

**Airdrie, AB, July 4, 2013** – Collaboration between Alberta Agriculture, Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency, Alberta Veterinary Labs, and Horse Industry Association of Alberta has led to the formulation of a generic liquid Ivermectin dewormer, called "Ivermectin Liquid for Horses." In May 2013, the product was registered by the Veterinary Drugs Directorate for use in horses. The process took in excess of three years to complete the research and trials.

The generic product is manufactured in Calgary and is currently available through veterinary clinics and over the counter at local



feed and tack stores. It is available in three different forms: a 15 mL syringe, 60 mL bulk bottle, and a 120 mL bulk bottle. It is administered orally, either directly into the mouth with a syringe or top dressed on grain and fed to the horse. "Since it is a water-based product, horses will eat it when added to sweet feed. This is great news for horses that have been a problem to deworm," states Dr. Merle Olson of Alberta Veterinary Labs.

Horse owners can look forward to significant savings. Treatment with a brand name dewormer imported into Canada costs horse owners between \$15-\$30 dollars. Ivermectin Liquid for Horses will be available for a quarter of the cost, at around \$5 for an average 500 kg horse.

“Until recently a manufacturing plant of large volume, sterile and non-sterile, veterinary pharmaceuticals did not exist in Canada, creating a situation where these products had to be imported from other countries outside of Canada,” states Olson. “The lack of domestic manufacturing lead to artificially inflated pharmaceutical prices for Alberta livestock producers, but also the loss of jobs and revenue generation here in Alberta.”

“It is expected that the costs of deworming horses will also decrease as it did when these same people came out with the similar cattle product over eighteen months ago,” says Les Burwash Manager of Horse Programs with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development. “This is a good news story about a local pharmaceutical manufacturing company’s success and the horse industry having its first product licenced for use in all horses, including those entering the food chain.”

The withdrawal time for the Ivermectin Liquid for Horses is 14 days. It is the only drug for horses in North America that has a withdrawal time.

“We are very thankful for the funding provided by the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency, which enabled the success of this product to be produced by Alberta Veterinary Labs; it will benefit all horse owners,” says Robyn Moore, Manager of Horse Industry Association of Alberta.

- 30 -

High resolution photo available upon request.

[Download the order form.](#)

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