



Our vision is to deliver superior animal health management solutions for our patients while providing value to our clients, a rewarding working experience for our practice team and support for our community

Our team is committed to delivering the highest quality of veterinary medicine and exceptional customer service with integrity, compassion and accountability. We strive to keep up to date with advances in veterinary medicine that will enable us to stay leaders in the deliverance of high quality veterinary services to our clients and their animals.

Hypothermia in Newborn Lambs

Lambs are being born in this frigid weather! Unfortunately they are very susceptible to hypothermia (chilling) especially during the winter season. Newborn lambs must produce as much heat as they lose to the environment in order to keep from chilling. If this requirement is not met, their body temperature will start to fall and if this is not treated it can be fatal. There are many factors that may influence the rate of heat loss; body surface area, coat, ewe licking, drafts and temperature.

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF HYPOTHERMIA

The most accurate way to recognize hypothermia is to take the lambs temperature (normal is 39C-40C). Hypothermic lambs may appear dull, weak, and unable to suckle. The sooner you recognize a lamb in this state the greater its chances of survival.

TREATMENT

Generally, lambs should be slowly warmed after being provided a source of energy (via stomach tube or injection). Each case can be unique and a discussion with a vet can help you to best troubleshoot your situation!



Inside

Small Ruminant *Avoiding the Chills*

Equine *Reducing the Risk for Gastric Ulcers.*

Bovine *Freezing the Pain...*

Reduce Your Horse's Risk for Gastric Ulcers



Ulcers can sometimes be considered a man-made disease, affecting up to 90 percent of racehorses and 60 percent of show horses. Stall confinement alone can lead to the development of ulcers. A horse's feeding schedule also can be a factor. When horses are fed just twice a day, the stomach is subjected to a prolonged period without feed to neutralize its naturally produced acid. In addition, high-grain diets produce volatile fatty acids that can also contribute to the development of ulcers.

Stress, both environmental and physical, can increase the likelihood of ulcers, as can hauling, training and mixing groups of horses. Strenuous exercise can decrease the emptying of the stomach and the blood flow to the stomach, thus contributing to the problem.

The treatment and prevention of gastric ulcers is directed at removing these predisposing factors, thus decreasing acid production within the horse's stomach. Follow these tips from the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) to properly treat your horse's ulcers:

1. Allow free-choice access to grass or hay. Horses are designed to be grazers with a regular intake of roughage.
2. If the horse must be stalled, arrange for the horse to see the horses he socializes with. Consider offering a ball or other object that the horse can enjoy in his stall.
3. Feed the horse more frequently to help buffer the acid in the stomach.
4. Decrease grains that form volatile fatty acids.
5. Medications that decrease acid production are available, but are only necessary in horses showing signs of clinical disease or when the predisposing factors, such as stress, cannot be removed.

The prevention of ulcers is the key. Limiting stressful situations along with frequent feeding or free-choice access to grass or hay is imperative. Neutralizing the production of stomach acid is nature's best antacid. Additional information also can be found on the AAEP's website www.aaep.org/horseowner.

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Keys to Successful Dehorning

According to the Dairy & Beef Code of Practice!

Both of the Dairy and Beef Codes of Practice state everyone should be providing a form of pain management when dehorning calves. Taking this protocol for a lidocaine block (freezing) into consideration during your herd work can help to make the job easy while producing a more profitable animal. There are many different approaches to help to control pain while dehorning so do not hesitate to contact us to discuss what would work best with your management style!



1. Properly restrain the calf.
2. Draw a line from the lateral canthus (where the upper and lower eyelids meet at the back of the eye) to the horn bud, and find the groove that runs parallel to and just below the bony crest along this line.
3. Find the halfway point between the lateral canthus and the horn along this groove and inject 2-3cc of Lidocaine through an 18-20 gauge x 1" needle angled slightly toward the horn. The needle should be inserted up to the hub. Pull the needle out halfway and then push it in to the hub again and inject another 2cc lidocaine.
4. Repeat on the other side.
5. Wait 3-5 minutes for anesthesia to take effect. While waiting, one can restrain and block another calf before dehorning the first calf.
6. Follow up with an anti-inflammatory (Metacam) one dose subcutaneously for pain and inflammation

In calves less than two months of age, horn buds are free-floating. Eventually, the buds begin to grow and attach to the skull overlying the frontal sinuses. Then the horns acquire a blood supply. Dehorning at this late stage is more invasive, causes blood loss, exposes the frontal sinus cavity and increases the risks of sinusitis, prolonged wound healing and infection.

