



HEAT WAVE

Recognizing heat stress and treating the early symptoms are very important in the summer months. Horses, alpacas, and outside dogs are more prone to heat stress than some other animals. This is due to their make-up and lifestyle. Here are some important facts to keep in mind when the thermometer climbs.

- ❖ All animals need to have access to fresh water and shade/shelter. Air movement also helps keep these animals cool. Investing in some fans will go a long way to helping your animals deal with the heat.
- ❖ Keep your horse fit. Slowly breaking him into a normal exercise regime starting in the spring will help acclimate to his condition and the weather.
- ❖ Monitor and know each of your animal's normal temperatures. If your animal's resting temperature is 100 degrees and it climbs two to three degrees it may be showing early signs of heat stress.
 - Other signs of heat stress include: Lethargy, Unwilling to Continue, Blowing Hard, Standing Without Interest in Surroundings, Unwilling to eat/drink, ataxis (incoordination, drunk looking)

If Any of these signs are exhibited:

- ❖ Get them in the shade with a fan on them.
- ❖ Hose the animal off with cool water or apply rubbing alcohol to feet pads on dogs and alpacas. Continue the process until the animal resumes a normal temperature.
- ❖ If it takes longer than 30 minutes to cool your animal out, or if you are getting little or no response, **CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY!** Heat stress can be fatal if not caught early in any animal!

STARTLING Ulcer Statistics

The latest studies on ulcers in horses are showing us that they are more prevalent than ever!

Check out these statistics:

- *90% of racehorses
 - *60% of performance horses
 - *25-57% of foals in a stressful environment
- HAVE ULCERS!**

Some common signs of gastric ulcers:

- ❖ Weight Loss
- ❖ Change in Attitude
- ❖ Intermittent Colic
- ❖ Dull Hair Coat
- ❖ Sore Back
- ❖ Change in Eating Habits

There are many horses that do not exhibit obvious signs of ulcers. The severity of the ulcers does not always correlate with the severity of the clinical signs. Gastrogard and Ulcergard are proven to heal and prevent ulcers in all types of horses. It is easier to prevent ulcers than it is to treat them. As us how to keep your horse happier and healthier by preventing ulcers today!!

