

Hey Everybody,

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the week of August 24, 2014, Extension's Equine related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties. To have something included in the Weekly Pile, please follow these simple guidelines.

- Information included needs to be educational in nature &/or directly related to Rockingham or Guilford Counties.**
- provided information is a resource to the citizens of Rockingham/Guilford Counties.**
- provided information does not require extra time or effort to be listed.**
- Listings for Swap Shop will not list pricing details.**
- Please E-mail information to me by Wednesday each Week.**
- Please keep ads or events as short as possible – with NO FORMATTING,**

NO unnecessary Capitalization's and NO ATTACHED DOCUMENTS.

(If sent in that way, it may not be included)

- Please include contact information - Phone, Email and alike.**
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send into me.**
- The Weekly Pile is not for listings for Commercial type properties or products.**

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was probably an oversight on my part, but please let me know!

If you have a question or ideas that you would like covered in the Weekly Pile, please let me know and I will try to include. As Always, I would like to hear your comments about the Weekly Pile or the Extension Horse Program in Rockingham or Guilford Counties!

I NEED YOUR FEEDBACK & IDEAS!

Included in The Pile this Week:

- 1. Watch UNC TV
TONIGHT
*North Carolina Now***
- 2. Trailer Maintenance**
- 3. Planning a Horse Pasture**
- 4. You Asked**
- 5. The Role of Nutrition in Horse Colic**

and Laminitis

6. Poker Ride, BBQ & Bluegrass!!

**7. Ann Isley Memorial Ranch Horse
Classic - September 6**

8. Piedmont Horseman's Association Show - August 30

**9. Flintrock Farm Schooling
Hunter Series – Sept. 6th**

10. Yellow Jackets

**11. Guilford Counties Centennial
Celebration- 100 Years of Local food**

12. HAY DIRECTORY

13. Swap Shop

14. Take A Load Off

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**1. Watch Tonight on UNC TV –
*North Carolina Now***

Many of you are aware that **Cooperative Extension** is restructuring and will be making some major changes. Dr Joe Zublena Associate Dean for Extension, NC State University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Director, **North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service** will be on UNC-TV's North Carolina NOW program tonight (Aug. 28) at **7:30** p.m. to discuss the organization's recent strategic plan and vision for its future in North Carolina.

Dr. Zublena gives insights into the **North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service's** new Strategic Plan. The Extension Service is focusing its resources into three core program areas: Agriculture, Food & 4-H Youth Development. In addition, the Extension Service at North Carolina State University is repositioning itself for long-term sustainability, relevance and success through valued governmental and educational partners across the state to improve the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians.

View UNC-TV's channel guide/signal map to discover your local station. UNC-TV currently offers access to its programs in all 100 counties of North Carolina.

We encourage you to tune in if possible, but we will also post a link to the video on the Extension Service Strategic Plan webpage tomorrow.

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/vision-initiative/strategic-plan/>

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2. Many will be taking to the road this weekend - Don't Forget Trailer Maintenance

It's that time of the year again when equestrians are hitting the road to enjoy the summer time, their horses and each other's company. Before heading out on the road, there are a few things you should consider when it comes to trailer maintenance. As a responsible horsemen and trailer operator, here are a few things you should check regularly.

- Tire condition: Check the pressure, tread and overall appearance of all tires. Don't forget to check your spare too!
- Floorboards: Make sure the drainage holes are unblocked and that there are no weak or rotten boards.
- Brakes: Truck and trailer brakes

- Safety Chains: Be sure they are crossed and hooked to vehicle frame.
- Hitch: The socket should be seated on the ball and securely locked into place.
- Lights: The tail lights, brake lights, turn signals and interior lights should all be in working order and bright.
- Sharp objects: Screws, nails or bolts that are protruding inside should be removed.
- Insects: If it has been awhile since you have used your trailer, check to make sure there are no stinging insects inside.
- Final Inspection: After loading your animals but before you pull off, do a final inspection of the rig and secure all doors.

