

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
LARGE ANIMAL TEACHING

SOP No: ATT 045

SUBJECT: Administer an oral drench to a horse

POLICY: These procedures may only be performed by operators who have been educated in the correct techniques, and under the supervision of their skilled Demonstrator. Leather boots must be worn.

PRECAUTIONS: The horse will be placed in a crush and will be suitably restrained by a skilled handler standing on the same side as the person administering the oral drench. A nose twitch would only be used if the animal is particularly fractious.

EQUIPMENT: 50 ml Syringes
Molasses water
Halter & lead
Twitch
Crush

PROCEDURE:

1. Using the halter and attached lead, the horse's head is gently restrained by a competent horse handler, standing on the same side as the person administering the oral drench.
2. The syringe filled with molasses water is introduced into the horse's mouth from the side, and positioned so that it is high up on the horse's tongue.
3. The drench is administered and the horse's head held up, parallel to the ground while it swallows.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: 24.06.2009

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. Rose, R.J. and Hodgson, D.R. Manual of Equine Practice. Second Edition. W.B. Saunders. Philadelphia. 2000.