

Healthy as a Horse

Taking care of your horse's health is a crucial part of being a responsible horse owner. That's why *Western Horseman* curated this collection of products designed to help you keep your horse in peak health and comfort.

Newborn Life

Mares and foals go through so many changes the first few months after delivery. This is a crucial time for health and development, which is why we asked Brazos Valley Stallion Station foaling manager Kevin Vorhes for advice on keeping your mare and foal healthy in this season.

Vaccinate

The easiest way to ensure good health for your mare and foal starts with a good vaccination program for the pregnant mare. Those vaccination benefits will be passed on to the foal through the placenta and colostrum — crucial, since foals don't receive vaccines until they're around 3 months old at Brazos Valley Stallion Station.

"Your mares get all their vaccines before they foal — VWT, rabies and we also give strep [vaccinations] here," Vorhes says. "We give all the mares rotavirus vaccine also."

Frequent Check-Ins

Vorhes recommends having someone check on the mares and newborn foals three, four, even five times a day. You're looking for listlessness, lack of interest in feeding — anything out of the ordinary that could signal something is wrong.

"Watch if the baby is breathing heavily or acting 'dumpy,' or if they're lively and respond to you," Vorhes says. "If they're laying down and sleeping, look to see if they stretch when they get up. You just have to know your animal."

Limit Contact

If your barn houses mares and foals, you'll want to keep outside horses and horses that travel to other locations or shows away from the vulnerable newborns.

"If you've got horses going back and forth to horse shows, you want to limit their exposure to mares and foals as much as possible," Vorhes says.

Keep Products On Hand

Vorhes has a medicine chest of sorts full of products he likes to use to keep mares and foals healthy.

"We keep Gas-X and Lactaid on hand," Vorhes says. "The Lactaid helps a baby if he's getting too much milk and gets a bit of the scours [diarrhea]. Gas-X helps if they get too gassy. We also always have a thermometer on-hand to check [temperatures on] the mama and the baby."

Clean Environment

Young horses do not have a fully developed immune system, so Vorhes advises keeping their living quarters as clean and dry as possible, with shelter, if they're in an outside enclosure.

"You want them to have a good, dry place where they can rest and get out of the elements," Vorhes says.

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www.shapleys.com

Bekaert Fencing Horseman 30 Non Climb Horse Fence

Bekaert's coated, high tensile 12.5/13.5-gauge Horseman Non Climb Horse Fence has a mesh design and is designed to provide safe, humane containment. The 2-inch by 4-inch mesh openings deter hooves or heads going through, while the smooth S-knot construction protects skin, manes and tails from cuts and snags. The 48-inch height works for foals and horses of most breeds, and the fence is available in taller options for draft horses.

fencing.bekaert.com/en



Total Equine from Total Feeds, Inc.

Total Equine is a complete horse feed that is safe for horses of all ages and activity levels. It is extruded for higher digestibility, and contains a proprietary blend of chelated minerals and kelp meal (*Ascophyllum Nodosum*). Can be fed alone or with high quality hay. It is available in a 40-pound bag.

totalfeeds.com

Purina RepleniMash Product

Purina RepleniMash Product is a nutritionally balanced mash made with Outlast Gastric Support Supplement, and a science-backed serving of electrolytes to support hydration and recovery. This product supports intestinal cell health, and added beet pulp promotes proper hydration. RepleniMash's stabilized ground flaxseed supports a shiny coat while providing omega-3 fatty acids. Formulated without alfalfa, oats or soy protein. Available in 7-pound and 25-pound packages.

purinamills.com



Original M-T-G and Original M-T-G plus from Shapley's

Developed by a barber in 1938 to address human skin conditions, Shapley's Original M-T-G has been time-tested and proven to help treat horse skin issues. Recommended by veterinarians, this product is helpful for a variety of bacterial and fungal skin problems, with results seen as early as the day after your first application. Original M-T-G plus has the same formula with the same results, but with a new, light herbal fragrance. Available in 32-ounce bottles. Price: M-T-G is \$23.95 and M-T-G plus is \$25.95.

shapleys.com

Platinum Performance Equine

Platinum Performance Equine is a veterinarian-developed formula, delivering omega-3 fatty acids, antioxidants, vitamins and trace minerals to support your horse's health and performance including joints, muscles, hooves, skin and coat, digestion and more. Recommended for all horses, Platinum Performance Equine is a Platinum Colic Coverage-eligible formula. Ask your veterinarian if Platinum Performance Equine is a good fit for your horse. Available in multiple sizes. Price: Starts at \$75.

platinumperformance.com



FoamCare Equine Shampoo from Vetericyn

Vetericyn FoamCare Equine Shampoo delivers nutrients vital to your horse's skin while providing a show-worthy clean. It sprays on for good coverage, foams instantly, conditions skin and rinses easily. Also available in a medicated formula to treat fungal disorders, ringworm and other skin irritations. Available in 32-ounce bottles. Price: From \$17.99.

vetericyn.com



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- Carolyn Hauck
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*Testimonial and x-rays provided by client and printed with permission.

