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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Short Communication

Equine Calming Products: a short survey into their use, effect and knowledge using a small sample

of horse owners in the North of Scotland, UK

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Abstract

Equine calming products (ECPs) are often used by horse owners to alter or mitigate

unwanted or dangerous behaviours in various situations. Little scientific research to date examines

horse owners' knowledge surrounding these products. The objective of this pilot survey was to

determine horse owners' use and perceptions of ECPs. For convenience, a survey was distributed to

riding club members, livery yards and riding instructors in the North of Scotland, UK to ascertain the

following information; the number of horse owners and caretakers who use an ECP, whether the

product was considered to be effective; reasons for use and identification of the effective ingredient.

Total response rate was 63%; (n = 58) correctly completed questionnaires were received. Of the total

respondents 69% (n = 40) confirmed the use of an ECP and 82% would use them again, 45%

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