

## Howdy Folks!

Included is the **Weekly Pile of Information** for the week of **January 24, 2016**, 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)**
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**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. STARTS MONDAY NIGHT - 2016  
Extension Horse Management  
Short Courses**
- 2. Cold Weather Feeding Practices**
- 3. Holders of Conditional Sales Tax Exemptions**
- 4. You Asked**
- 5. Planning for Greener Pastures**
- 6. Hints for Winter Riding and Horse Care**

- 7. To Blanket Your Horse? or Not?**
- 8. Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition of the Horse**
- 9. YELLOW FLOWERS**
- 10. Other Extension Programs**
- 11. HAY**
- 12. Swap Shop**
- 13. Take A Load Off**

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**1. Horse Management Series Starts Monday Night, Please Call & Reserve Your Place Today!**

The Horse Management class this past Monday evening was postponed and rescheduled for March 21st. So Now, The first Course for the 2016 Horse

Management Series will be this Monday Evening February 1st beginning at 7pm at the Guilford County Ag Center located at 3309 Burlington Road in Greensboro.. We will begin with dinner and the program to follow on Caring for the Senior Horse and Watering Systems for Horses. This program and meal will be provided by Davis Feed & Seed from Randleman.

Dinner will be served at this event, Reservations are needed by Jan. 29th - 342-8235 so please let me know if you are planning to attend!

## 2016 Extension Horse Management Short Courses

**Classes held at Guilford County Agricultural Center unless otherwise noted**

3309 Burlington Road Greensboro, NC 27405 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

February 1 - Caring for the Senior Horse and Watering Systems for Horses

Davis Feed & Seed, Randleman, NC

Dinner will be served, Reservations Required by Jan. 29th - 342-8235

February 8 - Equine Nutrition - Balancing Hay & Grain Quality  
Assessing Body Condition Score and Weight (Hands On)

Alaina Parsons Cross, Equine Extension Specialist, NCSU Extension Horse Husbandry

February 15 - Equine First Aid and Injuries  
Carolina Equine Hospital Tour – Held at Carolina Equine

Carolina Equine Hospital Veterinarians, Browns Summit, NC

February 22 - **General Health Care/ Vet Maintenance – Alternative Medicine** Dr Adam Sisk - Davie County Large Animal Hospital, Mocksville, NC

February 29 - **Ask A Vet - Q/A with an Equine Veterinarian**  
Dr. Richard Kirkman - Carolina Equine & Food Animal, Siler City, NC

March 7 - **Pest Control in Feed Room and Around the Barn, Weed Control**

Southern States - Reidsville, Southern States Greensboro-Summerfield, Southern States Asheboro

Dinner will be served, Reservations Required by March 4th - 342-8235

March 14 - **The Parelli Way to Horsemanship – Demonstration**

Parelli Level 4 Student , Lauren Kahn, Eagle Bear Farm, Graham NC

March 21 - **Natural Horsemanship & Round Pen Exhibition**

Brock Griffith – Brock Griffith Horsemanship, Denton NC

Attached are the updated fliers

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## 2. Cold Weather Feeding Practices for Horses

*Dr. Robert A. Mowrey, Retired Extension Horse Husbandry Specialist*

The Impact of Cold Weather - During cold weather, the horse requires additional energy to maintain its internal body temperature and keep warm. The exact amount of energy depends on the severity and extent of the cold period. In the Carolinas, horses typically experience a dramatic drop in temperature for one to three days, followed by a return to moderate, normal temperatures. When environmental temperatures, including wind chill, drop below 45 degrees F (the critical temperature), significant amounts of energy are used by the horse to maintain its internal body heat.

The amount of energy required by the horse to meet daily energy needs is measured as digestible energy (DE) in calories. The critical temperature can be used to estimate increased energy needs which the horse must obtain from its diet. For each 1 degree F decrease below the critical temperature, the horse requires a 1 percent increase in digestible energy to maintain a consistent body temperature. Wind chill, moisture and coat thickness will affect the critical temperature. The horse's thick winter coat has an insulating effect against cold and wind. If the coat becomes wet, the critical temperature will increase by 10 to 15 degree F.

The following formula is used to calculate the increased DE requirement for a horse as a result of cold temperatures and wet, windy conditions: *critical temperature – actual temperature = percent increase in DE required.*

### **Adjusting Energy Intake: An Example**

The following example clarifies how to adjust energy intake for a dry environmental temperature of 30 degrees F with a wind chill that results in an actual temperature of 25 degrees F. The example applies to a 1,100-pound horse at maintenance.

Step 1. Subtract the actual temperature, including the wind-chill adjustment, from the critical temperature, accounting for wet conditions if necessary : 45 degrees F – 25 degrees F = 20 percent increase in DE requirements.

Step 2. Because a 1,100-pound horse at maintenance requires 16.4 Mcal of DE per day (see AG-558- 1) and because the horse in this example requires a 20 percent increase in DE, you multiply as follows: 16.4 Mcal x 20 percent = +3.28 Mcal increase. The requirement thus increases as follows: 16.4 Mcal + 3.28 Mcal = 19.68 Mcal DE/day.

