

VET-LAB Worm Egg Count Sampling Checklist

A quick guide to collecting and posting your horse's dung sample.

Before you start

- ☐ Post your sample on a **Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday only**, so it reaches the lab fresh and is not held up over the weekend.
- ☐ Avoid posting just before a bank holiday, so your sample reaches the lab as fresh as possible.
- ☐ Have your kit, a pen and your return envelope to hand.

Collecting the sample

- ☐ Put on the glove from your kit.
- ☐ Pick up a small amount of **fresh** dung, ideally from several droppings, soon after it has been passed.
- ☐ Fresh means still warm and moist. Avoid dung that has been lying in the field for a long time, as eggs can hatch or dry out.
- ☐ Fill the silver pouch as instructed in your kit and seal it tightly.

Labelling

- ☐ Write the animal's name and tick the species box on the label of the silver pouch.
- ☐ Fill out your details on the voucher, making sure you add your **order number**. You can find it in your order confirmation email (for example: New Order: #3001).
- ☐ Testing more than one horse? Use a separate silver pouch for each one and double-check the labels.

Posting

- ☐ Place the sample in the return envelope and post it as soon as you can.
- ☐ If you cannot post it straight away, keep it somewhere cool (not frozen) and send it the next day.

After your result

- ☐ Visit your account page, where your results will appear under the '**Lab Results**' link. If you have not registered an account, you can easily set one up here: <https://vet-lab.co.uk/my-account/>
- ☐ Your result is reported as eggs per gram (EPG). See our guide *Understanding Your Worm Egg Count Results*.
- ☐ If your horse is treated, a follow-up test 10 to 14 days later can show whether the wormer worked.
- ☐ Record each result on your yard worm count record sheet.

Remember: if the instructions in your kit differ from this checklist, follow your kit's instructions. Full step-by-step guide: vet-lab.co.uk/how-to-do-a-horse-worm-egg-count/