

WINTER 2007

# BRADSHAW VETERINARY CLINIC INC.



## Welcome to 2007!

Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic greets the new year with enthusiasm. 2006 was a banner year for us. In 2006, we acquired a gastroscope, added two full time large animal staff members, and installed our outside mare-motels. 2006 also saw our first "Goat Day." Watchful eyes may also have noticed several improvements around our facilities. Small changes include new pathways and wash-rack. Our most exciting structural changes are our renovated office

and new trailer parking area. Those of you who have been privileged to experience the "cozy" large animal office will be glad to see the reconfigured version. Now clients bringing animals to the large animal clinic can pull directly through the gates in the front gravel parking lot. The new parking area is wide enough to turn and park trailers, and gates can be closed while unloading nervous animals.

2007 promises even more innovations at BVC. In January, we unveiled our new – drumrolls, please – Digital X-ray system! No more waiting for digital appointments, no more waiting to develop film, no more need to refer upper body radiographs. Yes, we're excited, too!

## Digital X-ray

Those of you who have experienced the wonder of digital radiographic imaging through our work with a mobile technician or through referral hospitals know the extraordinary detail and clarity these systems produce. Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic is pleased to announce that we have taken the next step and have purchased a digital unit for mobile and in house use. The system is up and running, and we love it! Digital radiography will allow us to x-ray areas of the body that previously were inaccessible



with a standard portable unit such as stifles, elbows, head and neck. The radiographic quality is superior to film, and the instant image production eliminates the delay in film processing. Radiographs will be stored in our database and can even be e-mailed to other practitioners as necessary. This computerized access to images will also facilitate consultations with our visiting radiologist, Dr. Hergessell.

## Emergencies

If you have a horse emergency, stay calm! Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic has large animal veterinarians on-call 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. To reach the veterinarian on call, dial (916) 685-4673 and follow the prompts. Our calls are routed through the small animal clinic after hours. The customer service representative will contact the on-call veterinarian. The veterinarian will then contact you or have the office contact you within ten minutes. Please do not attempt to reach the

www.bradshawvet.com • 916/685-4673 • 9609 Bradshaw Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624



THE MISSION OF  
BRADSHAW VETERINARY  
CLINIC IS:

- To provide our clients with a thorough understanding of the needs of their animals and a pleasant veterinary experience
- To provide our patients with comprehensive and compassionate care
- To provide our employees with a welcoming and rewarding career



veterinarian using cell phone numbers you may have obtained from caller ID. You may not reach the doctor handling emergencies, and valuable time could be lost. The most efficient way to reach a veterinarian is to call (916) 685-4673.

The customer service representative will ask you a few questions designed to provide the doctor with necessary information. Please answer these questions as clearly and concisely as possible. The doctor cannot respond to messages to call without a reason. Please remember that the person to whom you are speaking is a message relayer and may not be familiar with large animal terminology. Be prepared to give the specific address where your horse is located and all contact numbers with area code. Please stay off of the phones and computer so that the doctor may reach you.

Be prepared to give directions to your barn or stable. If it is dark, please give clear landmarks, or light the driveway.

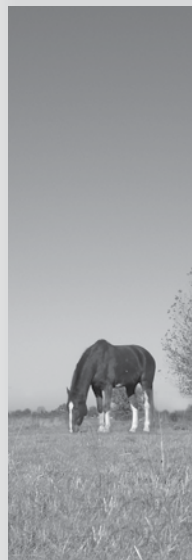
Occasionally, the on-call veterinarian may be at a ranch that has poor cell reception. When the cell phones are out of range, the voice mail messages are sometimes delayed. If you do not hear from the veterinarian or the office within ten minutes, please call (916) 685-4673 again.

Veterinarians find it easier to work in clean, well-lit surroundings. While you are waiting, please clear a work area and set up extra lighting if needed. Above all, stay safe!

Note for horse owners outside of BVC practice area: Our veterinarians cannot leave our territory to see outside emergencies. Driving long distances to these calls takes up valuable time that could put our regular patients at risk. However, we can see patients from outside our area at Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic in Elk Grove. Please understand that this policy is designed to maximally provide for the well-being of our equine patients.

## Spring Clinics

If your group is interested in a spring wellness (note that we didn't say just vaccination) clinic, please contact Sheila or Marissa at (916) 685-4673. Clinics are a great way to get an entire barn or group on the same preventative care schedule while also avoiding ranch call charges. Certain discounts apply for groups as well. Please be prepared to let our office know the approximate number of horses, and any extra known services that are desired (sheath cleanings, dentals, special vaccines, etc.) Wellness clinics can be an educational opportunity as well, let us know if yours is a group that would benefit from a particular handout or demonstration.



## Laminitis Warning

It may not feel like it, but spring is around the corner. Please remember that overeating lush spring grass is a leading cause of carbohydrate induced laminitis in horses. Horses should be introduced to lush grass gradually over a period of several weeks. Horses that are overweight or have had previous problems with laminitis should be held off the grass entirely until it begins to dry.

## New Year – Old Problems

'Tis the season ... for impaction colic. Every winter brings the same story, and so far this winter is no exception. Horses and sudden weather changes don't mix. Cold weather brings cold water and a decreased thirst impulse, and horses everywhere stop drinking. Some tips to encourage water consumption: use buckets or troughs rather than automatic waterers in order to monitor intake, warm water in troughs or large tanks, provide a salt source – table salt can be added to feed to increase thirst.