In addition to checking all of the above on a regular basis, it is also recommended to get your trailer inspected annually by a professional and replace all rotted, rusted or busted parts.

Remember the old adage “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”, adequately maintain your trailers and enjoy your ride.

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3. Planning a Horse Pasture

Krishona Martinson, Equine Extension Specialist, University of Minnesota

When planning your horse pasture, you should ask yourself the following question: will the pasture be a major feed source or just an exercise area?

Most horses benefit from being outside regularly for exercise. Free exercise reduces behavior and respiratory problems, promotes optimal growth and development of young horses, and improves overall horse health. However, if the pasture is to serve as a feed source, other factors need to be considered including its potential nutritional value, carrying capacity or stocking rate, and grazing system design. These topics will be discussed in further detail later.

Other things to consider when planning your pasture include:

1. Topography and Geography of Your Pasture: Individual pastures should not include steeply sloping hillsides; soil types that vary significantly in suitabilities due to wetness, presence of rocks, inherent differences in fertility; or forage species that differ greatly in growth or yield characteristics. Also, paddocks should not be oriented up and down hillsides.

2. Environmental Concerns: Keep horses out of rivers, creeks, swamps, or wetlands. Poor pasture management can cause environmental damage. Wet areas should be avoided because they typically have a greater number of insects (biting flies and mosquitoes) and poisonous plants.

3. Pasture Size: Pastures should be large enough to handle your stocking rate and grazing system. For example, two one-acre-sized pastures should be sufficient for rotational grazing of two adult horses. Rectangular shaped pastures tend to better suit horses as they encourage exercise. Irregular shaped pastures should be avoided because they create a greater risk of injury. If the pasture is to be used for year round grazing, at least two acres per horse is needed; anything less should be considered an exercise area.

4. Sacrifice Paddock/Corral: Dry lots, or sacrifice paddocks, provide an opportunity to move horses off pastures when they are excessively wet or dry, and to avoid overgrazing. Dry lots can vary in size, however they should provide a minimum of 500 square feet per horse.

5. Gate Placement: Gates should be placed away from corners, closest to the direction of travel. Gates should be large enough to get equipment through (i.e. tractors, mowers etc...). Narrow gates should be avoided because they increase risk of injury when more than one horse passes through. Avoid placing gates in low areas where water may pool.

6. Water: Clean, fresh water is a requirement for horses. Place waterers in areas where filling and cleaning is convenient, and if possible, where multiple pastures have access.

7. Safety and Common Sense: Design safe pastures use appropriate fencing materials for horses (ie. barbed wire should be avoided). Pasture layout and design should be suitable for your horses and your farm.

Remember, management of horse pastures is an ongoing process that takes time, equipment, knowledge, diligence, and money. If managed well, pasture will be an economical source of high-quality forage, as well as a healthy place for horses to exercise. If managed poorly, pastures can become overgrazed, allowing weeds to take over. A poorly managed pasture provides little nutritional value and may contribute to horse health problems.

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4. You Asked: Question 1 - Is there a new allergen out? All the horses seem to have exercise induced coughing this week.

Response from Dr. Mark Wallace – Carolina Equine - No, there is no new allergen out, however this is the time of year when many of our common horse allergens are in full effect (dust, pollens, molds, etc.). The

condition is called Recurrent Airway Obstruction (a.k.a. RAO, a.k.a. Heaves, a.k.a. equine allergies, a.k.a. COPD). It is similar to asthma in people in that the airways become so inflamed that the smallest irritant (mold spore, pollen, etc.) can set off a coughing fit. This also explains why you are noticing the coughing more during exercise.

Treatment of RAO in horses is centered around environmental management. Practices such as soaking hay before feeding, limiting time in a dusty stall and maximizing time turned out on pasture can limit the progression of this condition significantly. If at any time your horse has labored breathing, a fever, nasal discharge, or a persistent severe cough, contact your vet immediately.

Question 2: Several people have noticed their horses drooling when brought in off the pasture 3 days following the rainy weather on 8/9-8/12. The drooling was more foamy than what had previously been noticed with slobbers in the spring. The clover in the pastures has not suddenly grown- Is there something to explain this?