Step 3. Next, you need to determine the amount of feed necessary to supply these increased calories. A 1,100-pound horse typically consumes 19 pounds of ration daily, or 1.7 percent of its body weight. Because the recommended DE level of the ration (concentrate mix plus forage) fed to a horse at maintenance is .90 Mcal DE/pound of feed, we can calculate the increase in feed as follows: 3.28 Mcal ÷ .90 Mcal = 3.64 pounds of additional feed to provide 19.68 Mcal DE/ day.

Step 4. Determine the total amount of feed the horse requires by adding the 3.64 pounds of additional feed to the 19 pounds of feed the horse requires under normal conditions: 19.0 + 3.64 = 22.64 pounds per day of total ration.

The Importance of Hay and Fat - Feedstuffs vary in the amount of internal heat produced when digested by the horse. Forages, which are digested by microbes

located in the cecum and large intestine, produce more heat than concentrate mixes, which are digested by enzymes in the small intestine. Although concentrates contain more total DE per pound than hay, the amount of actual heat given off by the digestion process is significantly less. Thus, the best way to increase internal body heat while maintaining a safer, more consistent energy intake is to increase the intake of hay.

- A horse should consume at least 1.5 to 1.75 percent of its body weight as hay during cold periods. Thus, a 1,000-pound mature horse should consume 15 to 17.5 pounds of hay daily to meet critical temperature needs during cold weather.

During prolonged periods of cold temperature -- several days below the critical temperature -- both the concentrate and forage portion of the diets should be increased in equal proportions. The energy density of the concentrate mix can be increased by adding fat in the form of 4 to 8 ounces of a vegetable oil per day, or by the addition of a commercial fat supplement according to label recommendations. Feeding of additional amounts of concentrate or increasing the energy density of the concentrate is especially important if the horse is in poor body condition with low body fat, or is a "hard keeper." The extra body fat provides an additional insulating effect against wind and also serves as an energy reserve that can be used when the horse is fed an energy-deficient diet.

**The Importance of Water** - Maintaining ample water intake is the most critical part of ensuring the health of your horse during cold weather. The horse prefers a water temperature of 45 to 65 degrees F. Under normal conditions, the horse will consume 1 gallon of water per 100 pounds of body weight. A 1,100-pound horse will consume 10 to 12 gallons of water daily. As the water temperature decreases, the horse will consume less water. The same 1,100-pound horse may consume as little as 1 to 3 gallons of water daily when water temperature is 32 degrees F.

Low water intake is directly related to the increased incidence of impaction colic. Water intake can be encouraged by increasing the amount of forage being fed prior to a drop in temperature. The resulting increase of dry matter encourages the horse to drink more water.

Concentrate mashes should be fed during the actual cold period when water temperature is below 45 degrees F. Feeding 2 to 3 gallons of hot water daily mixed into a mash with a textured or pelleted concentrate mix will provide additional water intake. To avoid gas colic, allow the mash to sit for 15 minutes; this will permit the feed to expand prior to feeding. If possible, offer 10 gallons of water, at 65 degrees F or warmer, twice daily. Break and remove ice from water tubs, making certain to provide water that is available free-choice.

## **Ten Steps to Effective Cold-Weather Management**

- Monitor weather forecasts to determine cold periods in advance.
- Increase the dry-matter content of the diet 24 hours prior to forecasted cold conditions.
  - Strive to keep your horse in good body condition prior to winter months.
- Determine your horse's critical temperature and adjust DE intake accordingly.
  - Increase hay intake to horses in good body condition and "easy keepers."
- Increase forage and concentrate intake for horses in poor condition and "hard keepers."
  - Supplement fat to increase the energy density of concentrates.
  - Feed the same concentrate as a moist mash during cold periods.
    - Offer 10 gallons of warmed water daily.

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### 3. Holders of Conditional Sales Tax Exemptions

Holders of Conditional Sales Tax Exemptions, such as Beginning Farmers, have a reporting obligation to provide copies of their Federal Schedule F or farm business tax returns to maintain the conditional Sales Tax exemption. Recently the NC Department of Revenue sent letters to remind these persons of this requirement. The due date for the applicable tax forms is 90 days after the close of the tax year; e.g. March 31, 20xx for calendar year taxpayers.

The webpage below has more details regarding this obligation.

