

1  **A Foals First Year**

Dr. John Henton

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- Pregnant Mare
- Preparation for foaling
- Parturition
- Care of newborn foal

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- Immunization
- Parasite control
- Nutrition
- Stable Management

4  **Pregnant Mare?**

5  **Pregnancy Exams**

- 14- 18 days
- 30- 35 days
- Fall

6  **Pregnant Mare**

Nutrition:

- Increase in last trimester of pregnancy
- Do not let mares get obese!

7  **Parasite Control**

- Regular deworming intervals
- Worm 4-6 weeks prior to foaling
  - Safeguard
- Worm a few days after foaling
  - Ivermectin
  - Foals are coprophagic

8  **Vaccinations**

- Rhinopneumonitis
  - Pneumabort K
    - 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> months
- Annual vaccinations 4-6 weeks before foaling
  - Increase antibodies in colostrum

9  **Management**

- Adequate exercise
  - Reduces edema
- Sutured mares
  - Open 1 month prior to foaling
- Remove from fescue pasture 60-90 days prior to foaling

10  **Preparation for Foaling**

- Foaling stall
  - 14x14
  - Solid walls
  - Straw bedding

11  **Supplies on Hand**

- ½ iodine, ½ glycerin
- Towels
- Phosphate fleet enema
- O<sub>2</sub> if possible

12  **Signs of Parturition**

- Milk turns white
- Waxing
- Relaxation of pelvic ligament

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19  **Parturition: Stage I**

- 12-24 hours
- Restless
- Mildly colicky

20  **Parturition: Stage II**

- Active delivery of foal
- Starts with rupture of placenta (break-water)
- 10-30 minutes

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27  **Immediately After Foaling**

- Leave alone unless
  - Fetal membranes are over face
  - Respiratory difficulty
  - Overly aggressive mare

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### **Parturition: Stage III**

- Removal of placental membrane
- Less than 3 hours
- If greater than 3 hours seek immediate medical attention

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### **Problems**

- Active labor for 15 minutes and unable to see foal
- Malpresentation
- Membranes over foal's face
- Fetal membranes retained for greater than 3 hours

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### **Care of Newborn Foal**

- Dip navel
- Be sure foal receives colostrum
- Enema
- Vaccinations
- Antibiotics?

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### **Foals are Born without Antibodies**

- Mares placenta does not allow maternal transfer of immunoglobins

- 52  **Failure of Passive Transfer**  
➤ A complete or partial failure of colostrum immunoglobulin
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➤ During last 2 weeks of gestation, mare sequesters immunoglobins in mammary gland
- 54  **Colostrum Immunoglobins are Absorbed by Newborn Foal**  
➤ Suppression of digestive enzymes  
➤ Pass directly into lymphatics  
➤ Dose dependent
- 55  **Cause of Failure of Passive Immunity**  
➤ Premature lactation  
➤ Agalactia  
➤ Foal does not nurse  
➤ Foal does not absorb
- 56  **Failure of Passive Transfer**  
➤ Failure to produce colostrum  
➤ Premature lactation  
➤ Retarded access  
➤ Intestinal malabsorption & stress  
➤ Prematurity
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- 59  **Treatment**  
➤ Oral colostrum  
➤ IV plasma  
• 20 mg/kg  
• Cross match if possible
- 60  **Parasite Control**  
➤ Exposed to:  
• Strongyloides Westerii  
• Large strongyles  
• Small strongyles  
• Ascarids  
• Pinworms  
• Bots
- 61  **Deworming**  
➤ Every 6-8 weeks  
➤ Start at 2 months of age  
➤ Pastes or drenches
- 62  **Immunization**  
➤ Vaccines available  
• Tetanus Toxoid  
• Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis

- Influenza
- Rhinopneumonitis

63  **Vaccine Schedule**

- Foals from Vaccinated Mare
  - First “permanent” at 6-9 months
  - Booster in 4-6 weeks
  - May need additional boosters if high exposure

64  **Nutrition**

- Water
- Trace mineral salt
- Energy (TDN)
- Protein
- Calcium
- Phosphate
- Vitamin A

65  **Creep Feeding**

- ½ to ¾ concentrate per 100lbs. body weight

66  **Creep Feed**

- 18% protein
- 0.85% calcium
- 0.60% phosphate

67  **Quality of Amino Acids**

- Lysine
  - Sources
    - Soybean oil meal
    - Milk byproduct

68  **Balance of Forage  
& Grains is Important**

- Ca/ Phos ratio

69  **Over Nutrition**

- Improper Ca/Phos  
leads to Epiphysitis

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