



Your Pet and the Fall Season – Floating Teeth

Floating Teeth

Many owners mention how they "know" their horses do not need their mouths examined or floated because they: a) aren't dropping any feed, b) are fat, c) are showing no signs of discomfort, or d) do not misbehave while being ridden. If equine dentistry is needed, we offer a comprehensive evaluation of the mouth and teeth, "floating" of teeth while using a mild sedative, and extractions if necessary.

There may be any number of signs you pick up on that indicate that a thorough examination of the mouth is in order. Listed below are a few signs that a horse can have dental needs.

1. A horse that shows signs of colic (a stomach ache in a horse)
2. Not being able to gain or maintain good body weight (sometimes considered a hard keeper)
3. Feed, even hay found in the stool uncrushed, wasting its food value to the horse
4. Dropping feed while eating
5. The horse may turn its head to one side or the other or lift its head up while chewing
6. The horse pushes its head deeply into its feed as if to try to fill its mouth while eating
7. Bucking, pitching, rearing, pawing or just having a poor attitude (may still have wolf teeth)
8. Resisting being caught, not accepting the bit, head tossing or twisting when bitted
9. Not turning or responding well to the bit
10. Chewing or grinding on the bit, having a busy mouth as if the bit is annoying
11. One of the most common causes of weight loss is due to poor dentition. Horses teeth continuously grow and maintaining proper occlusion so that they can graze and grind their food is very important.
12. We offer a comprehensive evaluation of the mouth and teeth, "floating" of teeth while using a mild sedative, and extractions if necessary.