*Response from Dr. Mark Wallace – Carolina Equine - Slobbers is a condition that causes increased salivation, which can be either clear or slightly foamy. It is caused by the slaframine toxin produced by the fungus *Rhizoctonia leguminicola* (black patch). This fungus grows on several different types of legumes, especially clovers. Slobbers is often seen following cool, wet weather like that which occurred in this area over the last couple of weeks. This weather allows for the rapid growth of the fungus on the infected clover. While growth of the clover itself may not be evident, the increased levels of fungus, and therefore toxin, on the forage makes slobbers far more prevalent.*

Excessive drooling begins within a couple hours of toxin ingestion and resolves in 2-3 days after removal of the animal from infected pasture. Hay containing infected clover or legumes can cause slobbers for many

months after it is cut and cured. While slobbers is the most common sign of slaframine toxicosis and is not life threatening, excessive tearing, diarrhea, and colic can also uncommonly result from slaframine intoxication. It is important to check your horse's mouth for foreign bodies such as grass awns, or other signs of disease such as blisters that can cause excessive salivation and are not related to slaframine. It is always a good idea to ask your veterinarian to look at your horse's mouth if you are not sure if there is an obvious cause for his or her excessive salivation.

Thank You Dr. Wallace!

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5. The Role of Nutrition in Horse Colic and Laminitis

Laminitis is inflammation within the sensitive laminae of the feet. It can occur for many reasons, but as a nutritional problem it is commonly linked to grain-rich diets, ingestion of too much rich pasture, and obesity. Grain overload or a diet rich in high-carbohydrate feed (grain or lush pasture) initiates a series of metabolic and endocrine (hormone) disturbances in the body. A diet abundant in carbohydrates upsets normal intestinal bacteria, allowing more endotoxins from harmful bacteria to be absorbed into the bloodstream than can be neutralized by the liver.

The most common laminitis relates to nutrition and diet. Rapid intake of starches or fructans (a sugar) stored in pasture plants can cause laminitis. Fructans are the primary reserve carbohydrate stored in cool season grasses like orchardgrass, brome grass, and timothy. Sugar content is highest when grass is in the vegetative state (early spring and during re-growth); during periods of cool nights and warm sunny days (fall or early spring); after a hard freeze; and during drought conditions. Careful pasture management by horse owners with sensitive horses is essential.

Good pasture management entails:

Not overgrazing

Limiting grazing time, and/or

Using a grazing muzzle.

Grazing should also be limited during times of environmental stress on plants such as drought. It is important not to over graze pastures as the lowest stems often contain the highest amount of sugar.

Avoid grazing on pastures with lots of seed heads as they also contain high amounts of sugar.

Introducing horses to lush spring pasture gradually will reduce the chance of laminitis.

To begin grazing (and reduce the chance of laminitis), start easing the horses onto the pasture in 15 to 30 minute increments. Gradually increase the amount of time in the pastures over the course of several weeks.

Colic can be caused by digestive upsets. Some pasture forages, like legumes, can cause gas in the digestive system when quick diet changes are made. So make dietary changes slowly over time, including slow induction to pastures.

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6. Poker Ride, BBQ & Bluegrass!! At Leatherwood Mountains Resort

Leatherwood Mountains is planning a BIG LABOR DAY Celebration on Saturday, August 30th.

The Leatherwood Mountains Poker Ride is an organized event where

participants, on horseback or on foot, must visit five checkpoints, drawing a playing card at each one. The object is to have the best poker hand at the end of the ride/hike.

Cash Prizes for top hand!! The Ride will begin at Noon and end at 3pm.

Awards, music, and food to follow. **OUR RENTAL HORSES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT!!** If you do not have a horse, but want to participate in this ride - call today to reserve your spot! It is going to be an awesome event!

