

Internal Parasites Seen in Horses

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Parasite	Organs Affected	Ages Affected	Injury & Symptoms
Strongyles (Bloodworms)	Larvae – arteries, liver and gut wall	All ages, but young is especially susceptible	Retarded growth Loss of weight Poor appetite Rough hair coats General weakness Anemia Diarrhea Recurrent colics Death
	Adults – large intestine		
Ascarids (Roundworms)	Larvae – liver & lungs	Young (under 2 years of age)	Retarded growth Pot bellied Rough hair coat Digestive upsets Pneumonia Death (ruptured intestine)
	Adults – small intestine		
Bots	Eggs – on hair	All ages	Excitement (by flies) Digestive upsets
	Larvae – tongue and gums		
Pinworms	Bots - stomach		
	Larvae – large intestine	Larvae affect all ages	Tail rubbing
Strongyloides (Threadworms)	Adults – large intestine and rectum		
	Larvae – lungs and small intestine	Foals	Diarrhea Dehydration Weight loss
Tape worm	Adults – small intestine		
	Larvae – small intestine	All ages	Retarded growth Weight loss Colic
	Adults – large intestine and cecum		

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