

Herd This?



The fall issue is packed with information about sand colic, our upcoming client event, and announcements from Dr. Freeman and Dr. Jarrett.

As the weather cools down you are likely riding more and the mosquito population has exploded so remember call and schedule an appointment for:

- Fall vaccines
- Annual Dentals
- Coggins (annual)
- Wellness Exams
- Fecals/Deworming
- Nutritional consults

Call Donna at (910) 655-2442 and you may also contact us via e-mail at pineviewveterinary@gmail.com

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Announcement from Dr. Freeman

Dear Pineview Family,

It is with great sadness that I announce today (9/30) is my last day with Pineview. I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed being here the last three years. I was a new baby veterinarian when I started here and you opened your arms and took me into the family. I loved watching your kids and animals grow up. I feel like your animals are my animals and your successes are my successes. This week especially has shown me the close friendships I was able to make and how much of an impact you have had!



As many of you know, I went to vet school in Georgia and will be returning there for a new chapter in my life. I started my career with a strong interest in public health and that is where my next step is taking me. While I look forward to it, leaving is never easy. I wish everyone the best and hope that our paths will cross in the future. I would LOVE to hear updates about how everyone is doing so please keep the emails coming - jennifer.freeman.328@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Jennifer Freeman, MPH DVM

Equine Chiropractic 101 Client Education Series

Come join us for dinner and learn about chiropractic techniques and how they may benefit your horse! Join us for an exciting talk and live demonstration by our very own Dr. Leslie Jarrett. Dr. Jarrett is AVCA (American Veterinary Chiropractic Association) certified and excited to share more about equine chiropractic with you!

Thursday, October 26th, 2017

Food & Social 6:00 pm
Presentations 7:00 pm

Boys and Girls Home of NC
205 Tops Tobacco Rd.
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450



Kindly RSVP by October 24th to Donna at (910) 655-2442



Sponsored by: Pineview Veterinary Hospital & Zoetis



SAND COLIC: Diagnosis & Treatment

There is sand ALL around us! It is in the soil, can be picked up when hay is baled, and surrounds the roots of grass. Horses typically pick it up when they eat and no matter how much grass you have to cover the sand, a horse still picks it up when eating. Sand is ingested and eventually settles in the large intestines of the horse. Once there, it is able to cause pain in two major ways: the weight and irritation of the GI tract. As sand accumulates, it weighs on the intestines pulling them down, which is very painful. The sand also rubs on the lining of the intestines, causing irritation and inflammation. This inflammation can impair digestion and cause gas and diarrhea. In severe cases, sand can build up enough to cause an impaction, which prevents food or liquids from moving past. If a horse develops a severe enough impaction from sand they likely will require surgery at NC State in order to flush sand out of their large intestines.



A large colon impaction of sand.

Often, horses with a large amount of sand in their intestines will develop diarrhea and spend a lot of time laying down. Laying down actually helps them take the weight of the sand off their intestines and makes them feel better. It is not understood why some horses can tolerate a large sand burden while other horses become painful with a much smaller amount of sand in their intestines

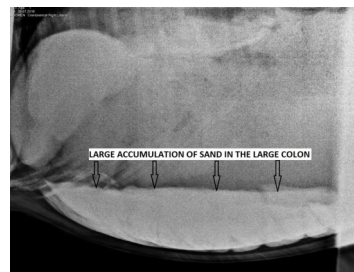
DIAGNOSIS

A diagnosis of sand starts with a thorough history of the horses' eating habits, quantity of feed and hay offered, and pasture quality along with deworming and sand preventative (discussed later). From there, the veterinarian will perform a rectal exam and collect a fecal sample. The rectal exam allows the vet to feel for any abnormalities in the intestines, such as a displacement, twist, impaction, masses or gas. Once other causes of colic have been ruled out, the fecal sample can be floated to check for sand. This allows the vet to get an idea of how much sand is present.



You can check for sand in your horse's manure at home too!

Sand can sometimes be frustrating to diagnose. While there is some relationship between the amount of sand we see in the float and the amount of sand present in the intestines, we know that sand is shed intermittently or not at all at certain times.



Large amount of sand on radiograph of large colon

It also can be difficult to gauge the amount of sand if it has caused an impaction and nothing is moving through the horse's intestines. Ideally, x-rays are taken of the abdomen to see how much sand is present and where it is located, however in order to take x-rays of a horse's abdomen one needs a very powerful machine like those found at referral hospitals (i.e. NC State)

TREATMENT

Treatment for sand depends on the amount of sand currently in the intestines and severity of the horse's colic. We use psyllium, which binds to the sand particles and forms a gel. The gel then passes through the intestines and out of the horse. If the horse's physical exam is normal, we have two options for getting the psyllium to the horse:

1. Metamucil: The human psyllium product, the original orange flavor seems to be the flavor most liked by horses. For the average 1000 lbs. horse, we recommend feeding 1 cup (8oz) by mouth once a day for 7 days straight. Treat for 7 days out of each month, year-round. It is important to feed the entire amount in one meal and for 7 days in a row as the medicine works best this way.



