

Free - Please  
take one  
& pass it  
around!

Where there are rivers,  
There are valleys,  
There are horses,  
And...

*All Breeds,  
All Disciplines,  
All the Time!*

# The Valley Equestrian Newspaper

Your resource for equestrian news, events and information

May 2013

# Running in the Green



## **Inside This Issue:**

- Pasture and Manure Management
- Mn Horse Expo Photo Review
- Using Horse Treats

# MN Horse Expo Photo Highlights

The Mn Horse Expo held April 26-28 at the state fairgrounds in St. Paul, Minn. enjoyed wonderful weather

and a great turnout! Clinicians from all over the country including Richard Shrake, Vitor Silva and the

Sons of the Wind Lusitanos, Ken McNabb, Trey Young, Jim Masterson and many more presented informa-

tion and training tips that people from the entire Midwest came to see and learn. More photos may be

seen at the Valley Equestrian Newspaper web site: [www.theveonline.com](http://www.theveonline.com) or

on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/VE-News](http://www.facebook.com/VE-News).



1



2

Clockwise from top left: 1. Jim Masterson demonstrates "Find & Release Hidden Tension in Your Horse," in the Ag Star Arena at the MN State Fairgrounds during the 2013 MN Horse Expo. 2. Sons of the Wind Lusitanos demonstrate in the Coliseum.

**Hightail Horse Ranch & Rescue**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
 May 11, 2013 • 11am-5pm  
 28953 15th Ave North • Hawley, MN

**SCHEDULE**

- 11:00 Dental clinic
- 12:00 Riding lesson demo
- 1:30 Horse shoeing demo
- 2:30 Halter tying demo
- 2:30 Dental clinic
- 3:00 Featured horses
- 3:30 Live auction

Activities include: Animal Communication Mini-Sessions, Scavenger Hunt, Tack Sale, Pony Rides, Ranch Tours, Meet the Adoptable Horses!

full details at [hightailhorseranchandrescue.com](http://hightailhorseranchandrescue.com)



6

3. Vitor Silva and Sons of the Wind Lusitanos teach gaits in the Ag Star Arena; 4. Trey Young teaches roping in the Ag Star Arena; 5. Sammy Scribner, 9, pets Easter Girl, a one-month old mini donkey owned by Harlan and Sharyl Haugen of H&S Mini-Acres in Racine, MN at their stall in the horse barn of the fairgrounds.



3

Photos by Ley Bouchard



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6. Vincent, an 8-year-old Gypsy Vanner and the 2011 North American Grand Champion gelding, with owner Kay Peterson discussing Vincent's driving conformation with Steve Wood, known throughout the Midwest for training horses to drive and his driving skills.



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## The Importance of Good Fencing

By Ley Bouchard

Fencing is one of the most important investments you make in your horse operation in terms of both aesthetics, safety and practicality. You don't want to "cheap out" when it comes to the security of your animals and a nice looking fence adds to the value of your home and/or business.

Mark Olson knows about fencing after 25 years in the business of installing fencing for a company he and his dad started.

"My dad had called a guy about 25 years ago asking for someone to fence so he went out and bought a post hole digger and it started," said Olson.

Olson Fencing is based in Southeast Minnesota and serves a three-state area: Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Although the term is the same, there have been many changes in the type of fencing available. Materials are stronger and the electric braid products are more durable than they were in the past.

Olson said, "Post spacing can be farther apart now because the materials are stronger and last longer; state mandates for EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) Money (for cattle or sheep) have changed so you can be 24 with woven wire, or 30-50 depending upon what style fence you have. Sheep are more popular now and that has to do with the use of acreage."

"Woven wire and electro braid are the most important - the more you pay for it the better the copper wire is going to be and the longer it will last," Olson said.

"For installs, we have only done one with the tape because it is more temporary; with rope, the electro brand is more permanent. There is only one size, 3/8ths inch."



When your horse follows you without being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine...you know you are loved.  
 John Lyons



Breaking News! Breaking News! Breaking News! Breaking News!  
 Learn the latest news at the Valley Equestrian Newspaper's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/thevenews](http://www.facebook.com/thevenews)

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 Ley Bouchard, Publisher  
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 PO Box 64  
 Sabin, MN 56580  
 theVENews@gmail.com  
 (320) 209-8523

**Owner/Publisher/Editor**  
 Ley Bouchard  
 (701) 361-8648  
 leybou@gmail.com

**Strategic Marketing Director**  
 Heather Benson  
 (605) 660-6599  
 valleyequestriannews@gmail.com

**Marketing Specialists**  
 Kari Hagstrom  
 (320) 766-2620  
 Kari.venews@hotmail.com

Jessie Monson  
 (701) 425-1822  
 Jessie.venews@gmail.com

**Contributing Writers**  
 Orv Alvshere  
 Heather Benson  
 Dr. Juliet Getty  
 Janice Ladendorf  
 Fran Lynghaug  
 Charles Wilhelm

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**About the Cover**  
 A Thoroughbred mare, Joyous Wind, and foal, Appealing Zepher (pictured left), owned by Margo Brady, run at liberty in the pasture of Brady Equestrian Center in Downer, Minn.



The May issue of the Valley Equestrian Newspaper (VEN) focuses on pasture and manure management, essential tasks for maintaining lush pastures and grounds for us and our horses.

See page 5 for details about our "Cutest Foal Contest" which will be featured in the June issue of the VEN with winners announced in the July issue. Pictured left is Dream Makers Appaloosa foal, owned by Courtney Karels, resting under the mare's legs at the MN Horse Expo.

Enjoy this issue of the VEN! Thank you for patronizing the advertisers that made this issue possible.

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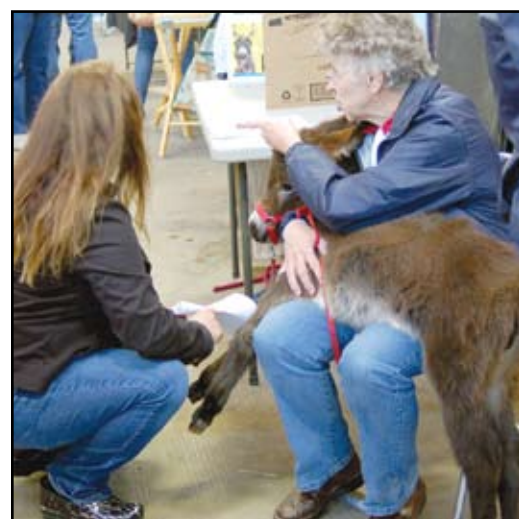


Sons of the Wind perform at the MN Horse Expo - more on page 2



Lulu watches the trainers at the Colt Starting Competition at the West Fargo, ND, Fairgrounds - more on page 19.

**Pg.19** Colt Starting Competition



Easter Girl, the one-month mini-donkey from H&S Mini-Acres rests on the lap of Sharyl Haugen while people stop and visit.

See the complete VEN distribution list at:  
[www.theveonline.com](http://www.theveonline.com)

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**Publisher's Clipboard**

Dear Readers,  
 In this issue we are all about horse's pastures, manure management, fencing and equipment you need to care for horses, pasture and fencing.

You probably have invested a lot of money and time in the pasture and fencing for your horse farm. I did. When I purchased my hobby farm/mini-horse ranch, I couldn't wait to get my 12 acres fenced and buy my very first horse.

I was in my late 40s and my budget and equipment would only afford me t-posts and electric wire fencing; that might have been adequate for a normal horse. But I had to go and buy a Houdini Welch/Arab cross mare named Callie.

For companionship and entertainment, I also acquired some goats from the local zoo where I volunteered. Callie usually found the grass was greener on the other side of the fence. Where she went, so did the goats, Zena and Billy.

It was late afternoon one Sunday before I started dinner for my family that I got a call from the local sheriff. "Do you have a grey horse and goats?" Do you know that feeling? Yes, well, they were grazing and walking in the ditch and railroad tracks near Highway 75 north of Moorhead, Minn. and occasionally obstructing traffic.

I jumped in the Chevy Blazer and took off with a feed bucket, a few lead ropes and the boys. We traveled

the 2 mile trek to the highway and found our critters mostly in the ditch. Passers-by were honking and slowing to see the spectacle. Oh course, Callie did not have a halter on as I don't believe in leaving halters on horses in the pasture. They might get caught on something and injure themselves trying to get out. Callie knew she was halterless and made the most of the situation. I approached her with the feed bucket, a maneuver that would always bring her to me, except today.

She would let me get just so close and she would take a little run away. I knew if I could get her the goats would be easier to catch, too.

Callie led me on an hour's hike up and down the ditch and rail tracks. People would stop and try to help and leave again,

which only made the traffic on the highway worse. The Highway Patrol was there with flashing lights trying to keep the traffic flowing smoothly. Callie was absolutely loving all this attention. Then we caught a break.

A motorcyclist pulled up behind my truck. A young, energetic young man, who must have performed with goats in the rodeo, pursued Zena on foot for only 10-15 minutes before he took a leap and wrestled her to the ground. When I saw he successfully grounded her, I went to him with the lead rope, placed it around her neck and led her to the Blazer. Luckily, Billy followed. It wasn't fun lifting them into the truck, but with a little help from my new friend, we were successful. I asked my son, Nate, to drive the two goats

home while I continued to try to capture the elusive Callie.

The motorcyclist, to this day his name unknown, continued to help me with Callie, which was enormous help because for some reason, Callie was curious enough about him to allow him to come up to her neck where he grabbed and held onto her mane until I was able to get alongside her with a lead rope and halter. All was finally coming under control.

When Nate returned with the truck, we brought Callie alongside and walked her home. She was not a happy camper as she actually thought she would get the bucket of grain!

I tried a lot of different electric fencing options but Callie was pretty determined. If she wanted out, a little electric shock did not keep her in.

I hope you enjoy the May issue of the Valley Equestrian Newspaper and support our advertisers that made it available to you at no cost. Articles from Heather Benson and myself will show what is new and available in pasture management, fencing and equipment that will help you keep your critters safe in the pasture where they belong!

Happy Trails!

Ley Bouchard



**News Around the World**

By Ley Bouchard

The Horsemeat Scandal in Europe, founded by Irish inspectors in January, better known as "horsegate," is nearing an end.

Alex Renton of the Guardian (UK, April 18, 2013) says that in the three months since word that horse meat was found in the European food chain, specifically Tesco,

Aidi, Burger King and others. Shoppers have been buying increasingly from butcher shops and have decreased their frozen food purchases by 13 percent compared to last year.

"Ready meals are still suffering; a Europe-wide survey of more than 4,000 products indicated this week that nearly 5 percent of the beef products tested contained more than 1 percent horse DNA (though no products sourced in Britain were found to be contaminated)."

Companies are stating their intention to source their meat locally to avoid horse meat contamination. In the meantime, the ongoing struggle to open horse processing plants in the USA continues.

The Paulick Report states that "At a news conference held Thursday at Old Friends at Cabin Creek in New York, lawmakers from the state introduced a bill that would ban horse slaughter in the Empire State. The measure would also make it illegal to transport horses through

New York to Canada or elsewhere that are intended for slaughter. "Horses at slaughter houses are treated with cruel indifference and subjected to unimaginable pain and suffering," State Senator Kathy Marchione said at the conference."

