

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GETTING READY FOR BREEDING SEASON

Prior to breeding, consult with a veterinarian—best if equine reproduction is a regular part of the veterinarian's practice—to plan the best routine health maintenance based on your particular geographic region and have mare(s) in good (some excess) body condition.

PREGNANT MARES—

- Administer a killed Rhinopneumonitis vaccination at 3, 5, 7, & 9 months of pregnancy
- Deworm every 2 to 3 months throughout pregnancy (Some veterinarians advise NOT to use Ivermectin on mares with an embryo less than 90 days old.)
- One month prior to foaling—
 - Administer Influenza/Eastern & Western Encephalitis/Tetanus
 - West Nile virus vaccine
 - Administer rotavirus vaccination—if foal scours are a problem on the property
 - Deworm (may also deworm mare the day she foals with Ivermectin)
- After foaling & before rebreeding—
 - Float teeth
 - May need to flush/lavage uterus if breeding on the foal heat

OPEN/BARREN/DRY MARES—

Booster all vaccinations, float teeth, pull coggins test, & deworm

- Young mares (under 9 years old)
 - Rectal palpation/ultrasound of reproductive tract
 - If maiden—Vaginal exam to open hymen (to avoid bleeding at time of penetration, since blood is toxic to semen)
 - If caslick—Open caslick
 - Uterine cytology/culture
- Older mares (over 9 years old)
 - Rectal palpation/ultrasound of reproductive tract
 - If maiden—Vaginal exam to open hymen (to avoid bleeding at time of penetration, since blood is toxic to semen)
 - If caslick—Open caslick
 - Uterine cytology/culture
- Multiparous (Mares who have previously had several foals)
 - Rectal palpation/ultrasound of reproductive tract
 - Uterine cytology/culture
 - If caslick—Open caslick
- Fertility problem mares
 - Rectal palpation/ultrasound of reproductive tract
 - Uterine cytology/culture
 - Hormone analysis
 - Endoscopic exam
 - Endometrial biopsy
 - Uterine lavage (antibiotics must be limited, since they can lead to secondary fungal infections)
 - If caslick—Open caslick