

## MARE DRIVING YOU CRAZY?

Does your mare seem to have an attitude when she is in heat? Is she not paying attention to you at the horse show? Does the gelding over the fence seem way more interesting than picking up the correct lead?



Some mares show heat with extreme and sometimes dangerous behavior. There are a couple of different ways to deal with your grouchy mare.

In the past, the best way to keep her from showing heat was to give her oral synthetic progesterone, daily, throughout the whole season. We have recently found another way to help these mares! It is called a "mare-ble." What we do is place a sterile glass marble in the mare's uterus while she is in heat and within 12 hours of ovulation. This tricks the mare's system into thinking that the mare is pregnant. Studies have shown that it works for about 80% of mares. It is very safe and lasts for the whole season. In the fall, when the mare naturally goes into anestrus the marble needs to be removed. (Anestrus is when the mare's system quits cycling for the winter.)

If you have questions about this procedure or your mare, please give us a call (507.665.2371) or e-mail us.

**FLY and MOSQUITO SEASON is upon us! If your horses are not yet vaccinated for sleeping sickness and West Nile, be sure to get them vaccinated as soon as possible! Flue, Rhino, Strangles, Potomac Horse Fever and Rabies are also due for many horses.** Give us a call or e-mail us to discuss the appropriate vaccines for your horse!



## The BUZZZZ...about Potomac Horse Fever

If you've been out and about, you most likely have heard Potomac Horse Fever "pop up" again in "horsey conversations." In previous years PHF hasn't been much of a problem for most of our clients. However, there were outbreaks of the disease last year near Winona, Minnesota, that were thought to be spread by the May fly. Prior to this latest outbreak, snails were thought to be the main carrier of PHF but last year the source of the outbreak was found to be May flies. The good news is that May flies are only around for a very short time each season and seem to be quite specific to certain areas (like Southeastern Minnesota along the river). If you know that you and your horse will be traveling to one of these areas it may be a good idea to add another vaccine to your protocols. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns about Potomac Horse Fever!