**New Foals**  
 It has been an exciting foaling month. In our backyards

are many newbies coming into the planet and some notable names include Zenyatta who foaled a sorrel colt with



a broad blaze, 13Z. Lots of photos are available at [www.zenyatta.com](http://www.zenyatta.com) or the Facebook page. A full brother to the Horse of the Year (2010) supermare, Zenyatta, out of Vertigineux and by Street Cry, was born April 9th at Ashford Stud near Versailles, Kentucky.

What babies were born in your barn this year? Enter our "Cutest Foal Contest" and see the results determined by our Readers' Board in the June issue of the Valley Equestrian Newspaper.

Cigar (pictured above) celebrated his 23rd birthday on April 18. This retired racehorse became famous in 1995 and 1996 racing against the best to win 16 consecutive races. He retired as the leading money earner in Thoroughbred racing history and was inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame. This picture was taken of Cigar at the World Equestrian Games in Kentucky in 2010.

**Valley Equestrian Newspaper's 1st Annual Cutest Foal Contest!**

Send us your cutest foal photos! Winners selected by readers! VEN Subscriptions given to the top three selected winners!

Each entry must include: name, address, contact information such as phone number and/or email address.

Submissions due by May 20th!

**Details:**  
 •Photos must be high resolution (300) DPI and at least 4x6 inches.  
 •Photos will not be returned and may be used to promote upcoming photo contests  
 •Photos will be printed in the June issue of the VEN  
 •Send your submissions to: PO Box 64, Sabin, MN 56580 or digital copies may be sent to: [thevenews@gmail.com](mailto:thevenews@gmail.com)

**Cutest Foal Contest**



## Charles Wilhelm: Ultimate Foundation Training from Start to Finish *Personality and How it Can Effect the Training of Your Horse - Part I Clinic*

We often hear about the herd instinct and the role it plays in leadership and the development of a relationship with a horse. What we don't hear much about, are the personalities of horses. I've worked with many horses over the last 20 years. I have probably worked between 25 and 30 horses every month. I've seen a range of personalities and out of that I have identified some very distinct personality types. In fact, I wrote a book called *Building Your Dream Horse* and I describe seven different personalities. The personality of a horse is an important factor to consider when choosing a horse and personality also impacts the training of a horse.

We know that all horses have the herd instinct. For example, we know that when one horse bolts, they all go. We know that there is a pecking order in the herd and that a leader is always established. Also we know that horses have a fight or flight mechanism. When you corner a horse, the result will likely be an argument. Push a horse and he will likely respond with a fight or he will attempt to run away. In other words the horse will buck or bolt or bury his head in the sand just like some people do. Along with these basic instincts, we need to understand that every horse has its own personality.

Here are the seven basic personalities I've identified. See if you can identify your

horse.

**Compliant** - This is the type of horse that most of us want to have (or should want to have) but this type probably makes up less than 5 percent of all horses. This is the horse with the mind and attitude that says, "I don't care, whatever you want to do, just let me know and I'm happy to oblige." The compliant horse gives easily to pressure and has a natural emotional level usually around two or three on a scale of one to ten, with ten being the highest. The handler or rider could be a youngster or a senior citizen. This is a very forgiving animal, easy to train with very low fear levels.



A horse that is down on feed and not really healthy may appear to be compliant. Once the horse is properly fed, the personality may change drastically. The horse may truly be compliant but we need to be aware of this possibility. If the horse has a dull coat and is lethargic, once it is well fed and is feeling better, it may be an entirely different horse.

**Bully** - The bully is extremely pushy. He will have no problem walking into another's space and doesn't care about anything. He

has no respect for humans and often little for other horses. This horse requires a very confident handler or rider. Communication must be in black and white when working a horse who is a bully. It is important to note, if we offer too much pressure or bully during training, we can actually get a reverse effect, the bully may become timid and fearful. All horses have

the potential to become bullies if the handler allows the horse to invade his/her space. Part of the natural herd instinct is that horses establish a pecking order and a leader. We always need to be the leader.

Often with a bully horse there is a need to use more pressure than most of my clients are willing to exert. Too much pressure creates a problem but there can be no gray areas when working with a bully horse. All commands must be clear and there must be follow through to attain the

expectation.

**Indifferent** - This horse is aloof and not social. Once you capture his mind, you may become his best friend but this usually takes a considerable amount of time and he will never be a true "people horse." With an indifferent horse, the handler or rider must be confident, insightful and very consistent. It is hard to get this horse's attention and to keep him focused on the task at hand. However, once the connection is made, this type of horse can actually become very nice.

Usually the indifferent horse makes a very good trail horse. This type of horse is not inclined to be buddy or barn sour. They are very independent.

Most of my clients want some type of relationship with their horses, and an indifferent horse can become warm and fuzzy, even when you capture his/her mind.

**Timid** - The timid horse usually seems quiet on the outside but he will fall apart under pressure. When working with a timid horse, the demeanor of the rider or handler must be very relaxed and quiet. We need to put pressure on such horses to raise their emotional level, but not so

much that they "blow up." Our objective is to instill confidence in them and to make them feel secure in the arena and on the trail. The rider must be very confident and very clear with his/her cues.

**Nervous Nellie** - This horse differs from the timid horse in that he is just nervous about everything. This horse looks at everything. He has confidence to a degree but is also concerned about everything happening around him. The Nervous Nellie is very likely to bolt if too much pressure is applied or if he is asked to do things too soon. The demeanor of the handler or rider needs to be relaxed but you cannot skirt around issues with this type of horse. An assertive person may need to tone it down a bit (in body language and tone of voice), but the behavior must not be catered to. This horse's emotional level must be worked frequently and with greater intensity.

Next time we'll talk about the horse that is way too smart and the two categories of the lethargic horse. We'll also discuss the most elusive of all horses, the bomb proof horse. We'll discuss more about understanding your horse and how to apply training principles in the most effective way.

*Charles Wilhelm is internationally known as America's most respected horse trainer. His unique approach to horse training enables horse owners to train their own horses. Charles is the creator of Ultimate Foundation Training; equine training techniques that combine the best of traditional, classical and natural horsemanship into a methodology that is applicable to every riding discipline. His extensive background of over thirty-five years of training includes Dressage, Working Cow Horse, Reining, Western Pleasure and Trail class. He is one of the few clinicians of our time who is known for his superb skills in communicating and motivating people as well as his astounding natural abilities with the horse. He believes that "It's Never, Ever the Horse's Fault" and his training methods reflect that belief. Charles is one of the few trainers specializing in re-schooling horses with often-severe issues.*

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## D-I-T and Make It for Mom: Creative Mother's Day Crafts

(Family Features) For Mother's Day, celebrate the nurturing nature of mom with a specially painted flower pot that holds her favorite herbs or flowers.

sponges or potatoes and let them stamp around the pot.

You can find more ideas, project guides and supplies at [www.joann.com](http://www.joann.com).

**Chalkboard Herb Pot**  
No experience necessary  
Crafting Time: 3 to 5 hours

**Supplies and Tools:**  
•1 Ceramo red clay flower pot  
•Saucer to match pot, if desired

**Tips for Using Chalkboard Paint**

- Chalkboard paint comes in classic black, but also comes in other colors as well.
- Make sure it's completely dry before trying to write on it.
- Some chalkboard paints require you to condition the paint with chalk before using it. Read label instructions carefully.

**Tips for Decorating**

- Using spray paint and hot glue guns may require adult supervision.
- Give the kids creative control – it may not turn out perfectly neat, but it will be perfect for mom.
- Not sure what to paint on the flower pot? Let the kids dip a hand or foot into the paint and put prints onto the pot. Or, cut fun shapes out of



- Blackboard spray paint
- White paint pen or chalk
- Ribbon – width to match the size of the pot rim
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Potting soil
- Plant of your choice

1. Wipe pot and saucer clean to remove all dust.
2. Spray pot and saucer with chalkboard spray paint – no need to paint the interior of the pot if using for planting.
3. Allow paint to fully dry

- approximately 3 to 4 hours.
4. Attach ribbon around rim of pot using hot glue.
5. Fill the pot with a potting soil mix.
6. Transplant your favorite herbs or flowers into the pot.
7. Write the name of the herb or flower on the outside of the pot using paint pen for a permanent finish or chalk for changeable finish.

**Mommy's Favorite Flower Pot**  
Crafting Time: 3 to 5 hours  
Skill Level: No experience necessary

**Supplies and Tools:**  
•1 Ceramo red clay flower pot  
•Gesso spray paint  
•Non-toxic poster paint  
•Small paintbrush  
•Spray fixative  
•Potting soil  
•Plant of your choice

1. Wipe pot clean – remove all dust.
2. Spray pot with gesso spray paint – no need to paint the interior of the

3. Allow paint to fully dry – approximately 3 to 4 hours.
4. Paint the rim of the pot with the poster paint color of choice using paintbrush.
5. Allow rim to dry to the touch.
6. Decorate the body of the pot with poster paints.
7. Allow pot to fully dry.
8. Spray decorated area of the pot with a coat of fixative.
9. Fill the pot with a potting soil mix.
10. Transplant your favorite herbs or flowers into the pot.



## Clinic on Competitive Trail Riding

By Fran Lynghaug

On April 6th, Sue Schedin, Joan Ebert, and Peggy Pasillas held a novice clinic on Endurance riding, Limited Distance riding, and Competitive Trail riding at HHH Ranch's indoor arena in Hastings, Minnesota. It was an amazing experience with 50 attendees. It was hosted by UMECRA (Upper Midwest Endurance & Competitive Ride Association) with lots of fantastic help from MnDRA members who shared their experience and knowledge.

The word about the clinic got out through discussions on facebook when a large group of curious people wanted to know more. Flyers were posted on tack and feed stores and also posted on the Minnesota Horse

Counsel webpage. There was so much interest it was almost overwhelming!

People were really excited to learn and came from all different disciplines and varying levels of experience. At least a handful of juniors wanted to give competitive rides a shot as well as several couples. People came prepared to learn and there were many excellent questions. Hands on experiences were offered including the chance to check pulse and respiration on horses that were brought.

Topics covered were:  
• Descriptions, similarities, and differences of Novice/Competitive Trail rides, Limited  
• Distance rides, and Endurance rides.

- Tack requirements and recommendations
- Conditioning for both the horse and rider
- Registering for an event: coggins, registration papers, health certificates
- Vet checks at the ride: taking your horse's pulse and respirations, trotting your horse out for the vet
- Horse camp rules (tying, pens, high ties)
- Trail etiquette

One of the highlights of the clinic was when a novice horse was used to demonstrate the in-hand vet exam. He was Sue Schedin's green Arabian that had never done that before and he gave a good demonstration of how a horse unfamiliar with the exam might act. Given that it was spring and the first day the weather was

halfway decent, he got real feisty when he was trotted out in front of the crowd of people and literally jumped straight up on all fours and kicked out in play. He kept playing around like this for the entire trot out in front of the vet. People laughed, but the front row moved their chairs back to give him room. He showed what experienced riders might see with a novice horse at a health check. The owner, Sue Schedin, laughed off her horse's antics as just a fun day with her novice horse.