Poor dentition is another leading cause of impaction colic. If your horse has gone more than 6 months without a dental evaluation, it is time to call for an appointment. Dentistry services can be provided at our clinic or on your property.

Other factors contributing to equine colic include parasitism and sand. Even if your horse is on a regular rotational deworming program, we encourage you to have a fecal sample evaluated for sand and parasites twice yearly. Our recommended deworming rotation follows.

January – Panacur

March – Strongid

May – Liquid Ivermectin

July – Quest Plus

September – Liquid Ivermectin

November – Quest Plus

# Vaccine Table

SPRING	FALL
<b>PET HORSES (no exposure to others)</b> Eastern, Western, Tetanus (3-way) West Nile Virus Vaccine	Eastern, Western, Tetanus (3-way) Rabies
<b>TRAIL/PLEASURE (low exposure to others)</b> Eastern, Western, Tetanus, Influenza (4-way) West Nile Virus Vaccine	Eastern, Western, Tetanus, Influenza (4-way) Rabies
<b>BOARDING/PERFORMANCE (high exposure to others)</b> Eastern, Western, Tetanus, Influenza, Rhinopneumonitis (EHV) (5-way) West Nile Virus Vaccine Strangles (young horses)	Eastern, Western, Tetanus, Influenza, Rhinopneumonitis (5-way) Rabies

Please call (916) 685-4673 for vaccination schedules for foals and broodmares.

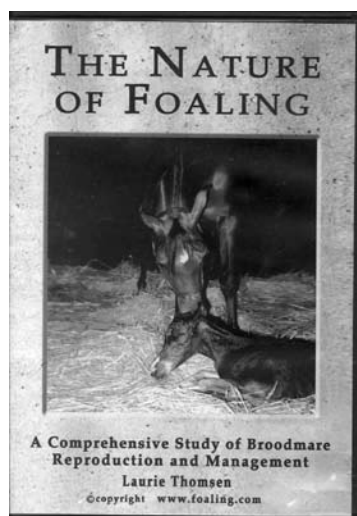
## Look Ahead

Before we know it, spring will be here. Are you ready? Is your horse ready? Now is the time to review health records. Twice yearly wellness exams and vaccination are recommended for all horses. The American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) recommends examinations on every horse every six months as part of a comprehensive preventative care program. Visit [www.americashealthyhorse.com](http://www.americashealthyhorse.com) for details. Please see the table above for a review of BVC's vaccine recommendations.

Also, breeding season will soon be upon us. Now is the time to evaluate open mares who may have

been problem breeders last year. If a mare did not conceive last year, or lost her foal, a breeding soundness examination complete with culture and cytology is advisable before breeding season gets well underway. If your mare is carrying a foal, congratulations! Don't forget to have her vaccinations boosted one month prior to foaling to maximize antibody transmission to the foal. Also, parasite control is essential. Remember to deworm your mare before and just after foaling. If you haven't foaled a mare on your property in recent

years, foaling DVDs are available for checkout from our office.



## Dodging Disaster

As part of your "spring cleaning" Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic encourages you to survey your horses' enclosures for potential hazards. Veterinarians are routinely called upon to treat preventable injuries. Owners should be aware that horses are a prey animal whose main defense is flight. As such, horses and confinement are often incompatible. Scan fence lines for sharp edges and protruding points. Common hazards include T-posts, barbed wire, protruding nails, loose boards and metal. Fences should be in good repair and at least 5 feet high. Stallions and jumpers should be surrounded by fences no less than 6 feet high. Pastures should be free of hazards such as: vehicles, equipment, lumber, debris, and down branches. Panel fencing should not have gaps in which a leg could be caught. Horses can injure themselves in any enclosure; however, human caretakers can minimize that possibility.

### CHECKLIST FOR FOALING:

**TOWELS, WARM WATER, SOAP, TAIL WRAP. BULB SYRINGE, CHLORHEXIDINE (NOLVOSAN) SOLUTION FOR DIPPING CORD, BLUNT TIPPED SCISSORS, FLEET ENEMA (FOR FOAL), CELL PHONE WITH DVM NUMBER PROGRAMMED IN.**

## TESTIMONIAL

DEAR BRADSHAW VETERINARY,

*I noticed my Hackney Horse Ricky losing his edge. He became tired and quit during an endurance drive, which was unlike him. We had been training for months for a Combined Driving Event and he was gradually getting worse. I had Dr. Zehnder run bloodwork and Ricky ended up being anemic. Dr. Zehnder said, "He must be bleeding and he is not bleeding on the outside, so it must be on the inside."*

*Bradshaw got him right in for a check up with the gastroscope. They found a quarter sized ulcer plus several areas of "ugly tissue" around it. Dr. Zehnder prescribed several tubes of ulcer medicine.*

*Two weeks later I brought Ricky back for a check up. Everything was clear, the ulcer was gone, and he was healthy! Bradshaw caught it early and Ricky healed quickly. We had no trips to UCD, no expensive medicines, and it was a quick and easy procedure. Bradshaw Vet provided excellent service to both me and my horse!*

*Thank you, Jenni Haas*



If you have a story to share please contact the office.



9609 Bradshaw Road  
Elk Grove, CA 95624