2. Sand Clear: This is a horse specific product, made with psyllium and alfalfa. We generally recommend it for our picky eaters as it is pelleted and easier to hide with grain. Please follow label instructions which indicate feeding 1 scoop (5 oz) per 1000 lbs. horse once a day for 7 days straight, treat for 7 days out of each month, year-round.



SAND COLIC: Prevention

If a horse's physical exam is abnormal, such as a history of not eating, increased gut sounds, diarrhea, or laying down more than normal, then we will most likely recommend tubing the horse. This involves passing a tube through their nose into their stomach and giving the horse mineral oil and psyllium. The mineral oil helps decrease the amount of irritation that the sand causes and can calm the lining of the intestines. The psyllium we give can help bind a large amount of sand at one time and decrease the burden placed on the intestines.

Some horses can have such a heavy burden that they require hospitalization and surgery to remove the sand. The most common complication we see is severe dehydration from water loss due to diarrhea. This can take IV fluids to correct until the horse feels well enough to drink on their own, in addition to pain medication.

It is important to remember that we cannot remove all sand with a single treatment. It usually takes about 3-4 days for the majority of the sand to be bound in the psyllium and passed out. This is why it is so important to continue treatment for 7 days to remove as much sand as possible.

PREVENTION

As with any medical condition, prevention is the most important part! Our area unfortunately has a very heavy sand burden in the soil and can have trouble growing grass at certain times of the year—this combines to create an environment where horses are picking up sand on a daily basis.

Here are four main steps that owners can take to prevent ingestion of excess sand:

The first step involves changing the way the horse is fed to reduce intake of sand:

- Use large feed pans or tubs
- Put rubber mats under the pans or bucket
- Feed in a stall instead of on pasture
- Put bricks in the feed pan or place it in an old tire to prevent the horse from tipping it over into the dirt
- Wet grain fed to horses

The second step is making sure the horse has an oral exam at least once a year. Horses with sharp points, hooks, and/or a wave mouth will have trouble chewing their feed appropriately and the first sign can be dropping large amounts of feed. This feed is dropped into the soil, the horse then eats off the ground and ingests large amounts of sand.

The third step is treating the horse for 7 days every month year-round with either Metamucil or Sand Clear. Using the amounts listed previously, we recommend every horse be treated as a preventative. Typically it is easiest to remember to treat the first week of every month. Treat everyone in the herd at the same time (horses, minis, donkeys all need to be treated).

The fourth step is a fecal once a year. Our fecal gives us information about the type and amount of parasites present and a float to check for sand. Then, we can make recommendations about the type and frequency of sand preventative that you are using. Some horses require more than one week every month and we can work to tailor a plan that meets your needs.

Call for Castrations

It's that time of year! As the weather cools down we are scheduling castrations! We do our castrations with two vets (one runs anesthesia and the other is surgeon). We can do the castration on your farm (you will need a stall to keep them in for the first 24 hours after surgery for observation) or at the clinic. Please call Donna (910-655-2442) to get your colt/stud on the books!



ALERT: EEE & WEST NILE

There have been several reported cases of EEE and West Nile in horses in both North Carolina and South Carolina. One of Dr. Jarrett's vet school classmates just diagnosed a case of west nile!

You also have heard about EEE and West Nile found in the mosquitos in our counties. Due to our exposure the AAEP recommends we do EEE/West Nile vaccines every 6 months! Please call to make sure your horses are protected!!!





Exciting News from Dr. Jarrett

This August, I celebrated one year at Pineview and I have loved being a part of this wonderful family! Thank you for continuing to share your animals with me and for looking out for me, especially recently as you may have noticed I have grown a little bit.



On behalf of my husband (David) and I, we would like to inform you that we are expecting a baby girl in December! We are very excited about this next chapter in our lives and what it holds for our family.

There will be a couple adjustments to the Pineview Veterinary Hospital daily schedule once the baby arrives, but rest assured you and your animal's needs will be taken care of as always. Please let Christine or myself know if there is anything that you need as we are always here to serve you and your animals.

I hope this fall finds your animals and herds healthy and strong. Rest assured, I will have plenty of baby pictures to share with you once our little girl makes her arrival!

Best Wishes,
Leslie H. Jarrett, DVM



*So whether you eat or
drink or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of
God.
1 Corinthians 10:31*

Pineview Veterinary Hospital is a large animal veterinary practice meeting the needs of large animals in southeastern North Carolina and northeastern South Carolina.

Our mission is to provide high quality service to our clients coupled with the most advanced and progressive veterinary care for our patients with an emphasis on preventive and herd health medicine.

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