Still to come will be a "mock" novice trail ride on Saturday, May 25th, to practice what was learned. It will run exactly like a Novice ride at a sanctioned trail ride, right down to vet checks, placements, and high points. The goal is to give

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riders a chance to try it out in a (slightly) less hectic location. Half the people at the clinic signed up for the mock ride and many others expressed that they really wanted to get out there and give a competitive ride

a try. Members were excited for the opportunity to share the experience with them. Everyone left with a CD with lots of information on it. For more information contact Sue Schedin, [srshorses@gmail.com](mailto:srshorses@gmail.com).

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## A Toxin in Box Elder Seeds Causes Seasonal Pasture Myopathy in Horses

Collaborative research between Dr. Beatrice Sponseller, clinician at Iowa State University Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center, and Dr. Stephanie Valberg, professor and director of the equine center at University of Minnesota, has led to the discovery of the cause of Seasonal Pasture Myopathy, a highly fatal muscle disease affecting horses at pasture. Clinical signs are dominated by acute muscular weakness and stiffness progressing to recumbency within 24-48 hours. Severe muscle damage of predominantly postural and respiratory muscles leads to myoglobinuria, the passage of dark brown urine that contains muscle pigment. Unfortunately, the disease is fatal in 75-90 percent of cases.

Owner surveys and pasture inspections conducted by the researchers between 2009 and 2011 revealed the uniform presence of seed laden box elder trees (*Acer negundo*) on affected farms. Metabolic profiling of horses with Seasonal Pasture Myopathy, including a case successfully treated at Iowa State University, showed that the disease is associated with a defect in lipid metabolism caused by inhibition of the same enzymes that are affected in human acetyl poisoning (Jamaican Vomiting Sickness). The latter is associated with the ingestion of unripe acetyl fruit that contains the toxin hypoglycin A. In 2012, this very toxin was identified in box elder seeds from affected farms.

Furthermore, the researchers were able to document the presence of metabolites of this toxin in blood and urine of affected horses, closing the link by proving ingestion of the toxin. Seasonal Pasture Myopathy usually occurs in the fall when there is an abundance of box elder seeds.

Further information on Seasonal Pasture Myopathy can be found at <http://www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/SPM/home.html>  
Contact: Dr. Beatrice Sponseller, Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center, [beatrice@iastate.edu](mailto:beatrice@iastate.edu)

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## Establishing a better understanding for 2013 alfalfa productivity potential

By Doug Holen, Phil Glogoza, and Craig Sheaffer  
ST. PAUL, Minn.—The increasing cost of forages, continuing fear of drought conditions, and extending winter season have many producers wondering about



the productivity of their hay fields in 2013. While temperatures have been colder this winter, the good news is that an insulating layer of snow has persisted across most of the state for an extended period of time.

Overwintering success of forages is typically a combined function of climatic conditions and management decisions. Environmental factors such as snow cover, lethal temperatures, ice sheeting, and air-temperature fluctuation play important roles in plant survival from one growing season to the next. These effects are heavily influenced by stand age, variety genetics, fertility programs, and harvest schedules.

Some of the significant management factors affecting winter injury include species and variety selection, soil fertility, and cutting management.

Assessing alfalfa winter survival: Stem counts (versus plants per square foot) better represent total production in a given area and account for variability in plant performance. Use stem counts to estimate current yield potential and assess root and crown health to determine future yield potential. Stand health based on stem densities per square foot can be assessed in the following manner:

1. Greater than 55 stems indicates density will not be a limiting factor,

2. The range between 40 and 55 stems is understood to represent some reduction in yield but probably more than adequate in years of low inventories and high value, and
3. Fewer than 40 stems indicate a poor stand and consideration for termination.

To assess root and crown health, dig up six inches of taproot material in three to four locations of a field. Split open the taproots to determine crown and root vigor. Look for healthy, off-white

material indicating strong, healthy plants. Discoloration and spongy material are typical of weakened crowns. The symmetry of shoots growing from the crown also contributes information about overall plant health. While evaluating stand and

yield potential, we must keep in mind contributions made from grasses. Presence of grasses may be great enough to justify keeping a marginal stand in production.

We suggest making the same assessments on second crop regrowth. Watch for slow green-up, uneven stands, or additional plant mortality. Winter injury and/or death can be delayed by the shock of cutting a weakened plant, resulting in additional stand losses. Whenever stand diminishes to the point of needing corrective measures, take time to determine the cause. Troubleshooting problem fields and identifying the cause of stand reduction can lead to better management decisions.

For a more detailed version of this column, visit University of Minnesota Extension's Crop News website at <http://z.umn.edu/d29>. For more information on forages, visit [www.extension.umn.edu/forages](http://www.extension.umn.edu/forages).

*Doug Holen and Phil Glogoza are crops educators with University of Minnesota Extension. Craig Sheaffer is a professor in the University of Minnesota's Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics.*

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# The Ins and Outs of Pasture Management

By Heather Benson

There are few things more beautiful than watching a group of horses grazing in a large, lush, green pasture. But far too often, we see our pastures turn brown, weed-ridden and worn after just a few short weeks or months of grazing. A little management can go a long way to ensure that your pastures serve you and your horses needs for years to come.

### Starting Right

Just like a building, creating ideal pasture conditions require a good foundation. In this case, we are talking about soil fertility. Whether you are seeding a new pasture or renovating an old one, it is well worth the effort to



have soil samples pulled to find the baseline for the land you are working on. Soil test kits can be ordered from most university or county extension offices, or you can call a local agronomic company to do the testing for you. Having a professional perform the test ensures that soil is taken from the proper depth and from an appropriate number of spots on your land. Many landowners would be surprised to find the extremes in variability of the soil across a 10-acre pasture and having a professionally sampled field ensure that all details are carefully recorded. When you place your test order, be sure to ask for a test that measures the level of phosphorus (P), potassium (K), soil pH, percent organic matter and soil texture.

Once you bring your pasture up to a recommended baseline for nutrients, you will be able to go forward with a much more basic (and economical) maintenance schedule of fertilizer. Horse manure will return much of the phosphorus and potassium back to the soil. While some nitrogen will also be replaced with manure, you can expect to apply nitrogen yearly in pastures that are primarily grass with few legumes.

### Keeping it Clean

Once you have the nutrients balanced in your fields, your next challenge will be fighting off the weeds that find those nutrients every bit as helpful as your grasses do. Weeds compete directly with your pasture grasses for soil moisture, sunlight and nutrients and can multiply quickly if not kept in check. Positive identification of weeds is the first step in creating your control strategy.

Consult with your county extension agent or local agronomy representative if you are unsure of what weeds are present in your pasture. There are even apps for smart phone and tablet that allow you to photograph

reach your stated yield goal. They will give you exact recommendations for additions of nitrogen (N), phosphate (P2O5) and potash (K2O). If your soil is too acidic, you may also need to add lime.

One of the most important determining factors when producing

the leaf of a weed and the app will reference it against a database to give you a narrowed list of possible species.

Horse owners will, of course, prioritize any toxic weeds present in their fields, but they should not overlook control of other weeds as well. Control

of cool and warm season grasses as well as legumes.

Cool season grasses are the first to green in the spring and the last to brown in the fall. They thrive in the cooler temperatures and less direct sunlight of the early spring and fall.

Warm season grasses, as well as legumes, prefer the hot summer heat of June, July and August and do their best growing during those times. A recommended seeding mix from the University of Minnesota is (per-acre basis):

- 8 pounds alfalfa
- 6 pounds smooth brome-grass
- 2 pounds orchard grass
- ½ pound white clover

If you plan to continuously graze your pasture without rest, you may want to substitute bluegrass and white clover for the alfalfa as it does need rest between intensive foraging by horses. Bluegrass excels at withstanding close grazing as well as forming a dense

of other weeds should take priority year-round; control can be attained by rotational grazing, mowing, hand-pulling or chemically treating weeds when horses are elsewhere. Get it Growing  
If seeded correctly, a well maintained pasture can provide 100 percent of the nutrient requirements for a horse from May through September in the Upper Midwest. The key is creating the appropriate mix

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sod that holds up well to horses' hooves.

### Conclusion

Your pasture's long term quality rests heavily on your year to year management of nutrients, soil quality, weeds and forage mix. With appropriate and ongoing management, you

can ensure that your pastures provide the nutrition your horses need to thrive now and in the future.



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## Manure Management 101

By Heather Benson

As every horse owner knows, what goes in must come out. And it doesn't take long for a 1,100-pound horse to produce plenty in the way of waste products. As land use, conservation efforts and encroaching neighbors become a bigger issue year by year for horse owners, having a well thought out manure management plan is essential.

A single 1,000-pound horse will produce approximately 50 pounds of manure per day, which equates to eight-and-a-half tons per year. If your horses are stalled, adding the dirty bedding that is removed each day can double or triple the amount of waste involved. Take that times two, three or thirty horses and you can have a major headache on your hands without a plan in place. Unless you pasture your horses full time on a large amount of grassland, it is likely that your manure management plan will involve spreading, storage or a combination thereof. Most horse operations end up storing their manure for at least a day or two before spreading and many now fully compost it as well. Manure storage facilities should be built convenient to the barn area, but also downwind from any nearby housing and preferably screened from nearby homes to avoid potential complaints about odor or aesthetics. You need to also plan on how equipment to haul the manure

away will access the storage, leaving a driveway large enough for a tractor and manure spreader or the like. Also be sure to check with your local ordinance in regard to planning for run-off issues and any zoning requirements.

Total storage size and construction can vary, but a typical rule of thumb is to plan for 180 days of manure storage for the maximum horses your facility is designed to keep. If you have a six-horse barn, but only two horses at the moment, still plan for the potential of six horses so that you will not be without a plan B should your horse herd increase.

When managed properly, horse manure can be a valuable resource. It contains all of the essential macro and micro-nutrients needed to support plant life. The best way to harness the power of those nutrients is to compost the manure before spreading. This requires

Continued on page 11



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**Manure Management 101**  
*Continued from page 10*

significantly more planning that simple storage outlined above, but reaps greater rewards as far as nutrient quality when spread. In fact, many horse owners have found that composting their manure creates a valuable product for which friends and neighbors with gardens are willing to pay a premium.

