



THE MARE

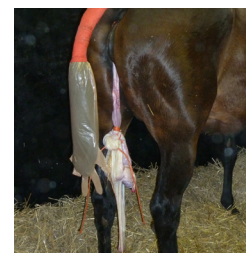
As the time approaches for your mare to give birth, we've compiled some useful facts about the key stages in the foaling process and indicated when you should seek veterinary assistance.

STAGE 1

<12 hours

Restless, walking, sweating, getting up and down frequently. Waters break.

Keep the mare quiet, place her in a stable with a deep straw bed, if possible. Bandage her tail and clean her vulva gently with clean water.



Correctly tied fetal membranes

STAGE 2

<30 minutes

Presentation of front feet in the birth canal within 5 minutes of the waters breaking, may still be covered in the fetal membranes. Foal out within 20-30 minutes.

The mare may get up and down to move the foal into position. If safe to do so, feel the front feet in the birth canal. Once visible, peel the membranes off the nose.



Complete fetal membranes

When to call for help:

- No foal presented within 15 minutes.
- Head only, head and one foot, back feet.
- Foal in pelvic canal more than 20 minutes.

STAGE 3

<2 hours

Expulsion of the fetal membranes.

Tie up the fetal membranes carefully; it should all come out in one piece within 2 hours of the foal arriving. The mare might be a little uncomfortable but should stand within an hour.



Incomplete fetal membranes (retained horn)

When to call for help:

- Membranes still attached after 3 hours.
- Incomplete fetal membranes.
- Mare showing signs of colic or depression.

Tel: 01638 663150 (24 Hours)

ROSSDALES EQUINE PRACTICE, Beaufort Cottage Stables, High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8JS

www.rossdales.com