2010 Horse Journal Products of the Year

The most innovative, hardworking products from the past year’s trials.

The choice of products of the year is one we take very seriously. Many times it comes down to what our testers have found they simply wouldn’t be without again, and other times it’s simply the best product we’ve found for the job. As previously, we’re presenting these to you in alphabetical order.

AGSilver Clean Bucket
We were so certain this product wouldn’t live up to its claims, we couldn’t wait to try it. And we were so wrong! This high-density plastic bucket looks like other water buckets, but its polyethylene is impregnated with ionic silver. The silver is safe for your horse, and it helps minimize the slime buildup in water buckets. What’s more is that nearly all our test horses seemed to prefer the water from the AgSilver bucket. www.equifit.net, 877-437-8434. $29.95.

Banixx
This liquid wound and hoof care formula is independent-lab tested as anti-microbial. We found it began to work within just a few days, even without removing scabs on rain rot. On thrush, results were fast, even with painful severe thrush. We like its double-duty ability to use on both hooves and skin, so we can keep one product on hand. No dilution. Spray on. www.banixx.com, 888-282-4599. $23.95/32 oz.

Dermacloth
This premoistened cloth contains vitamin E, a coat conditioner, nonionic surfactants and the antimicrobial Microban. It has no soaps or alcohol, and we’ve found it effective for preventing minor skin infections, routine care of sutured wounds or irritated skin. We think it’s worth the price. www.kinetictech.net, 877-786-9882. $14.50/8 cloths.

Ice Horse Wraps
Every barn should have cold therapy ready to go. And Ice Horse makes that simple with flexible gel packs that stayed cold longer than other competitors in our trial. Plus, these packs can be warmed for heat therapy, too, and we love double-duty products. www.icehorse.net, 800-786-6633. $70 to $215.

Keratex Hoof Hardener
It penetrates deeply then reacts with the hoof wall keratin to form additional links/bridges. It binds to protein to stiffen the keratin coil, helping prevent brittleness and cracks. It’s expensive, but it lasts and gets the job done. www.keratex.net, 888-537-2839. $38.28/8 oz.

Mosquito Halt
If we had a nickel for every time we’ve told a caller to try Mosquito Halt for fly control only to be told, “But I don’t have a mosquito problem,” well, we’d be lounging in the Hawaiian Islands instead of writ-