Like a basic storage facility, composting systems come in all shapes in sizes. Designing a system that is practical and efficient for a large working horse facility can be a challenge. Companies such as O2 Compost Systems have worked with horse owners and engineers to develop composting systems that are efficient, easy to use and aesthetically pleasing for horse farms. O2 Composting Systems employed a team of civil and environmental engineers that developed a product that expedites the composting process from several months to just 60 days and creates fewer odors than other systems. This allows even large horse operations

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to quickly cycle through their waste products without having to build an excess of storage facilities. Whether you simply store or compost your manure, the time will come that it needs to be spread upon your land. Manure spreaders come in all shapes and sizes depending upon your needs. Companies such as Millcreek Manufacturing in Pennsylvania even sell spreaders that are small enough to be towed by a garden tractor and can hold 8.8 cubic feet, or about the total waste of one to two horses per day. Larger farms will need to review their total yearly spreading needs and purchase a spreader and tow vehicle that can handle larger amounts. Brandon Rottmund, a sales representative for Millcreek, states

Continued on page 18

## COWBOY POETRY WITH ORV

### IDEA OF SKUNKS NEXT DOOR STUNK

IT'S NOT WHAT, BUT WHO YOU 'NOSE'  
Faded red grainery ninety years old has tilted,  
Harvest grain sold in town so it may feel it's been jilted.  
Pockmarked from errant baseballs thrown by impatient youth.  
Outlived its usefulness was a sad heritage truth.  
Ninety feet by forty with 3 divided grain bins.  
One day of reckoning: like tales of outlaw break-ins!  
If only we had made extra tight security fences...  
Five 1-shot deals came to swiftly clog nasal senses.

SCENTS/ SCENTS-ABILITIES/ NON-SCENTS  
Not every animal that enters on four legs  
Is a horse or critter. Some smell worse than rotten eggs!  
Armed and dangerous as ev'ry living being knows,  
They say we'd need to hold our nose while we burned our clothes.  
Mosquitoes and skunks had a boarding pass on Noah's Ark.  
Lord have mercy, why, has always been a question mark?  
\*Mercaptan spray keeps men's and dog's mind and logic bent.  
Created creatures, yes, but I'd dispute they're heaven sent.

PRIVATE LABEL PERFUME: eau de poecat  
Not wishing to cross paths, chances are we'd be chagrined,  
Would not matter, upwind or downwind when they break wind.  
Some warn us with a white-striped bouncing arrogant tail.  
They're ostracized, without friends to pay their hard luck bail.  
I would want no part of a skunk's potent time-release,  
I'd much rather allow them to pass by, in peace.  
Why aren't skunks ex-tinked? Loose ends put us at wit's ends.  
Skunks are better viewed through a telephoto lens.

SCENT-SATIONAL TIMED RELEASE  
The whole fam'ly of skunks moved under our grainery one day.  
We refused to confront them for mortal fear of foul play.  
Locked the dog in the barn. Nothing learned last time he sparred  
With his attitude, dutifully being the homestead guard.  
Multiple bathings and swims in the slough were no use.  
Desperate, we added gallons of tomato juice.  
Under the grainery we placed lights. Go back to your dens.  
Poked it with a long stick, left it lit...seemed to make sense.

CONGUGATING A SKUNK: STINK, STANK, STUNK, PEW  
That ruse may avoid the nauseating conundrum.  
Bold encroachment, combatants taunt, our life's not humdrum.  
Mortal's mortal, morbid fear gave ponderous moments.  
Don't shoot! Don't get them P-Oed, that standoff foment.  
Odoriferous occasion, worthy opponents, monitor we must.  
Obnoxious outlaws offspring, more 1-shot deals we'd mistrust.  
Grainery on the knoll, backyard invasion, we're at loose ends.  
Were we impolite? Fright or fight? Tense, but small percents.

OFFENSIVE ONSLAUGHT OBSESSINGLY OBSERVED  
Sight of near disaster, forceful evictions, we'd think,  
Would cause those quick tempered beasts to raise a stink.  
You're feeling our pain. No safe way to check if they've checked out.  
Telling more than I know, not checking a striped kitty's spout.  
Those nocturnal animals hated that infernal light,  
Cowardly dragged their tails out under cover of night.  
Thinking back decades, did we get to collect any rent?  
NO! Whole stinking fam'ly left without paying a scent!

\* Mercaptan, their chemical, related to mace, sulfur family

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# Trading an AARP Card for a Jock's License

Age is no barrier when a passion for riding runs in your blood.

By Heather Benson

*The life of a jockey is never easy. There is the constant battle to maintain the incredibly low body weight required for race riding. They must show up early in the morning to work horses in order to have a shot at riding them in a race during the afternoon. They accept a pittance wage just to get on a horse, hoping for a win and real paycheck to take home and pay the bills. They must deal with rogue horses, bad accidents and the question of when, not if, they will be injured next. And yet they ride on, year after year, for the love of the game and of the animals that take them to the top.*

The buzz on the national scene of horse racing this past winter was the return to the saddle of Hall of Fame jockey, Gary Stevens. Officially retired since 2005, his return the races was made all the more interesting by the fact that he was about to celebrate his 50th birthday.

At an age when many people are signing up for AARP and double checking the status of their IRAs, Mr. Stevens was running miles, dieting and getting fit enough to ride a 1,000 pound animal at 40 miles per hour against competitors half his age, or less. It took him a week of racing, but he rode his first winner on January 12, followed shortly thereafter by his first graded stakes win on February 9. He will ride Oxbow in this year's Kentucky Derby, for a man he won two Kentucky Derbies for in the 80's and 90's, D. Wayne Lukas.

As impressive as that comeback was, consider another jockey making his comeback in 2013. He has never won a Kentucky Derby. He is not a name known on the national stage. But his passion for the sport and his love of riding has driven him to get back in the saddle this spring at age 63. His name is Herman Fennel Jr.

### A Youthful Start

Herman's race riding career started early, first as an exercise rider at age 10 and then riding in unofficial races at Manor Downs in central Texas, near Austin, at age 13. He won the first two races he ever rode in, on Quarter Horses sprinting down the small dirt track. He was hooked from that point on, riding in races all over Texas and becoming known as a good hand with a horse and a rider who never backed down from a challenge.

### First Retirement

In 1988, at age 39, he hung up his tack for the first time and made an attempt at living the suburban lifestyle. He moved to Connecticut and took a job in a factory there. That lasted only two years before the call of the track lured him back. He was nowhere near riding weight, two

years of living (and eating) like a normal person had brought his weight up to 160 pounds, so he took a job at Manor Downs as an Assistant Starter, holding and calming horses in the starting gate. Not long after starting, he heard a complaint. An All American Futurity-winning trainer was overheard saying "I can't find a decent rider at this track. The best rider at the track is up in that gate heading horses."

### Riding Winners

She meant Herman and soon after asked him if he would ride for her. At first reluctant, Herman was soon talked into a diet and exercise regimen that would bring his weight from 160 pounds to 122 pounds in just thirty days. When asked how he managed to get fit so fast, Herman said "You have to want to ride more than you want to do anything, and I mean anything, else. You have to want to ride more than you

Downs and the North Dakota Horse Park in Fargo. Herman took the runner-up riding title a record 18 times at Chippewa Downs, mostly riding against kids less than half his age.

In 2010, at age 61, Herman decided that perhaps the quiet life of training was a better pursuit for a man his age and retired once again. He and his wife, Kelly, took a string of horses and ran them through their usual haunts, only this time Herman watched from the stands while someone else did the riding.

### No Riders

A pleasant retirement of training horses and giving his tired knees a rest seemed in store until the opening weekend of the Fort Pierre, SD races a few short weeks ago. The Upper Midwest always has an early spring rider shortage, and the spring of 2013 has been no exception.



Herman, in the orange silks, poses with members of the Fort Pierre jockey colony. His 18-year-old nephew, Jeramie, is pictured in the blue silks. (photos courtesy of Herman Fennel, Jr.). Notably, the rider in yellow, Jim Beeson, turns 65 this year.

want to eat, then you can do it. And I really wanted to ride". The wins soon followed. So began Herman's first comeback.

In 1993, Herman was asked to be first-call rider in the Upper Midwest for the dominant barn of owner Tom Maher, a Pierre, SD-area attorney. He married a local girl and the south-Texas cowboy has called South Dakota home ever since. He also began riding for perennial Upper Midwest leading Quarter Horse trainer, Bob Johnson and the wins kept coming.

In 1999 and 2000, he ranked as the leading rider at Chippewa Downs in Belcourt, ND while his wife, Kelly, ranked as leading trainer. The husband-wife duo ran horses throughout the Upper Midwest circuit, making yearly stops at Fort Pierre, Brown County Fair(Aberdeen, SD), Chippewa

Herman watched in disgust as horse he had personally spent many hours training and preparing, a horse he felt sure was to win, lose by a few strides from a bad ride by one of the young, green riders at the track.

"I told the rider how to ride and the horse should have won easily. The horse broke in the air (meaning the horse went up, instead of out, when the gates opened) and when things got tight, the jock lost his nerve and went wide. You can't lose that much ground when you run Quarter Horses."

Later that same day, Herman was put out to find any rider for a horse he had ready for a Quarter Horse Futurity trial and had to pay extra just to get the horse in the gate, only to again watch the horse's chances spoiled by an inexperienced rid-



er. He jokingly told a friend, "I need to go back in that jock's room and show these kids how it's done." His friend looked at him and asked why he didn't do just that. And so began Herman's second comeback.

### The Second Comeback

The following Saturday, at age 63, with joints protesting and muscles quivering, Herman put on racing silks once again. At the end of the weekend, six races later, he had notched up one win and two thirds, all against young men half, and in some cases, a fourth, his age.

The weekend had additional meaning for Herman because he also had the chance to ride in a few races with his nephew, Jeramie. Jeramie Fennel, son of Herman's brother Ernest, began his race riding career at age 16 in 2011, the same year Herman retired. "I was just heart broke when he told me he was going to start riding and I had just stopped," said Herman. "My daddy was a 100% producer, by that I mean that all four of us boys ended up in racing, as either a trainer, a jockey or an exercise rider. I was proud to see Jeramie continue that tradition and it pained me to not be able to ride with him and help teach him a thing or two."

Herman did get that chance to teach his nephew a thing or two in Thoroughbred maiden race on his second day back. "I took him wide when he thought I was going inside, he never knew what I was planning...an old school move from an old school teacher," laughed Herman. The uncle-nephew pair finished 2-3 in that race, a distance of just a neck but with a span of 45 years between them.

The Upper Midwest racing circuit heads north for the summer, first to the Brown County Fair races in Aberdeen, SD, then to Chippewa Downs at Belcourt. And while Herman would like to reclaim his riding title at Chippewa, he worries that his "day job" as a trainer might lead him elsewhere. "We have stalls at Canterbury (in Shakopee, MN) and owners who want to race for the big money there," he said. "I'd love to ride at Belcourt, but I also have to do what is best for my owners and my horses." One can't help but hope that Herman's passion for a life in the saddle will keep leading him around the far turn and down the stretch yet again. *You can catch Herman riding each weekend in May at the Brown County Fair races in Aberdenn, SD. Go to [www.sdhorseracing.com](http://www.sdhorseracing.com) for dates and times.*

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Your horse is in pain and needs bute. Bute causes ulcers – this we know. But knowing how it damages the lining of the gastrointestinal tract is the key to knowing how to prevent its damaging impact.

### Your horse's stomach – an acid production machine

First, understand that most ulcers can easily be prevented by appreciating the way the horse's stomach is designed. The lower portion (glandular region) is lined with a protective mucus layer, but the upper portion (squamous region) does not, which makes it especially vulnerable to stomach acid. Most ulcers occur here because the horse's stomach continuously secretes acid, even when empty. A steady supply of forage – all the time, all day, and all night – will put the acid to its proper work and protect your horse's stomach. This is the way horses are meant to eat – they are forage grazers.

