



Silver Lining Herbs

The Standard for a Healthy Life

A Comprehensive Guide to Naturally Deworming Your Horse with Herbal Remedies





Introduction



The truth is: equine intestinal parasites are unavoidable and attempts to find effective solutions have spanned centuries—from herbal approaches to modern chemical dewormers.

While chemical dewormers such as Ivermectin are currently the most popular form of parasite control, their efficacy is reduced with frequent use, as parasites can develop resistance to chemical-based medicines. Excessive use also poses risks of kidney or liver damage, emphasizing the importance of using them sparingly.

Fortunately, there are alternative and more natural methods for both preventing and expelling parasites. Herbal dewormers, a recommended monthly solution aligned with the lunar cycle, offer a holistic approach to maintaining equine health.

In This Guide:

History and Background of Herbal Deworming | 3

Chemical vs. Natural Deworming | 4

Understanding Horse Parasites | 4

The Lunar Cycle and Parasite Egg Laying | 6

Why We Don't Use Diatomaceous Earth | 8

Summary | 10

History and Background of Herbal Deworming

Herbal remedies have been used for centuries in horse care, passed down through generations. The following herbs play a key role in natural deworming:

Garlic: Known for its anti-parasitic properties, garlic helps repel parasites and supports the immune system.

Cascara: A natural laxative, cascara aids in flushing out parasites from the digestive tract.

Clove: Exhibits anti-parasitic and anti-inflammatory properties, targeting various types of parasites.

Kelp: Rich in minerals, kelp supports overall horse health, making the environment less hospitable for parasites.

Sage: With antimicrobial properties, sage contributes to a healthy digestive system.

Slippery Elm: Soothes the digestive tract and helps expel parasites.

Wormwood: Known for its effectiveness against various parasites, wormwood is a staple in herbal deworming.

Chaparral: Exhibits anti-parasitic and immune-boosting properties.

Juniper: Acts as a natural detoxifier and supports the elimination of parasites.

Chemical vs. Natural Deworming

Why Chemical Dewormers May Not Be Optimal

Prolonged use of chemical treatments may result in the development of resistant parasites, as these organisms can adapt to the chemicals over time. Additionally, chemical dewormers have the potential to negatively impact the horse's gut microbiome, disrupting the balance of beneficial bacteria in the digestive system. This disruption can have implications for overall digestive health. Furthermore, there are concerns about the potential toxicity of chemical treatments, which may pose risks of adverse reactions in horses. Considering these factors, it becomes evident that over-reliance on chemical dewormers may have unintended consequences, highlighting the need for a balanced and mindful approach to parasite control in equine health.

Understanding Horse Parasites

Types of Parasites



Redworms: Affect the large intestine, leading to colic and weight loss.



Strongyles: Cause damage to blood vessels, potentially leading to serious health issues.



Roundworms: Common in foals, causing digestive disturbances.



Pinworms: Affect the rectum and tail base, causing itching and discomfort.



Threadworms: Can cause weight loss and diarrhea in young horses.



Tapeworms: Attach to the intestinal wall, causing blockages.



Bots: Larvae attach to the stomach lining, affecting digestion.



Lungworms: Affect the respiratory system, leading to coughing and nasal discharge.

Signs of Parasite Infestation

The signs of parasitism are common among different parasites infecting the horse and include:

Weight loss

Dull, rough hair coat

Potbelly

Gastric ulcers

Decreased stamina or lethargy

Coughing

Diarrhea

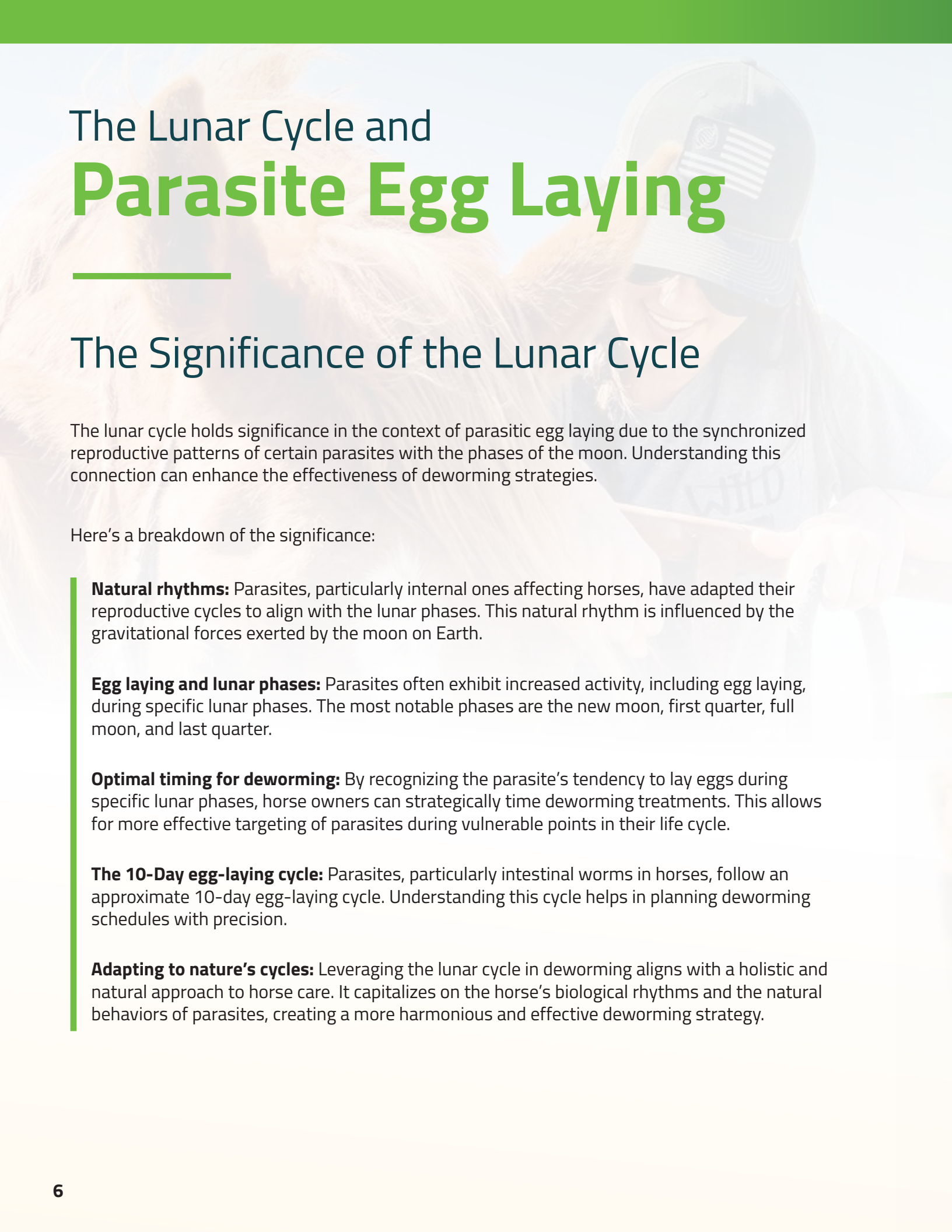
Colic

Tail rubbing

Skin sores and lesions (within the mouth, around the anus, and down the esophagus)

**“Health isn’t a sometimes thing,
it is an all the time thing.”**





The Lunar Cycle and Parasite Egg Laying

The Significance of the Lunar Cycle

The lunar cycle holds significance in the context of parasitic egg laying due to the synchronized reproductive patterns of certain parasites with the phases of the moon. Understanding this connection can enhance the effectiveness of deworming strategies.

Here's a breakdown of the significance:

Natural rhythms: Parasites, particularly internal ones affecting horses, have adapted their reproductive cycles to align with the lunar phases. This natural rhythm is influenced by the gravitational forces exerted by the moon on Earth.

Egg laying and lunar phases: Parasites often exhibit increased activity, including egg laying, during specific lunar phases. The most notable phases are the new moon, first quarter, full moon, and last quarter.

Optimal timing for deworming: By recognizing the parasite's tendency to lay eggs during specific lunar phases, horse owners can strategically time deworming treatments. This allows for more effective targeting of parasites during vulnerable points in their life cycle.

The 10-Day egg-laying cycle: Parasites, particularly intestinal worms in horses, follow an approximate 10-day egg-laying cycle. Understanding this cycle helps in planning deworming schedules with precision.

Adapting to nature's cycles: Leveraging the lunar cycle in deworming aligns with a holistic and natural approach to horse care. It capitalizes on the horse's biological rhythms and the natural behaviors of parasites, creating a more harmonious and effective deworming strategy.

The 10-Day Egg-Laying Cycle

The significance of the lunar cycle lies in its influence on the reproductive patterns of parasites. By synchronizing deworming efforts with these natural rhythms, horse owners can optimize the effectiveness of their parasite control measures.



New Moon (Days 1-3): Low parasite activity. Introduce herbal supplements to create an inhospitable environment for parasites.



First Quarter (Days 4-7): Parasite activity increases. Strengthen the digestive system with probiotics, prebiotics, and a fiber-rich diet.



Full Moon (Days 7-10): Peak parasite activity. Implement targeted herbal remedies.



Why We Don't Use

Diatomaceous Earth

Diatomaceous earth (DE) is a naturally occurring substance derived from the fossilized remains of diatoms, microscopic algae. While DE is often promoted for its potential insecticidal properties, it's important to exercise caution when considering its use in equine deworming due to its abrasiveness.

Diatomaceous earth consists of tiny, sharp particles that can be harmful to the delicate tissues of the digestive tract in horses. The abrasive nature of DE raises concerns about potential irritation, micro-injuries, and damage to the mucous membranes lining the digestive system, leading to discomfort, inflammation, and, in extreme cases, more serious digestive issues.

Horses have a sensitive gastrointestinal tract, and using abrasive substances like DE may compromise the health of the digestive system.

Supporting the Digestive System

The goal of natural deworming is to support and promote the overall health of the horse, including the digestive system. Opting for herbal deworming methods that are gentle, supportive, and effective provides a safer approach to maintaining your horse's health.

Natural deworming methods should prioritize preventing harm to the horse's body while effectively addressing parasite concerns. Choosing alternatives that enhance digestive well-being ensures a more comprehensive and beneficial approach.

Summary

In summary, while chemical treatments have been widely used, the risks of developing resistant parasites, disrupting the microbiome, and potential toxicity underscore the importance of exploring alternative methods. Herbal dewormers, aligned with the lunar cycle, offer a natural and effective strategy for parasite control. Understanding the significance of the lunar cycle in parasitic egg laying enables horse owners to time deworming efforts more precisely, optimizing their effectiveness. Moreover, avoiding abrasive substances like diatomaceous earth in favor of gentle and supportive herbal remedies like Herbal Wormer from Silver Lining Herbs prioritizes the health of the horse's digestive system.

By combining historical knowledge, contemporary insights, and a commitment to holistic care, horse owners can contribute to the overall well-being of their equine companions. Keep in mind: a thoughtful and tailored approach to deworming ensures not only parasite control but also the preservation of the horse's overall health and vitality.

**Remember, a healthy horse
is a happy horse!**





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