We have chosen to stock the same vaccine as the one predominantly used in the outbreak.

To take advantage of Vaccination Back on Track® please ring the surgery on 01473 730213 to book your visit.

\*Terms and Conditions apply



Above is a map highlighting recent outbreaks of equine influenza. A little too close for comfort!

## FREE WEIGH TAPES

All our equine vets are now carrying weigh tapes in their car kits, courtesy of Zoetis, please ask for one when you next have a visit. Although not as accurate as a weigh bridge, a weigh tape can give a good indication of your horses weight. Knowing your horses weight can help both you and your vet give accurate doses of medicines and wormers.

## Forthcoming Event Saturday 14th September 10:00-1400 Gladwells Country Store, Copdock Mill, Washbrook, Suffolk EQUINE OPEN DAY

We will be attending the above event to promote the practice and responsible worming. It would be great to see as many of you there as possible to support local businesses. There will be a vet, nurses and receptionist there on the day who will be more than happy to answer any questions. There will also be a chance to pick up a goody bag!



### Terms and Conditions

1. The Vaccination Back on Track® initiative allows (eligible) horses to receive a discounted primary vaccination course.
2. The offer is only open to horses that are over 12 months of age and have not yet been vaccinated against equine influenza or are overdue a booster.
3. In order for horse owners to qualify for the Vaccination Back on Track® initiative, the initial vaccination must be during the month of NOVEMBER 2013
4. The second vaccination must be completed 4-6 weeks after the first vaccination.
5. Please note the offer does not include the third dose of PROTEQFLU®/PROTEQFLU-Te® vaccine.
6. Any visit fee must be borne by the horse owner, unless the visit is booked on a 'zone day'.

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