But even when horses are fed properly, administering non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as bute (phenylbutazone), Banamine (flunixin meglumine), or aspirin, can create ulcerations along the entire gastrointestinal tract. This has to do with the way they reduce pain and inflammation. We tend to assume that it is bute itself that is directly irritating the stomach lining. In actuality, the damage happens after the bute has been absorbed. Bute inhibits the cyclooxygenase enzymes 1 and 2; some of these enzymes reduce the formation of various prostaglandins, some of promote inflammation and pain. But others maintain the integrity of the entire digestive tract by stimulating the production of molecules known as phospholipids. Phospholipids form a barrier to help prevent stomach acid from damaging the underlying epithelium.

### Antacids have a downside

Our tendency is to get rid of the acid by administering antacids, H2 blockers, or the proton-pump inhibitor omeprazole (GastroGard®). But stomach acid is actually important—it is there for two reasons: First, it is necessary to initiate the digestion of protein, a nutritionally critical function. Protein digestion provides amino acids (building blocks of protein) for your horse's overall health. And second, acid is your horse's primary defense against all of the microbes that he picks up off the ground, some of which are potentially infectious.

If ulcer prevention is your goal, it makes sense to replace the phospholipids that have been reduced by NSAIDs.

### Enter, lecithin

Lecithin is the common term for a phospholipid known as "phosphatidyl choline" (PC). It is a naturally occurring substance; it is the most abundantly found phospholipid in animal and plant cell membranes, and is most commonly derived from soybeans. Chemically, it primarily consists of essential fatty acids (both omega 3 and omega 6) along with a molecule of choline (an essential B vitamin-like nutrient).

Lecithin has been well studied in its ability to treat ulcers. Researchers\* at the University of Texas Health Science Center

in Houston examined the administration of PC along with NSAIDs and found that not only does PC significantly reduce gastrointestinal injury, but in some cases, it even eliminated gastrointestinal ulcerations. Furthermore, it offers this protection without altering the efficacy of bute (or other NSAID).

### Lecithin is easy to feed

You can buy lecithin granules in any health food store, or in bulk through online providers such as BulkFoods.com. I recommend offering ½ to ¾ cup of lecithin with each dose of bute (for a 1000 lb horse). It can be mixed with any feed and is quite palatable. Another option is SBS Equine Products' lecithin-based supplement called "Starting Gate."

In addition to offering gastrointestinal protection, lecithin boosts the health of all cell membranes, including those of skin, hair, and hooves. And the body can also use the choline component to produce acetylcholine, a neurotransmitter necessary for proper neuromuscular function.

### Summary

When pain relief is necessary and you rely on an NSAID such as bute, protect your horse's digestive tract by replacing what bute diminishes—phospholipids found in the epithelial layer of the digestive tract. Phospholipids act as a barrier to acid damage. Lecithin (phosphatidyl choline) is a naturally-occurring phospholipid that can be easily supplemented to protect your horse against ulcers.

Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D. is an internationally respected equine nutritionist available for private consultations and speaking engagements. Dr. Getty is the Contributing Nutrition Editor for the Horse Journal, and her comprehensive reference book, *Feed Your Horse Like a Horse* is offered for purchase through her website and at Amazon.com. Also at [www.gettyequinenutrition.com](http://www.gettyequinenutrition.com), sign up for her informative—and free—monthly newsletter, *Forage for Thought*, read articles, search her nutrition forum, enroll in upcoming teleseminars and purchase previously recorded events. Contact Dr. Getty directly at [gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com](mailto:gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com). Permission is given to reprint this article with credit given to Dr. Getty; please let her know when and where it is republished.

## Why Don't Horses Have a Gallbladder?

Add this to your collection of useful horse factoids that (surprise!) you actually needed to know: Horses don't have a gallbladder because horses are designed to eat constantly.

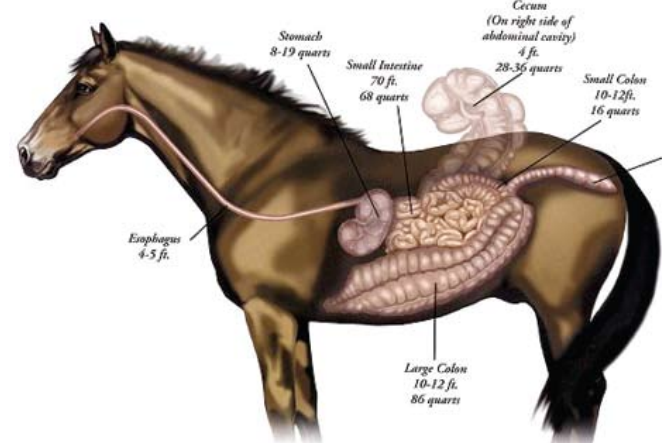
We humans, on the other hand, eat few, relatively large meals. Our gallbladder serves as a storage pouch for bile – the emulsifying agent produced by the liver that is needed to start fat digestion. When we eat a large amount of fat at one time, the gallbladder releases bile into the small intestine. If we didn't have a gallbladder and indulged in a high fat meal, we might experience indigestion.

Horses, on the other hand, are trickle feeders – they are supposed to continuously graze on forage, all day and all night long (virtually all the time, with a few minutes of napping here and there). The small amount of fat that they eat is easily

managed by the liver. Therefore, there is no need to store bile in large quantities.

In recent years, however, fat has been shown to be an alternative to high starch diets, since it is more concentrated in calories. There was initial concern that large amounts of fat would not be sufficiently digested. However, the horse's liver has the ability to compensate. This adaptation takes several weeks; therefore it is best to slowly increase fat levels.

Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D. is an internationally respected equine nutritionist available for private consultations and speaking engagements. Beginning in 2013, Dr. Getty will be a regular contributor to the Horse Journal. At [www.gettyequinenutrition.com](http://www.gettyequinenutrition.com), sign up for her informative—and free—monthly newsletter, *Forage for Thought*, read articles, search her nutrition forum, enroll in upcoming teleseminars and purchase previously recorded events. Contact Dr. Getty directly at [gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com](mailto:gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com). Permission is given to reprint this article with credit given to Dr. Getty; please let her know when and where it is republished.



Both articles on this page courtesy Dr. Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D.

Photo of horse digestive system courtesy [www.Hygain.com](http://www.Hygain.com)

May your troubles be less, may your blessings be more, and may nothing but happiness come through your door.



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## THE USE OF HORSE TREATS

By Janice M. Ladendorf

Treats are a controversial topic. Many trainers do not recommend them, but some find them helpful under the right circumstances. Many horse lovers overdo them. Hand feeding treats can be dangerous as soon as the horse learns to expect and demand them. Three key issues underlie this procedural difference.

The first one is how horses view food. Predators exert themselves to get their



food, as do humans. For example, a wolf pack has to scent, track, run down, and kill their prey before they can eat. Horses are prey animals; to get food, they do nothing, they just walk over to it. Humans bring domestic horses their food. Feral horses drop their head and graze. Domestic horses move among hay piles, just as feral horses move among pasture areas, but as they move they will keep on eating. The concept of doing something to earn food is totally alien to equine nature. If food appears, any horse believes it should be eaten immediately. In other words, food cannot be used as a reward or bribe to motivate a horse to perform any task, job, or activity for a human. This is why horses have failed in so many behaviorist experiments. Instead of seeking a reward, they simply stand still and do nothing.

The second issue is how status relationships work among and within equine herds. In the wild, feral herds also have pecking orders among themselves. The herd at the top gets the best pastures and drinks first at watering holes. Horses also establish pecking orders with their herds. Except when humans interfere, horses with a higher status have better access to food and water. This is one reason why

horses are always testing to see if they can improve their status. When one horse drives another away from food or water, he is establishing his superior status. To get and keep the respect of a horse, the human must be at least one step above him in their pecking order. If the horse is allowed to beg or demand treats, then he is going to assume that he is superior to the human. Horses who are allowed to dominate humans may endanger themselves and can be dangerous to humans.

In equine herds, the pecking order may define status, but high status does not necessarily equate with leadership. In the

wild at different times of year, leaders are responsible for taking their herd to the places where the best grass exists. Older horses sometimes allow young horses to have grass that they have dug out from under the snow. In domestic herds, the leader may decide to lure away the alpha horse so that others can drink out of their water trough. Mares may adopt orphan foals. When food is a gift from one horse to another, the status relationships are not affected. In my experience, treats can be safely used if they are tossed in a bucket or if the horse is required to be polite. Such gifts should not affect the status relationship between horse and human. If my mustang asks or begs he gets nothing. If he demands, he is gets nothing and is corrected with a tap of his nose. If he is polite, he may or may not be given a treat.

The third issue is the question of distraction. If treats are used during a training session, the horse will focus on them and not on what the human wants him to do. This is why most trainers do not recommend using treats. However, there are times when the trainer may want the

horse to be distracted. Horses reason by association. If you want your horse to be easy to catch, he should associate you with something pleasant, such as food. If he is frightened, it can be used to break him out of flight mode. It can also be used to establish a friendly relationship with a horse. The day my mustang discovered apples, he decided living with humans might not be so bad.

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For over fifty years, Janice Ladendorf has been studying horsemanship and training her own horses. She is the author of three books, *Practical Dressage for Amateur Trainers*, *A Marvelous Mustang: Tales from the Life of a Spanish Horse*, and *Heart of a Falcon*, as well as many articles about using humane training methods to build a partnership with your horse. She has a B.A. in History and a M.A. in library science. In her advanced studies, she has focused on inter and intra species communication. She has been a librarian, an inventory analyst, and an accountant. She is currently retired and lives in St. Paul, MN.

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# From the Horse's Mouth: Industry News

## AAEP, AVMA Urge Passage of Legislation to End Abusive Soring of Horses

(Lexington, Ky.) - The American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Association of Equine Practitioners joined together in support of the Prevent All Soring Tactics Act (PAST), H.R. 1518. The bill seeks to eliminate the abusive act of soring horses by improving the U.S. Department of Agriculture's enforcement capabilities and strengthening penalties against violators, among other provisions.

Soring is the intentional infliction of pain in Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horses, and Racking Horses to produce a high-stepping, unnatural gait. Despite being illegal for more than 40 years, insufficiencies in funding and other resources needed for enforcement at the federal level have contributed to a culture of corruption where this abusive, unethical practice remains prevalent in shows and auctions in certain pockets of the country.

"Soring of horses is an inhumane practice that veterinarians are, unfortunately, still seeing. It has crippling physical and mental effects on horses," said Dr. Douglas Aspros, veterinarian and AVMA president. "It's sad when winning a show takes precedence over the health and welfare of the horse. As veterinarians, we simply can't stand by and allow horses to be abused. We encourage Congress to quickly pass H.R. 1518 and put an end to the inhumane and unethical practice of soring, once and for all."