After the Poker Ride, we will gear up for our Blue, BBQ and Bluegrass Party. This will start around 5pm and go until..

http://archive.aweber.com/leatherwood/IKVLD/h/Cabin_Camping_Discounts_.htm

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7. Ann Isley Memorial Ranch Horse Classic - September 6

The final show for the 2014 Ann Isley Memorial Ranch Horse Classic will be held September 6 @ 10 am at the Isley Ranch located at 105 Driftwood Rd in Reidsville. Classes include Conformation, Ranch Riding, Trail, Showmanship, Horsemanship, Ranch Roping, Herd Work, Ranch Cutting, and Roping. Make plans to attend for a great day of competition. Contact Jim @336 669 9548 or visit our website jimisley.com for more details.

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8. Piedmont Horseman's Association show - Saturday, August 30 at Piedmont Saddle Club in Colfax!

On August 30th, PHA will be partnering with CCHA for a show at Piedmont Saddle Club in Colfax. The show will start at 10am with halter. The show is open to everyone. We have something for everyone; adults, youth, novice. Divisions offered will be field hunter, stock type hunter, working western and western pleasure. Very nice high point and reserve high point awards will be awarded!

You do not have to be a member to show, but if you are a member of either PHA or CCHA you will get a dollar off each entry fee.

We hope you will become part of the PHA family!!

You can find all the details about all the shows as well as membership forms on the web site: <http://www.phasince1971.com/index.htm>

Also find us on Facebook.

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9. Flintrock Farm Schooling Hunter Series

September 6th

www.flintrockfarm.com

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10. Yellow Jackets

Michael Waldvogel, Extension Entomology Specialist

Labor Day often signals the end of the summer is near and so many insects are also beginning to wind down their activity. Yellow jacket colonies likely peaked back in late July or early August but they are still quite active and even aggressive in foraging for food. So, while people are outdoors celebrating this weekend at parks, the beach or just in their own backyard, more than just their

invited guests will be waiting for hot dogs, burgers and other items come off the grill. The inclination is swat the unwanted visitors are they try to taste what sitting on our plates. That can trigger an aggressive response by the yellow jackets. Another piece of advice to give people - drink from cups rather than cans. While we're busy sitting at picnic tables talking, we may not notice a yellow jacket sipping soda from the top of the can or crawling inside to investigate this sugar (or beer) gold mine. Pour the beverage into a cup.

Trash and recycle receptacles will also be wasp magnets and can also pose a problem in parks, athletic fields and other recreation areas and they need to be emptied before the overflow with trash or beverage bottles/cans. A lot of people try those yellow jacket traps that are sold at hardware stores. We still haven't seen data that shows that they are effective. If yellow jacket nests can be found, treating them with a Wasp & Hornet spray is the best choice. Use a product that propels the chemical 10+ feet so you have a running head-start when the wasps start streaming out of the nest. Some of these products are foams which help envelope the opening to the nest. I would suggest treating late in the evening because it's unlikely that you'll kill all of the wasps and the survivors may return in search of their now-unusable home. Also, we discourage people from using home remedies such as gasoline. While it may be viewed as entertaining, it's obviously hazardous and environmentally unsound. Some people place bowls or rocks over the opening figuring that this is a "low impact" alternative to chemicals. However, I have reservations about this approach particularly if there are "inquiring little minds" that might investigate this situation and move the object with the obvious unintended consequences. Another technique some people try is to pour boiling water down into the hole. That may seem "safer" than a pesticide but consider that you have to carry the water over to the nest and pour it down the opening and hope some of the occupants don't emerge to "encourage" you to go elsewhere. Yellow jackets are actually quite valuable as predators and so if the nest doesn't pose a health hazard to you or family members or friends, "Let it be"....

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11. Guilford Counties Centennial Celebration- 100 Years of Local food

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension service turns 100 this year and we are Celebrating! We invite you to join us as we look back at 100 years of Extension, and forward to an exciting future. This event will take place on October 6th from 4:00 – 6:30pm at the Guilford County Agricultural Center, 3309 Burlington Road in Greensboro. Our vision is to celebrate 100 years of local food production by inviting the community to attend and see how far we have come!

