



Donkey Rescue
Wild Animal Refuge
Animal Science Center
Forgotten Animal Sanctuary
Compassionate Learning Center



PARASITE CONTROL

Written by Mark Meyers

Internal parasites are the #1 killer of donkeys around the world. Donkeys have a very high potential of harboring the destructive equine lungworm. **PLEASE PUT YOUR DONKEY ON A PARASITE CONTROL PROGRAM. ASK YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT THE APPROPRIATE PROGRAM.**

The Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue uses the following worming program on all of our donkeys. Our program is based on our type of feed, our weather conditions, and our environment. Check with your local veterinarian to insure that our method will also work in your area.

It is important to discover the amount of infestation your donkey may have prior to treatment. Many donkeys that come into our facility have such a massive infestation that a standard dose of Ivermectrin can kill the donkey along with the parasites. PVDR uses a light dose of Quest or other mild product with another light dose two weeks later. After an additional 45 days a standard dose can be administered. It is always best to seek out a Veterinarian when you are unsure of the parasite level in your untreated donkey.

Our donkeys are paste wormed every three months beginning January 1st. Most standard donkeys weigh an average of 500 to 600 pounds; so one tube of paste can be split evenly between two adult donkeys. Babies should be wormed beginning at six months of age and placed on an every three-month schedule. Take a small amount (i.e. for less than 100 pounds on the adjustment scale of the plunger) on your finger and place your finger in the baby's mouth. An Ivermectrin-based wormer must be used twice per year. There are many brands of wormer with Ivermectrin in them, such as Ivercare or Zimmetrin. Ivermectrin is the recommended product to kill the lungworms that are common in donkeys. The paste syringe should be inserted through the inter-dental area of the mouth (the area between the front and back teeth). Push the syringe in until the tip is at the back of the tongue. Push the plunger until it hits the weight adjustment ring. This is easy and generally costs between \$10 to \$15 per dose. The kind of wormer should be varied in order to prevent parasites from developing immunities. Many brands offer 2 different formulas for this purpose. Many people feel that using a strong wormer on an animal with a large infestation of parasites can be dangerous because of problems caused by the massive sudden die-off of internal parasites. For this reason, we recommend starting with a 250 pound dose of Strongid followed by a second 250 pound dose 2 weeks later. Once this initial worming has been completed, you can begin the following cycle;

Jan 1	Strongid Paste by Pfizer
Apr 1	Paste Wormer containing Ivermectrin based wormer
Jul 1	Anthelcide Paste by Pfizer
Oct 1	Paste Wormer containing Ivermectrin based wormer

23500 Sand Canyon Road Tehachapi, CA 93561
Ph 877-782-5527 Fx 661-822-FAX2
www.peacefulvalley.info