Specifically, H.R. 1518:

Makes the actual act of soring, or directing another person to cause a horse to become sore, illegal, whereas the original act only banned showing, transporting, or auctioning a horse that was sore, not the actual practice;

Prohibits the use of action devices (e.g., boot, collar, chain, roller, or other device that encircles or is placed upon the lower extremity of the leg of a horse) on any limb of Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horses, or Racking Horses at horse shows, exhibitions, sales or auctions and bans weighted shoes, pads, wedges, hoof bands, or other devices that are not used for protective or therapeutic purposes;

Increases civil and criminal penalties for violations, and creates a penalty structure that requires horses to be disqualified for increasing periods of time based on the number of violations;

Allows for permanent disqualification from the show ring after three or more violations; and

Requires the USDA (rather than the current structure of horse industry self-regulation) to license, train, assign and oversee inspectors to enforce the Horse Protection Act.

"Soring is one of the most significant equine welfare issues in the United States," said AAEP President Dr. Ann Dwyer. "Federal legislation is the only action that will end this decades-long abuse of horses, and we urge all within the veterinary and horse-owning communities to join us in supporting this bill's passage."

For more information on the AVMA and AAEP's efforts to end soring, visit the AVMA's Soring Resource Page.

## White House Recommends Removal of Horse Slaughter Funding in Proposed 2014 Budget

Animal welfare organizations support move to block spending

WASHINGTON (April 10, 2013)—Congress could once again ban the use of federal funds to inspect horse slaughter plants in the United States if it follows the lead of the White House—a move that is strongly supported by The Humane Society of the United States, the ASPCA (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) and the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI). President Obama's FY 2014 budget proposal includes a request for Congress to block spending by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to inspect U.S. horse slaughter plants. A similar spending prohibition was put in place in 2005, which effectively shut the door to the grisly horse slaughter industry on U.S. soil. However, it was not renewed in 2011, leading to the potential for horse slaughter plants to reopen in the U.S. at the expense of American taxpayers.

There are no horse slaughter facilities operating in the U.S., but the USDA confirms it has received at least six applications and is processing those requests. Humane organizations oppose the slaughter of American horses for human consumption because the practice is inherently cruel to horses. Additionally, horse meat poses a potential human health risk, as horses are not raised for food in the U.S. and are consequently treated with a wide range of drugs that are not approved for use in animals intended for human consumption.

Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of The HSUS, said: "It's a fool's errand to inspect tainted horse meat, and this Administration is wise to reject that path and to embrace the idea, even indirectly, that horses belong in the stable and not on the table."

Nancy Perry, senior vice president of the ASPCA, said: "It is wonderful to see our government taking steps to ensure American horses are not slaughtered on our own soil for foreign demand, especially in light of the daily news from Europe about the horrors of discovering horse meat in their food supply from co-mingling with beef in tainted food products. Wasting tax dollars on cruel and dangerous practices makes no sense, and we urge Congress to adopt this budget cut."

Chris Heyde, deputy director of government and legal affairs for the AWI, said: "Now that the administration has taken this important step toward ending horse abuse, reducing the size of the federal government, and saving taxpayer dollars, we urge Congress to swiftly ensure this widely supported language is maintained when sent back to the president for his signature later this year. Given the serious fiscal choices facing our elected officials in Washington, restoring an unpopular foreign driven horse slaughter industry that only serves to drain taxpayers' money every year, this should be the easiest spending cut they can approve."

The Safeguard American Food Exports Act, H.R. 1094 / S. 541, introduced this year by U.S. Sens. Mary Landrieu, D-La., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Reps. Patrick Meehan, R-Pa., and Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., is a bipartisan measure that would prevent the introduction of horse slaughter opera-

## Focus of AHC's Issues Forum is "A Healthy Horse, a Healthy Industry"

The American Horse Council has announced that its theme for this year's National Issues Forum is "A Healthy Horse, A Healthy Industry." "These two concepts are co-dependent," said AHC president Jay Hickey. "Our horses need a viable, growing industry, supported by the public, to ensure they are enjoyed and can get the best care; and fundamental to our industry is a healthy horse that can be moved interstate and internationally for breeding, showing, racing, sale and recreational riding. There are a number of continuing efforts to accomplish these goals that will be the focus of the National Issues Forum."

This year's National Issues Forum will be held on Tuesday, June 18, in Washington, DC during the AHC's annual convention. The annual meeting will run from June 16 to 19 at the Washington Court Hotel.

The convention will also include the AHC's Congressional Reception, the annual Congressional Ride-In, meetings of all AHC committees, the meeting of the Unwanted Horse Coalition and the AHC's Breed Roundtable, which brings together leaders of the horse industry to discuss common issues of importance.

This year's Issues Forum will focus on the progress of the National Equine Health Plan. The plan will spell-out the issues surrounding the prevention and control of diseases and the responsibilities and roles of the federal and state authorities and the industry to keep our horses healthy and our industry viable in the face of disease outbreaks, which seem to be occurring more frequently.

tions in the U.S., end the current export of American horses for slaughter abroad, and protect the public from consuming toxic horse meat.

Background:

- American horses are raised to be companions, athletes and work horses. They are often treated with drugs, both legal and illegal, that can endanger the food supply. There is currently no system in the U.S. to track medications and veterinary treatments given to horses throughout their lives to ensure that their meat is safe for human consumption.
- "Kill buyers" gather up horses from random sources and profit by selling horse meat from healthy horses that bring the best price per pound for their meat. USDA reports show that approximately 92 percent of American horses going to slaughter are healthy and would otherwise be able to go on to lead productive lives.
- The methods used to kill horses rarely result in quick, painless deaths, as horses often endure repeated blows to render them unconscious, and sometimes remain conscious during the slaughtering process. When horse slaughter plants previously operated in the U.S., the USDA documented severe injuries to horses incurred during their long-distance transport to slaughter plants in unsafe, overcrowded trailers, including broken bones and eyeballs hanging from their sockets by a thread of skin.

More information on these Forums and the entire AHC annual meeting, including registration and hotel information can be found on the AHC's website, <http://horsecouncil.org/events.php> or by contacting the AHC.

Fundamental to such a plan is an Equine Disease Communication Center to coordinate and disseminate accurate information about equine diseases. Plans are underway to create a network involving veterinarians and Federal and State Animal health officials to relay time-sensitive information through a central communication system so that reliable and updated information will be available to all segments of the horse industry in real time. This will help to ensure that more horses can be shielded from outbreaks and any disruptions to movement, events or activities are minimized.

Industry support will be critical to the effort. The Issues Forum will be an opportunity for horse people to hear about the plans and provide feedback.

Attendees will also receive an update on the status of the AHC's Marketing Consortium to reinvigorate the horse industry, which was discussed at last year's Forum. The consortium now involves a number of organizations and industry service providers. Substantial progress on messages, themes, target audiences, social media, and test-events has been made. The forum will be an opportunity to flesh out this marketing effort and involve others.

The AHC Breed Roundtable will be held on Monday, June 17. This event was reinstated several years ago and has proven to be very popular. It allows leaders of varied horse organizations and varied disciplines to visit with each other and discuss issues of common concern.

The annual Congressional Ride-In will take place all day Wednesday, June 19. The Ride-In allows members of the horse community to meet with their elected representatives and federal officials to discuss important issues affecting them. All members of the horse community are encouraged to participate, even if they don't attend the AHC convention.

"The Ride-In puts a face on the \$102 billion horse industry and the millions of Americans who are part of it," said Hickey. "Congress deals with various issues that impact the horse industry, including taxes, gaming, immigration, welfare, access to trails and public lands, diseases, and interstate and international movement of horses. This is an opportunity for the horse community to come to Washington in force and meet with their Senators, Representatives, and staffs. The Ride-In literally illustrates the goal of the AHC to 'Put More Horsepower in Congress.'"

The AHC will conduct a free briefing for Ride-In participants. Anyone wishing to participate in the Ride-In should contact AHC Legislative Director Ben Pendergrass at [bpendergrass@horsecouncil.org](mailto:bpendergrass@horsecouncil.org) or 202-296-4031.

More information on these Forums and the entire AHC annual meeting, including registration and hotel information can be found on the AHC's website, <http://horsecouncil.org/events.php> or by contacting the AHC.

## AAEP, American Horse Council Partnering to Develop National Equine Health Plan

An Open Letter to the Horse Industry: Time to be Proactive on Equine Disease Outbreaks

The horse community is always just one step from a calamity and that calamity is a disease outbreak of such proportion as to widely imperil the health of our horses and threaten the economic viability of our industry. The ever-present risk is due to the equine industry's reliance on the timely movement of healthy horses for sales, breeding, racing, showing, work and recreation. In this environment an infectious disease outbreak can result in federal or state restrictions on horse movement to stop the spread of the disease.

Since the beginning of 2013 there have been outbreaks of the neurologic form of Equine Herpesvirus-1, called Equine Herpesvirus Myeloencephalopathy (EHM), in New Jersey, Utah, Colorado, Florida, Illinois Tennessee, California and Quebec, Canada. These and other disease outbreaks have cost the industry millions of dollars for the care of horses, implementation of biosecurity, and lost revenue in the form of cancelled or restricted commercial equine activities.

The industry has been able to deal with various diseases – so far. The United States Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Services, has joined the effort as needed, and State Animal Health authorities have been responsive, often taking the lead in dealing with outbreaks. Equine organizations and affected participants have responded, but all this has often been in a reactive, ad-hoc manner. It is time for the broader industry to be proactive in dealing with disease outbreaks with increased biosecurity, education, and a plan to immediately stop the spread of diseases.

One of the best ways to contain any disease outbreak is to provide accurate and timely information about the current status of the problem and how to break the cycle of disease transmission. Even though modern communication systems allow access to information continuously, it is often plagued with inaccurate information or too little accurate information. This leaves horse organizations, owners, events, veterinarians and health officials susceptible to the same misinformation generated about the affected horses and wondering about the risk of infection to currently healthy horses.

The American Horse Council, the American Association of Equine Practitioners, and the National and State Animal Health officials are in the process of creating a National Equine Health Plan (National Plan) that will outline the issues surrounding the prevention, diagnosis and control of diseases and the responsibilities and roles of the federal and state authorities and the industry. Fundamental to such a plan is an Equine Disease Communication Center (EDCC) to help coordinate and disseminate accurate information about equine diseases throughout North America. Plans are underway to create a network involving practicing veterinarians and Federal and State Animal health officials

to relay time-sensitive information through a central communication system so reliable and updated information will be available to all segments of the horse industry in real time.

We hope to convince all members of the equine community of the importance of this initiative. We are asking all horse owners, horse organizations, and event managers to be involved in the preparation of a National Plan and the formation of an EDCC. While Federal and State Veterinary Regulatory officials' help is critical and already being formulated, without industry input and support this program will never achieve the goals of an effective National Plan and communications system which can help stop the spread of disease that can kill horses and cripple the industry.

A major focus of the American Horse Council's National Issues Forum in June will be discussion about the National Plan and the creation of a working model of the EDCC. Once we have a detailed plan we will need support and participation from all parts of the equine industry to make both realities.

