



**LINWOOD**  
VETERINARY SERVICES

**DR. MARTIN MISENER DR. MURRAY RUNSTEDLER DR. PAUL SOSTAR  
DR. NANCY CHARLTON DR. ANDREW MACLEOD DR. JODI KENDREW  
DR. JOHN TOKARZ DR. CHRIS DITTENHOFFER DR. ROXANE PARDIAC  
DR. CHRISTINA MOHOS**

**3860 Manser Road, Linwood, Ontario N0B 2A0 (519) 698-2610  
1-800-663-2941 Fax (519) 698-2081  
linwoodvet@linwoodvet.ca**

## **August 2007 Newsletter**

### **Clinic News**

The clinic will be open until 12:00 p.m. on Monday, September 3, 2007 for the Labour Day Holiday, please try to monitor your supplies and order ahead so this does not inconvenience you during the holiday weekend.

### **Equine**

#### Environmental Concerns – Heat Stroke/Heat Exhaustion

The summer months are finally upon us. Consequently, there are different risks and concerns regarding the horses.

Heat stroke or heat exhaustion are significant concerns for the horses. Prevention is key but prompt recognition of symptoms is also vital. If the horse is overheating and becomes disoriented or begins to stumble when being worked or out on pasture it is very important to act immediately. Get the horse into a barn or into the shade. Use cool water to help the horse reduce its body temperature. The important areas to target your water therapy are the chest, between the thighs, under the tail and the poll. After initiating water therapy, contact the Veterinarian because this is an emergency. Please use extreme caution when handling the affected horse because they can often fall down or begin to have convulsions.

Paying close attention to the water and humidity will help to minimize the chances of your horse developing heat stroke or heat exhaustion. Working the horses during the peak heat hours (10:00 – 2:00) should be avoided. If it is unavoidable, don't work them too hard, provide free access to water and cool the horse down properly. When the humidity level is high or there is a smog advisory, refrain from working the horses too hard. It will be more difficult for them to cool down because the sweat won't evaporate as efficiently. Breathing will also be significantly more difficult. When the horse are turned out on pasture, please ensure they have a shady area to retreat to during the heat of the day.

With proper care and forethought, heat stroke and heat exhaustion can be prevented. If the condition does develop please seek medical attention immediately.