Local farmers and chefs will be offering taste tests.(If you are interested in participating and maybe bring animals, products or meat to sell to this just let me know) You can shop for local specialties items, from ice cream to beef and everything in between. Displays will include photographs from the canning clubs of the 1930s, corn clubs in the '20s, and pictures displaying how the community has evolved over the last 100 years. There will also be exhibitions of antique farm equipment versus new, cooking demonstrations, and much, much more. Special presentations will be made at 5:30pm.

We sincerely hope that you will take this opportunity to come and celebrate with us.

Help us make this a celebration to remember!

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12. HAY DIRECTORY

A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This

directory is intended as a service to both hay **producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at 1-800-666-3625 or 342-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.**

MANAGE YOUR PASTURES!

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13. Swap Shop

- Goose Neck Aluminum Trailer Wanted – Please send Ben the description

“3 Nice Trail Horses for Sale - Call 336-613-0932 for more information”.

- Equine Vaulting starting back up-Wednesday afternoons and Saturday mornings @ Fiore Farms. No experience necessary.

Red Dog Farm gelding pony in need of his forever home. Trained and ready to go. Very personable, loving and sweet.

Yoga on Horseback starting back up. E-mail BelEquine@gmail.com if interested.

Limited availability for boarding at Fiore Farms. Contact Cheryl to set up a tour Tues-Sunday.

Fiore Farms.com or BellEquine.org 336.423.6981

**For Sale – 2 well broke horses, trail broke, child broke. Call
Ronnie 336-601-2275**

**- For Sale – Stubben English saddle with irons, excellent
condition – 14.5 inch, good for youth or small adult – Call
Ronnie – 336-601-2275**

**- Available – 2 stalls, full board, excellent care, turn out available,
stalled at night, Gibsonville area – Call Ronnie –336-601-2275**

**Western Riding Lessons For Adults or Youth – Slots open now
– Please call Ronnie Isley – 336-601-2275**

**Winter Company UpRight Piano For Sale – \$450 OBO 336-623-
1783– Nice!**

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14. Take A Load Off

I need your clean Jokes, so please send em to me! -

**BELIEVE it or not,
These are REAL 911 Calls!**

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: I heard what sounded like gunshots coming from the brown house on the corner.

Dispatcher: Do you have an address?

Caller: No, I have on a blouse and slacks, why?

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: Someone broke into my house and took a bite out of my ham and cheese sandwich.

Dispatcher: Excuse me?

Caller: I made a ham and cheese sandwich and left it on the kitchen table and when I came back from the bathroom, someone had taken a bite out of it.

Dispatcher: Was anything else taken?

Caller: No, but this has happened to me before and I'm sick and tired of it!

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is the nature of your emergency?

Caller: I'm trying to reach nine eleven but my phone doesn't have an eleven on it.

Dispatcher: This is nine eleven.

Caller: I thought you just said it was nine-one-one

Dispatcher: Yes, ma'am nine-one-one and nine-eleven are the same thing.

Caller: Honey, I may be old, but I'm not stupid.

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What's the nature of your emergency?

Caller: My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart

Dispatcher: Is this her first child?

Caller: No, you idiot! This is her husband!

And the winner is.....

Dispatcher: 9-1-1

Caller: Yeah, I'm having trouble breathing. I'm all out of breath. Darn....I think I'm going to pass out.

Dispatcher: Sir, where are you calling from?

Caller: I'm at a pay phone. North and Foster.

Dispatcher: ! Sir, an ambulance is on the way. Are you an asthmatic?

Caller: No

Dispatcher: What were you doing before you started having trouble breathing?

Caller: Running from the Police.

OK – Y'all Need To Help Me Out

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I always want to know what you think of the Weekly Pile, good or bad,

Especially if it has had **ANY IMPACT** on you. Let me hear from you!

*******I NEED YOUR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES**

In FUTURE Newsletters!*****

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!

Please remember our Troops **who are serving our Country** (and there families) those who have come home with wounds and the families that paid the ultimate sacrifice.

HAVE A GREAT SAFE

HOLIDAY WEEKEND!

Thanks

Ben

Ben Chase

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