Please share your thoughts with us at the American Horse Council and American Association of Equine Practitioners about essential components of a National Plan and Equine Disease Communication System that will help make both a success for the equine community.

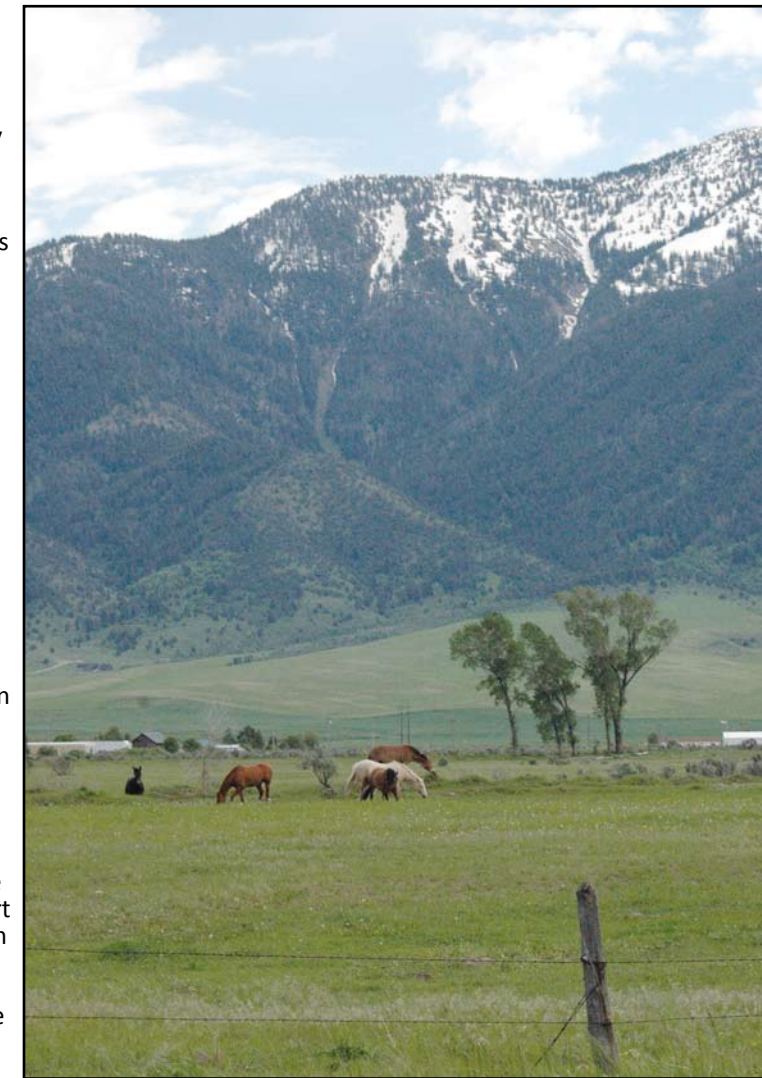
Jay Hickey  
American Horse Council  
[info@horsecouncil.org](mailto:info@horsecouncil.org)

Nathaniel White, President  
DVM, MS, DAVCS

## Purina Animal Nutrition Continues Feed Contributions to Horses in Need with A Home for Every Horse

Purina Asks Horse Owners to Help Reach its \$150,000 Feed Contribution Goal

ST LOUIS, MO (Purina) — Purina Animal Nutrition has pledged up to \$150,000 in free feed to rescue shelters through its continuing partnership with A Home for Every Horse, a program dedicated to finding homes for horses in need of adoption or fostering. For the second year in a row, Purina has pledged a base donation of \$125,000. From April 16, 2013 to August 21, 2013, Purina will donate an additional \$1 for every new "Like" or "Share" it receives through Facebook, up to \$25,000, for a potential total of \$150,000 in free feed.



trition. "Through our ongoing partnership with A Home for Every Horse, we've been able to make a big difference in the lives of hundreds of rescue horses, providing premium nutrition to aid in their recoveries. This year, we're expecting to reach even more ambitious goals and help more horses looking for their forever homes." The campaign builds on the success of last year's program, highlighted by a \$125,000 donation of free feed by Purina to help horses in need of care and shelter. With participation from Purina, more than 400 rescue shelters across the country received support during the program's inaugural year.

"The Unwanted Horse Coalition is proud to partner with A Home for Every Horse to find homes for our nation's adoptable equines," said Ericka Caslin, director of the Unwanted Horse Coalition. "We have received so many letters of gratitude and so many fantastic stories of rescue horses that benefitted from the program and donations made by Purina. We look forward to continuing this program and helping ensure no horse goes unwanted."

Participating rescue shelters can choose from a variety of Purina® horse feeds to match the nutritional needs of their horses. Eligible feeds include Purina® Strategy® GX, Strategy® Healthy Edge® and Equine Senior® horse feeds. These options help rescue shelter operators rehabilitate and provide ongoing nutritional care to horses at varying stages of recuperation. Strategy® GX horse feed provides optimal nutrition for any horse at any life stage, making it an excellent choice for rescues that must feed a diverse population of horses. Strategy® Healthy Edge® horse feed offers the convenience, value, quality and performance of Strategy® GX horse feed, but in a diet lower in protein and higher in fat and fiber. For older rescue horses or those suffering from severe malnutrition and digestive sensitivities, Equine Senior® horse feed offers an easy-to-digest, complete nutritional solution.

For instructions on joining A Home for Every Horse, rescue shelters should visit [www.equine.com/AHFEH/join](http://www.equine.com/AHFEH/join). The simple registration process requires only 501(c)(3) verification and benefits rescue shelters by providing free feed from Purina as well as free listings of horses for adoption on Equine.com.

A Home for Every Horse is a joint effort with The American Horse Council's Unwanted Horse Coalition, which seeks to place, foster and sponsor America's homeless horses. In addition to Purina Animal Nutrition, other partners of A Home for Every Horse include Tractor Supply Company, WeatherBeeta, the Bureau of Land Management, W.F. Young, Inc., West Nile-Innovator and Strongid Paste. Additionally, The Equine Network is using its connection with more than 1.5 million horse owners to promote the program and offer free horse listings to participating rescue shelters.

For more information about A Home for Every Horse and to view adoptable horses, go to [www.ahomeforeveryhorse.com](http://www.ahomeforeveryhorse.com).

Visit The Valley Equestrian Newspaper web site at:

**[www.theveonline.com](http://www.theveonline.com)**

and Join our Facebook page for news during the month!



# Upcoming Events

May 3-5 Ranch Sorting National Championships, Western Regional - Carson City Fairgrounds, Carson City, NV: Eligible States for World Series Awards: AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, WA, British Columbia, Canada Carson City Fairgrounds, 601 Old Clear Creek Road Carson City, NV 89701, www.carson.org

May 3-5: Driving Clinic with Suzy Stafford at Dave and Pam Dunn's in Hertel, WI. Candy Hankins kesscan@gmail.com

May 11: Opening Day Brown County Fair Horse Races in Aberdeen, SD. Racing through May 27

May 11: The Red River Harness & Saddle Club is having a Tack Swap Meet/Rummage Sale. If you have tack that you can't or don't use (and we all do!) that you'd like to sell or swap for NEW (used) stuff, bring it out to the farm by 10 am. If you can't make it that day, but have things you'd like to sell, contact Karen at (701)-729-4486, 14748 15th Ave No. Glyndon, MN.. The sale will run from 11 am until 3 pm. What can you bring? Anything from wagons and sleighs to saddles and boots! Bring your friends too; we'll be inviting other clubs to participate also.

May 12: Opening Day Bucking Horse Sale Racing in Miles City, MT. Racing through May 19.

May 17: Opening dat at Canterbury Park in Shakopee, Minn. Racing through Sept. 14

May 18: Spring Hay Dazes mini-expo at the Blueberry Acres Stable Park Rapids,

MN www.blueberryacresstables.com.

May 19: Different Drum NWECC Driving Show Sunday, Play day Saturday. Hayward Arena, Hayward, WI. Julie Dahlberg: 715-897-2141

May 25-26 Midwest driving Clinic at Hickory Knoll, with Sara Schmitt - Fitchburg, WI John Freiburger (608) 835-7473

May 25-27: Spring Fling Pinto Show at the Minnesota Equestrian Center in Winona, Minn.

June 1-2 NEW! Eastern Iowa Carriage Classic: Catalpa Corners, Iowa City, IA. Laurie Renda, C: 319-360-1078, laurie@touchofglass-inc.com

June 8: Opening Day at Chippewa Downs in Belcourt, ND. Racing through July 7.

June 8: Prairie Home Carriage Festival - Shakopee, MN. Come and join us as the Minnesota Whips and Wheels Carriage and Driving Society celebrates our 5th annual Carriage Festival at our new location at The Landing in Sha-

## Manure Management 101

*Continued from page 11*

that you should also contact local authorities on manure spreading regulations in your area. Different areas have different requirements on how much manure can be spread at one time depending upon total animals and total acres. If we are to enjoy horses on our own property, there is no way to avoid manure management. But with proper planning, facilities and equipment, manure management can become a simple part of the farm routine.

kopee, MN, a living history museum with an 1800's village with farm buildings and fur post. please contact: Heidi Block at 612-875-1004. Or visit: WWW.MNWHIP-SANDWHEELS.COM.

June 8-9: Wild Rice River Shootout, Twin Valley Riders Arena, Twin Valley, MN; contact www.wildricepeacemakers.com, gmlund@arvig.net or 218-584-8685.

June 10-13: Pinto World Show at Expo Square in Tulsa, OK.

June 12-15: Grant County, MN Wagon Train, Horses and wagons, buggies, horseback, camping. Contact Renae Odens 320-304-0264.

June 14-16 Columbus Horse and Carriage Festival: Fireman's Park, Columbus, WI. www.columbuscarriagefestival.org.P: 608-835-7473, C: 608-212-0804, F: 608-835-2156

June 15 Continuous Drive: Elk River, MN - Steve Wood  
June 19: Wild West Jamboree Wagon Rides - West Fargo, ND

June 20 -23 Horsemanship Clinic with Leslie Desmond at The Equestrian Cooperative, Ashland WI. www.TheEquestrianCoop.com David Onan P: 612.226.1198

June 22-23 Skunk River Driving Trial: Three G Farms Equine Center, Ames, IA. www.bitsiowa.org. Katy Rhinehart 641-478-3285, gkm104@heartofiowa.net. Entries Open: May 1; Entries Closed: June 10.

June 19: Wild West Jamboree in West Fargo, N.D.

June 29-30: USDF Region 4 Adult Clinic with Hilda Gurney; more information at kmilulay@gmail.com or kroberson@usdf.org

See your events listed here, email us at: thevenews@gmail.com

Jun 29-30 CLUB DRIVE at Marci Ukura and Bob Matthews in Goodhue, MN 30 miles north of Rochester 507-824-3333 or rmu1@frontiernet.net (RSVP by 06/26) Various driving trails, obstacle course, dressage ring, restored prairie acreage, elec. hook-ups.

June 29: Showdown at the Gateway Corral, Grand Forks Fairgrounds, Grand Forks, ND, contact www.wildricepeacemakers.com, gmlund@arvig.net or 218-584-8685.

