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| FEEDING REGIMES | |
| Wash hands before and after feeding  Clean bowls with horse names on  Follow the feed chart, if any concerns speak to the yard manager  Senior staff to feed only  Senior staff to all administer medication  Regular feed times Breakfast between 7.30-8.30  Dinner between 5.30-6.30  Use the measuring jugs provided  Check use by date of the feed sacks  Report immediately any feed that looks mouldy or unfit for feeding  Tidy and sweep the feed shed after every use  Sweep the floor, throw all sweepings into the bin or muck trailer to avoid encouraging mice  When not in use the door must be kept shut fast and bolted when needed  No liveries, children or visitors to go into the feed shed and help themselves top any feeds  Bucket must be suitable and safe for feeding, if any have metal handles they must be removed  If feeding in groups in the fields put extra heaps so ALL horse get to eat  Spread all the heaps far apart to avoid fights and kicking  Any timid or shy feeders bring in and feed on their own  Horses with medication or supplements must be bought in and feed on their own, if they live out  If signs of rats report to management so irradiation process can be arranged |  |
| CLEANING REGIMES |  |
| All stables must be mucked out daily to remove waste products and prevent disease  The floor must be swept to remove any waste that could be left behind  All stables must be skipped out lunch and dinner time  If the horse is poorly then the stable must be skipped out at every visit to that stable  Suitable bedding must be put on the floor  Enough bedding must be applied to the stable, this will depend on if rubber matting is in the stable and the thickness of those mats  Horses that are sick must have deeper bedding  Concrete floors must have think full beds to prevent cold, damp and injury to the horse.  Horse that are confined to long periods of box rest will need enrichment to prevent boredom, stress and anxiety  Ensure all tools are removed from the stable after use.  Any hazards that are noticed in the stable to be reported immediately  If the horse is at risk of injury then remove from that stable immediately  Disinfect the stable at regular intervals.  The stable must be disinfected when new horse are going to use it and after they have gone  Care must be taken using sharp tools in the stable when the horse is in the stable, so injury doesn’t occur |  |
| TRANSPORT |  |
| The lorry must be fit for use and have full plating/MOT and correct insurance  All trailer must be pulled by a vehicle that is capable of pulling a loaded trailer and able to brake safely fully laden  The driver must have experience driving, or towing with horses and have the WATO (Welfare of Transport Order)certificate  Those born after 1997 must have to do a test before they can tow horses or drive a lorry above 3.5 tonnes  The lorry or trailer must be clean and safe the lorry must be checked for safety before loading the horses  Each horse must have its own space and partition from other horses (unless its mares and foals and are small ponies that travel together)  Find out as much history about the animal being transported prior to transportation  Has it travelled before  Has it had any travel equipment on before (try on and test travel boots bandages before the horse travels, if the horse doesn’t like them it’s safer to travel without)  Ideally all horse should have a tail bandage to protect the tail and dock bone  If the horse is infectious DON’T travel with others  If they are travelling with hay nets make sure they are tied up high so when empty they are still at a safe height, double check the tying of the nets prior to travel starting  Know the law for travelling:  How long can the horse travel without stopping?  When must the horse be unloaded and put in a stable for rest and given food and water?  Disinfect the lorry or trailer after use |  |
| THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE SPREAD OF DISEASE |  |
| Know the signs for any infectious disease  Staff must be trained to spot the signs and symptoms of infectious diseases and report any concerns to yard managers  Call the vet to advise and confirm what disease may have been caught and to give any medication needed  DEFRA must be called if it’s a notifiable disease  Isolate all new horse to the yard for 4 weeks  Isolate any horses that are showing symptoms associated with infectious disease immediately  Monitor all horses that have been in contact with the sick horse for any signs and symptoms  Allocate one person to attend the sick horses  Adhere to isolation procedure  Apply the rules of sick nursing  Read the infection control procedure.  Biosecurity measure to be implemented outside the stable |  |
| MONITORING AND ENSURING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE HORSES |  |
| All staff should be trained to know a healthy horse from a un healthy horse  Daily checks should be done to all horses, often best when being mucked out,  Often the horse will display a different behaviour to normal  Keeps records of  Jabs  Teeth  Weight  Feeding  Worming  Medication  Vet visits  Physio  Know and understand your horses each one is an individual and each one has its own personality likes and dislikes, knowing them means you will pick up very quickly when your horse is not himself  Keep stallions away from the herd they need their own private paddock and stable away from mares  Introduce new horses to the herd slowly and over a period of time  Keeps herd groups to mares or geldings to minimise fights  Ponies can live in mixed herds but they must be watched and monitored for bullying and ponies being pushed out and not getting any food  Daily Routine  Daily exercise or turn out  Safe paddocks  Safe well-fitting tack  Clipping when required to avoid weight lost. Sores and possibility of chills if left wet and cold. Lose of condition  Regular farrier visits to trim or shoe the feet |  |
| THE DEATH OR ESCAPE OF A HORSE |  |
| **ESCAPE**  Have strong perimeter fences  Only use plain wire, post and rail or stud fencing  NEVER USE BARBED WIRE  Never use electric fence as the boundary fence  Use electric fencing as well to secure boundaries that join other land owners.  Land will often join roads, theses fences must be strong safe and prevent horse escaping. Also of suitable height to prevent horse trying to jump them.  If the fences are of concern keep the horse in over night  Daily checks of all fences to ensure the paddocks are safe for use  Regular maintenance of all fences.  Road or paddock gates to be locked over night to stop intruders letting the horses loose.  Stable doors to be bolted top and bottom, NEVER padlock the horse in the stable in case of fire.  All yard gates, doors to be shut, bolted and checked at last night check to make sure the yard is secure and safe  **DEATH**  The quality of the horse’s life is defined by their overall physical and mental wellbeing  The widely held perception that life should be preserved at all costs must change. Euthanasia is often the most responsible course of action and the most appropriate to a horse’s welfare. It is far more welfare-friendly to give a horse a dignified and timely end to its life than to allow it to suffer or be passed from home to home, facing an uncertain future.  Questions to consider?  1. Have you sought the opinion of your vet regarding the current condition of your horse?  2. Remember how your horse was prior to injury or illness.  3. Do you have the time and energy to support an ageing or ill horse?  4. Have you considered the financial implications of ongoing veterinary care?  5. Have you sought the advice of your insurance company?  It is important to understand that often inexpensive treatments are available to improve the quality of life for older horses and ponies to help manage their conditions and prolong a good quality of life.  All staff and clients must as with any animal understand that life and death go hand in hand.  When we have any animal the issue of euthanasia will arise at some point so it good to know the options available as horse aren’t as straight forward as small animals, and disposal is even harder and very costly.  When taking on a horse it’s a good idea to know what the process may involve.  Read leaflets and literature  British Horse Society: ADVICE ON Euthanasia  British Horse Society: QUALITY OF LIFE  Euthanasia can be very expensive so be pre pared for the end of any good servant’s life and do right by those that have served you well.  Never abandon and old sick horse  Never sell and old, sick horse that will have no quality of life  Be prepared to make the hard choices  Know when the time is right  Euthanasia must be performed by a vet licensed professional or kennel man |  |