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## Pregnant Mare & Foal Care

### Care of the Pregnant Mare

Please ensure that your mare is getting proper nutrition during her pregnancy. It is important that she isn't under or over weight. Allow her access to free choice minerals, water, and make sure she is receiving adequate hay or pasture. Moderate exercise is good during pregnancy and mares may be leisurely rode up until the 6<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy. High performance/endurance performances during pregnancy are not recommended. Gestation can be anywhere from 320-350 days with the average horse being 340 (every mare is different). After breeding you can ultra sound to confirm viable pregnancy and rule out twins at 25-29 days.

<b><u>Deworming &amp; Vaccination Schedule:</u></b>		
	Naïve Horses	Previous UTD on Vaccines
<b>60 days</b>	<b>Deworm @ 60 days (Quest or Eqvalan)</b>	<b>Deworm @ 60 days (Quest or Eqvalan)</b>
<b>End of 5<sup>th</sup> Month</b>	<b>Deworm again</b>	<b>Deworm again</b>
<b>End of 7<sup>th</sup> Month</b>	<b>Vaccinate for EWT, Flu &amp; Rhino, Westnile, Rabies</b>	
<b>9.5 months Pregnant</b>	<b>Deworm again Booster for EWT, Flu &amp; Rhino, Westnile, Rabies (*May Booster a month later so Mare is protected)</b>	<b>Deworm again Vaccinate for EWT, Flu &amp; Rhino, Westnile, Rabies</b>

Mares in general do not need assistance when foaling, but it is a good idea to be watching closely just to be sure. Mares can start to bag up a month in advance but most make a bag within the last few weeks of pregnancy. They will develop wax on their nipples 1-2 days before foaling.

### Care of the Foal

Once the foal is born it should be up and walking with in one to two hours. Foals must receive colostrum within six to eight hours of birth as their gastrointestinal tract can only absorb the immunoglobulins (antibodies) present with in the colostrum during this window of time. The colostrum is what gives the foal its immune status as foals are born with virtually no ability to fight off infection other than the antibodies they absorb from the colostrum. Foals also need the colostrum as nutrition to prevent hypoglycemia. Foals have little or no fat stores at birth and need frequent meals. Several hours without colostrum or milk can leave a newborn foal very weak and unable to stand.

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<b>Deworming &amp; Vaccinating Foals</b>	
<b>1.5 Months</b>	<b>Deworm with panacur</b>
<b>3 Months</b>	<b>Deworm again</b>
<b>6 Months</b>	<b>Vaccinate for EWT, Flu &amp; Rhino, Westnile, Rabies Deworm with Eqvalan or Quest</b>
<b>7 months</b>	<b>Booster Vaccines</b>
<b>1yr</b>	<b>Annual Vaccines &amp; Deworming protocol</b>