



## COLD WEATHER CAUTION!

This time of year can be hard on horses. A few minutes of extra care can go a long ways towards a healthy horse in a Minnesota winter!

1. After a good hard frost, make sure to worm your horses with an ivermectin product. We like Equimax or Zimectrin Gold for this time of year because it also kills tapeworms.
2. Keep fresh, non-frozen water available at all times during the colder months. We see a drastic increase in colic episodes with horses that do not have proper water sources.
3. Make sure to have a clean, dry shelter area available. It should have enough room for all of your horses to get into if inclement weather arrives. Pay close attention to the dynamics of your herd. Some horses seem to always be left out in the cold. You may need more than one shelter area.
4. Good quality hay is very important during the winter months. Multiple smaller meals of hay throughout the day is ideal. Horses do well with free choice access to hay, depending on their age and condition. Horses use their feed for proper energy conversion to stay warm. The key is to feed your horse hay often throughout the day during the cold winter months.
5. Some horses need to be blanketed during the colder months. Horses that may need a blanket are thin, old, or very young (foals). Other horses that may need a blanket are those that are still in training. Many owners use blankets and clip patterns to help eliminate excessive sweating during the horse's workout. Never put a sweaty horse out into the cold!

## **KNOW YOUR "NORMALS"**-----

### **Horses**

Temp 99.5 - 101.5 F  
Pulse 28-40 beats per minute  
Respiration 8-16 resp. per minute  
Gut Sounds 1-2 times per minute

### **Cattle**

Temp 100-102 F  
Pulse 55-80 beats per minute  
Respiration 10-30 resp. per minute

### **Camelids**

Temp 99-102.5 F  
Pulse 60-80 beats per minute  
(Cria-70-90 bpm)  
Respiration 20-30 resp. per minute

### **Sheep/Goats**

Temp 101-104 F  
Pulse 55-115 beats per minute  
Respiration 10-30 resp. per minute