July 3-4: Ft. Ransom, ND Arena Rodeo at 7 p.m. July 3 and 2 p.m. July 4 at the Ft. Ransom Horse Arena

July 13-14: Sodbuster Days in Ft. Ransom, N.D. 701.973.4331

July 12-14: July Jam Pinto Show at the Red Horse Ranch in Fergus Falls, Minn.

Jul 20 Hickory Knoll CDE - Fitchburg, WI - John Freiburger (608) 835-7473 frei@chorus.net

July 27-28: Lynn Hanson Memorial Shoot, Marshall County Fairgrounds, Warren, MN, contact www.wildricepeacemakers.com, gmlund@arvig.net or 218-584-8685.

Jul 27-29 Midwest Norwegian Fjord Horse Show: Iowa Equestrian Center, Cedar Rapids www.iowaequestrian.com

August 9-11: August Extravaganza Show at the Minnesota Equestrian Center in Winona, Minn.

Aug 11: NWECC pleasure show. Contact Todd Tylee or Northwest Wisc. Equine Club on Facebook

Aug 13-18: Head of the Lakes Fair, Superior, WI - Check website for tentative driving classes: http://hofair.com/

Aug 17: Sabin Daze Wagon Rides, Sabin MN

August 24-25 Bits Summer Carriage Classic: Webster City, IA. www.bitsiowa.org. Katy Rhinehart, H: 641-478-3285,

# Auslam Wins Judged Colt Starting Competition

By Ley Bouchard

Four trainers, four horses and four round pens came together in the Schollander Arena Sunday, April 21 at the Red River Fairgrounds in West Fargo, N.D. for a Colt Starting Competition.

Auslam, owner of Bridle Up with Dennis Auslam Training in Morton, Minn. was the winner of the judged competition at the 2nd Colt Starting Competition produced by Jerry Gillie of Medora, ND. Wade Benson won the People's Choice Award.

Gillie explained, after introducing the trainers, that it is not the intention to have a trained colt at the end of the day, "This is just to show what the trainers can do," he said. Each trainer was riding their assigned horse at the end of the four-hour training session. Each trainer used natural horsemanship techniques in starting the colts. The trainers all used desensitizing techniques to get the horses accustomed to the noise and distractions of the various pieces of tack.

Tarps were laid down and horses led through and over them and other obstacles. Auslam mastered this technique with the use of various home-made objects that hung from the saddle or were placed like flags into the air and while riding he would take one of the tarps from the holder and wave it around the horse who maintained his calm the whole while.

The competition started at 11 a.m., took an hour break at noon, and continued from 1-4 p.m. with a 30-minute break during the afternoon whenever

the trainer wanted.

The event was judged by three horse industry professionals including Terry Novroski who advised the audience, "Do not try this at home; these are professional trainers who make it look easy but take steps, maybe some don't see. They have learned the hard way, to size up the horse and go from there. It is how they handle the horse that makes a good horse."



Colt Starting Competition Trainers from top left: Dennis Auslam from Morton, Minn., Carrie Arntson from Detroit Lakes, Minn., Wade Benson (center) from West Fargo, N.D., and Gary Kuopala from Virginia, Minn. The Competition was produced by Jerry Gillie Productions, who introduced the trainers and outlined the rules for the day. Gillie also produces wild west shootouts in Medora, N.D. jackpot and roping events in the Midwest. More information about the event and trainers may be seen at: www.jerrygillieproductions.com. More photos of the event may be seen online at the VEN website - www.theveonline.com or our Facebook page.



Tuesday, June 11, 2013

### SPECIAL TACK SALE - 9 a.m.

Selling complete inventory of western tack, also selling 75 NEW Saddles, including: Billy Cook, Circle Y, Saddlesmith, and RS Custom Ranch Saddlery. A truckload of new tack at wholesale prices. Dealers invited - bargains for everyone.

### SPECIAL HORSE SALE - 12:00 p.m.

Selling registered and grade horses of all breeds followed by loose horses. Consign your horses early - they will be sold in order consigned. If you have stock to sell, we will have eastern and western buyers, plus foreign buyers. This sale has proven to be Minnesota's largest summer sale - plan to be here!

NO CATALOG FEE - 8% COMMISSION - \$25 NO SALE FEE

SALE HELD AT:  
**SIMON ARENA**  
Cannon Falls, MN 507-263-4200  
Owned & Operated by Jim & Ryon Simon  
**BRING YOUR BEST - WE'LL DO THE REST**

Photos by Ley Bouchard  
See more photos and the winning video at the Valley Equestrian Newspaper Facebook page.



**The Oldest Horse**  
**The Valley Equestrian Newspaper loves older horses!**  
**Tell us about yours!**  
**Send a photo and description (short or long) of your old horse (age 25 or 30+) for publication in an upcoming issue of the Valley Equestrian Newspaper.**

**Email: thevenews@gmail.com or mail a photo (with stamped returned envelope) to: The VEN, PO Box 64, Sabin, MN 56580**

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**2008 Cimarron GN 8'X26'X7'6" Norstar 3H**  
w/12 Trail Boss Solid Knotty Alder LQ, 4,000 Owen Generator, Hydr. Jack, Dinette w/Full Bench Seat, 6 cu Refg, Ducted AC & Furnace, Recessed 2 Burner Stove, Microwv, Lg Stainless Steel Sink, Overhead Cabinets, Wstrn Hardware Pkg & Cmfrtr, Soft Touch Walls & Ceiling, Pcktd Dr, Porcelain Sink & Stl In Bthrm, Lg Marble Neo Angle Shwr w/Glass Dr. Sale Price \$52,500.00



**2006 Platinum GN 8'X28'X7'6" Dlx 4 Horse w/10' LQ,**  
Sofa-Slpr, 6 cu Refg, 2 Burner Stove, Microwv, Dble Stainless Steel Sink w/Upgraded Faucet, AM/FM/CD Stereo, Inside/Outside Speakers, Camper Dr w/Scrn, AC, Ducted Furnace, Shwr w/Glass Dr, Separate Stool, Vanity & Sink, 2 Hanging Closets, Awning, Walk-Thru Dr, Dual Elect. Jacks, New Batteries, 4 Drop Down Fd Drs w/Low Mount Latches & HD Drop Down Bars. Sale Price: \$42,500.00



**2007 Exiss Sport 4H GN 8'X29'X7'6" ES8410 10' LQ,**  
Dinette, 6 cu Refg, 2 Bmr Stv, Microwv, Wstrn Hrdwr Pkg, AM-FM-CD Stereo w/Inside/Outside Spkr, Pcktd Dr, Neo Angle Shwr w/Glass Dr, Sky Lght, Sep. Stool, Lg Vanity & Sink, Walk-Thru Dr, Escape Dr w/Drp Dwn Fd Dr-Low Mount Latches & Fold Dwn Bars, 3 Mangers w/2 Manger Drs, Slam Latch Dvdrs, Collaps. Rr Tack, 4 Post Swng Out Saddle Rck, Dual Electrc Jacks, Awning. Sale Price: \$37,500.00



**2006 Cherokee GN 80"X22' 7' Tomahawk 3H, w/8' Solid Oak LQ, Sofa-Slpr, Small Refg., Microwv, Flat Scrn TV w/DVD Player, Shwr, Sep. Stool, AC, Owen Generator, Walk-Thru Dr, Escape Dr w/Drp Dwn Fd Doors w/Fold Dwn Bars, Stud Divider 1st Stall, Padded Dividers, Collap. Rear Tack w/3 Post Saddle Rack, Bridle Hooks & Bush Tray, Blanket Bar, 3 Roof Vents. Sale Price: \$26,500.00**



**1997 Featherlite GN 8'X26'X7' 4 Horse, 8' LQ,**  
Dinette, 3.5 cu Refg, 2 Burner Stove, Microwv, Ducted Furnace, AC, Lg Bthrm w/Vanity, Shwr, Sep. Stl, Clst, Walk Thru Dr, Awning, Elect. Jck, Escape Dr, 3 Mngrs w/2 Mngr Drs, Carpeted RT, 4 Saddle Rck, Bridle Hks, Stud Dvdr, New Brks/Bearings/ Batteries. Very Clean - Taken Care Of. Sale Price: \$25,900.00



**2002 Featherlite GN 7'X28'X7' 5H w/4' Dress Rm**  
& 4' to 8' Mid Tack w/Wlk-thr Dr, Carpet BH Wall, Cloth Rod, Carpet GN Drp & Flr, Cmpr Dr w/Scrn, MT Loaded w/Bridle Hks, Brush Tray & Blnkt Bar, Escape Dr w/Drp Dwn Fd Dr, Windw Scms, Rf Vents, Rump Wall Windws, Collap. RT, 4 Post Saddle Rack-Moveable To MT, Full Wdth Rr Ramp, Dble Rr Drs w/Wndws, Fd Bags, 2 Ld Lghts, Dble Tail Lghts, Stainless Simulators, Brks-Brgs Serviced. Tires Excellent. Hard To Find - Very Good Condition. Sale Price \$18,900.00



**2006 Featherlite GN 7'X24'X7' 4H w/6' to 10' Dress Rm,**  
Cmpr Dr w/Scrn, Cloth Rod, Bridle Hks, Brsh Try, Saddle Rck Setting, Crpt GN-Drp & Flr, Escape Dr w/Fd Dr, Low Mnt Latches & Fold Dwn Bars, Slam Lch Dvdrs, Lined & Insulated Walls, Rf Vents, Collap. RT, 4 Post Saddle Rck w/Pad Rcks, Extra Bridle Hks, Brsh Tray, Tack Organizer, Dble Rr Drs w/Wndws, Alum Rims, Like New 235/85R16 10 Ply Radials, Spare, Stainless Nose w/Black Skin, Sharp Trailer, Brakes-Brgs, Excellent Condition. Sale Price \$17,900.00



**2006 Elite GN 7'X18'X7' Mustang 3H, 4' to 8' Dress Rm**  
Carpet GN-Drp & Flr, 5' Cloth Rod, Lg GN Windws, HD Dr w/Wndw, Saddle Rack Setting, Blnkt Bar, Bridle Hks, Escape Dr w/HD Fd Drs & Fold Dwn Bars, Insulated & Lined Sidewalls w/Rubber 54" High On Rump Wall & 48" High On Head, Padded Dvdrs, 3 Rf Vents, Lg Windws Rump Wall, Collaps. Rr Tck, 3 Post Moveable Saddle Rck, Bridle Hks, Dble Rr Drs w/Wndws, New Brakes & Bearings Sale Price: \$16,900.00



**2007 BP 7'X17'X7' Exiss Sport 3H, 4 Saddle Rack, 5**  
Swng Out Blanket Bar, 4 Corner Shelves, Bridle Hooks, Camper Door w/Screen, 3 Drop Dwn Feed Doors w/Fold Dwn Bars, Slam Latch Dividers, Collaps. Rear Tack, Load Light, Spare Tire, Brakes-Bearings-Lights Serviced. Nice Clean Trailer. Sale Price: \$10,900.00

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