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Equithrive Complete Joint Pellets

Scientifically proven to support a healthy inflammatory response in horses, Equithrive Complete Joint Pellets are ideal for equine athletes and retirees. These pellets contain the natural antioxidant resveratrol, and connective tissue support ingredients glucosamine hydrochloride, chondroitin sulfate, hyaluronic acid (HA) and methylsulfonylmethane (MSM). Available in 3.3- and 10-pound buckets. Price: Starts at \$153.50.

equithrive.com



TLC Animal Nutrition Flex-Fuel

Healthy cartilage cushions the joint and absorbs shock, but cartilage deteriorates with age, which may be advanced more quickly from the stress of competition, causing the bones to rub together and severely affecting mobility. For rehab or maintenance, Flex-Fuel provides nutrients to support joint lubrication and cartilage production, and it helps avoid the damaging effects of stress or inflammation, promoting healthy joints for a longer period of time. Choose from a 25-pound package for \$149 or a 42-pound package for \$234.

tlcanimalnutrition.com



Heave Ho from Equine Medical and Surgical Associates

Heave Ho is a multitherbal, multivitamin, multimineral product formulated to address heaves, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma and coughing. Offering results in 14 days and reducing the need for inhalers, steroids or clenbuterol. Heave Ho comes with a free veterinary consult to tailor a program for maintenance and to further assist your horse. Available in two sizes and two flavors. Price: starts at \$69.95

equinemedsurg.com



XpertEquine REM Mask

Your horse needs time without light to produce melatonin, allowing for optimal rest and recovery, but if your horse is at a show, vet clinic or public stable, often the lights are on all night long. The REM Mask uses blue light-blocking technology to promote the natural production of melatonin, for a more restful night of sleep while your horse is being exposed to artificial light. Available in four sizes. Price: \$79.99.

xpertequine.com

Crusader Fly Mask from Cashel

This soft-coated nylon micromesh fly mask is durable, soft and comfortable. The mask's three-hole cap and double-dart construction hold material away from your horse's eyes, lashes and temples, while offering a more natural and complete field of vision. The Crusader blocks up to 70% of UV rays, helping to prevent sunburns and eye problems. Available in four coverage styles, multiple sizes and colors. Price: Starts at \$32.99.

cashelcompany.com/cc

Spalding Fly Predators

To avoid the swishing, stomping, spraying, swatting, fly mask days of summer, now is the time to schedule Spalding Laboratories' Fly Predators. A natural enemy of flies, Fly Predators do not bother people or animals, and reduce the presence of flies all season long. Every four weeks, sprinkle Fly Predators near all manure areas to control flies all month. Price: \$24.95 for five horses. Larger sizes available.

spalding-labs.com/6MW3R

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The Restoration Equine Mask ensures your horse gets a good night's sleep even with the lights on.

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- Use on horses who are stalled indoors where lights stay on.
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www.XpertEquine.com



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The Rancher Saddle Pad from 5 Star Equine Products.

5 Star pads wick sweat, remove heat and have unmatched shock-absorbing compression felt thanks to 100% all-natural wool and a superior felting process. The Rancher is specially engineered specifically for ropers, ranchers and long trail riders. Designed to be used alone, the 32-inch by 32-inch, super thick 1 1/8-inch wool eliminates double padding and reduces cinching. Handmade in the USA, comes in Natural and Black. Price: Starts at \$333.95.

5starequineproducts.com



GoldenwingHorseshoes

GoldenwingHorseshoes are lightweight and flexible, allowing your horse to move naturally — almost barefoot. These shoes reduce strain on joints and ligaments, absorb shock and concussion and reduce issues with interference, forging, lost shoes, coffin bone injuries and stone bruising. Made in the U.S.A., they have consistent sizing and uniform weight, thickness and nail placement, and their durability can outlast metal. Price: \$24.77 for one pair, discounts for volume orders.

goldenwinghorseshoes.com



Equimax Oral Paste from Bimeda

Equimax (1.87% ivermectin / 14.03% praziquantel) Oral Paste is the only product currently available that includes protection against all major parasites of concern, including tapeworms, bots, small and large strongyles, roundworms, lungworms, pinworms, hairworms, large-mouth stomach worms, threadworms and summer sores. The smooth, quick-dissolving, apple-flavored paste comes in an Eze-Grip syringe to make deworming easy and accurate. One syringe provides treatment for one horse up to 1,320 pounds, and is safe for horses and foals four weeks of age and older.

bimedaus.com/find-a-retailer



"My horses give me their best when it's showtime and I make sure they receive the best care and support. Since adding Equithrive to my program I have noticed an extra pep in their steps and less day to day stiffness. I like that Equithrive is backed by science, but I can see and feel the difference every day. I am excited to be a part of the Equithrive Team!"

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zoetisequine.com

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