

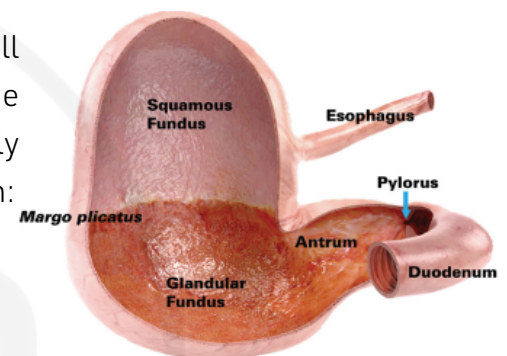
Gastroscopy: What It Is and Why Your Horse Might Need One

A gastroscopy allows veterinarians to examine your horse's stomach and oesophagus using a specialised 3-meter camera. This procedure provides insight into conditions such as ulcers, parasites, and other gastrointestinal issues that may be affecting your horse's health and performance. Common signs of gastric ulcers include colic, weight loss, poor coat condition, girthy discomfort, behavioral changes, and poor performance.

What to Expect During the Procedure

Your horse will be lightly sedated for comfort. A small protective tube is inserted through the nostril to guide the camera safely into the stomach. If the horse has been properly fasted, we can fully assess the three key areas of the stomach:

- Squamous region (upper stomach)
- Glandular region (lower stomach)
- Pylorus (stomach exit into the small intestine)



Preparing for a Gastroscopy

Fast for 12-16 hours before the procedure to ensure a clear view of the stomach. Any remaining feed can obscure visualization, making diagnosis less effective.

Common Findings

- Squamous Gastric Ulcers
- Glandular Gastric Ulcers
- Botfly infestation
- Esophageal disorders
- Obstructions

What to Consider Before the Scope

To help our specialists during your visit, think about the following:

- ✓ When did you first notice any issues?
- ✓ Has your horse ever been treated for ulcers?
- ✓ What is your horse's current diet and turnout routine?
- ✓ How much work is your horse in (intensity and days per week)?
- ✓ Does your horse routinely have dental floats performed?
- ✓ How often is your horse dewormed and which products are used?
- ✓ Do you have any other health concerns you would like to discuss?