[http://www.dornrc.com/taxes/sales/improtnice032015\\_farmerexempt.pdf](http://www.dornrc.com/taxes/sales/improtnice032015_farmerexempt.pdf)

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**4. You Asked: I have recently been in a discussion about benefits of keeping music playing in the barn. Do you have any information on this??**



**I do not have much on this subject but decided to include the following on your question.**

- This month the University of Minnesota Extension included a Research Update: Music and Horse Stress. The following is that article. Training and showing can result in stress among horses. To help reduce stress, researchers from Poland sought to investigate the effects of music in reducing horse stress. The objective of the research was to determine the effect of music played in the barn on the emotional state of race horses. Seventy 3-year-old Purebred Arabian horses in their first race season were divided into an experimental group of 40 horses and control group of 30 horses and placed in separate barns. The experimental group was subject to music (guitar music performed in a new age genre) played in the barn for 5 hours in the afternoon during the study, which lasted for 3 years. The control group had no music played in the barn. The emotional state of the horses was assessed at rest, saddling, and warm-up walk under rider by measuring cardiac (heart) activity, mostly heart rate. Measurements were taken six times, every 30 to 35 days. The music effect on the emotional state was also considered with regard to the horse's performance as determined by race records. The music positively affected the emotional state in race horses. The influence was noticeable after the first month of playing music and increased in the second and third months. A positive effect of the music on prizes won by the horses in the experimental group compared to the control group was also found. The results suggest that music played in barns can improve the welfare and performance of race horses. For more information on this research, go to: [http://www.j-evs.com/article/S0737-0806\(15\)00415-3/abstract?cc=y=](http://www.j-evs.com/article/S0737-0806(15)00415-3/abstract?cc=y=)

**Summarized by: Krishona Martinson, PhD, University of Minnesota**

**Research Shows Country & Classical Music More Restful For Horses**

<http://stablemanagement.com/article/research-shows-country-and-classical-music-more-restful-for--2597>

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## 5. Planning for Greener Pastures

Kelsey Lichtenwalner

Though it doesn't look like it with snow on the ground, there are only 50 some days until spring, which means it is time to think about cool season forages for your pasture! Forage selection should be based on horse needs, as there is no *one* forage best suited for *all* classes of horses. However, there are hundreds of varieties of grasses and forages to choose from. With so many forages available, how does one choose? There are two factors to consider when choosing forages for pastures: preference and persistence.

### Preference

Horses, like children, can be picky eaters. Horses will usually graze preferred forages (usually young, tender shoots and/or leafier varieties of forages with higher sugar content) to the ground, while leaving less palatable forages (usually older, tougher, and/or more fibrous varieties of forages) untouched. This is why horse pastures often have uneven patches of both over-grazed and under-grazed grasses. We, as horse owners, spend so much time studying and selecting forages based on their nutritive value (crude protein, energy minerals, etc.) that we often forget that a forage is only useful if the horses *actually* eat it. Brussel sprouts may be good for us, but how often do we choose to eat them? How often does a child, who is also a picky eater, willingly eat brussel sprouts? Yes, choose forages for their nutritive value, but also make sure that it is a variety that your horses are willing to eat as well.

## Persistence

Horses can be rough on pastures. If given time, they can easily graze the available forages to the ground and turn what was once a nice, lush pasture into a mud lot. Therefore, horse owners need forages that can not only tolerate heavy grazing, but also recover and grow quickly when given time to rest. On average, perennial varieties of forages will produce reliably for 5-7 years. However, heavy grazing can reduce productivity by 3 years. Having a pasture management plan where horses are rotated off of paddocks to give forages time to rest is key in maintaining persistent forages – even the hardy varieties!

For more information about selecting and managing forages, check out the following links:

## Pasture and Hay for Horses

<http://extension.psu.edu/plants/crops/forages/pastures/animals/pasture-and-hay-for-horses>

Virginia's Horse Pastures: Forage Species for Horse Pastures

[https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/418/418-102/418-102\\_pdf.pdf](https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/418/418-102/418-102_pdf.pdf)

## Managing Pastures to Feed Your Horse - North Carolina

<http://content.ces.ncsu.edu/managing-pastures-to-feed-your-horse>

## Forage Systems for Horses in Georgia

<http://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.cfm?number=B1224>

## Pasture and Forage Crops for Horses

[http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot\\_topics/agriculture/horse\\_pasture.shtml](http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/hot_topics/agriculture/horse_pasture.shtml)

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## 6. Hints for Winter Riding and Horse Care

- Warm the Bit with your hands before putting it in the horses mouth. An icy bit can temporarily freeze and injure the tongue.
- Brush the horse well to remove dirt, snow, ice, or moisture before saddling to prevent irritation.
  - Cool and dry the horse after riding. Do this thoroughly because the horses winter coat is longer and more difficult to dry. A horse with a wet coat invites colds and pneumonia.
  - Watch out for icy or slippery areas when riding.
- Consult your Veterinarian for health recommendations. (Coggins, vaccinations, deworming)
  - Maintain hooves
    - Have teeth checked to see if floating is necessary.
    - Maintain Body Condition and supplement as needed.
- A healthy horse can withstand cold temperatures, but needs protection from cold winds and rains. Provide a man-made shelter if natural shelter is not available. Keeping a horse dry is important.
  - Do not let the horse go thirsty because drinking water is frozen.
    - A horse will drink more if the water is not to cold.
- Stables should be well-ventilated and kept clean. Ventilation, or air movement (not drafts), removes moisture and ammonia gas from urine and manure that accumulates in a tightly closed area.
  - An airtight barn is not a healthy situation.
- Be sure the horse gets sufficient exercise to maintain good health, which will help keep bowels functioning and keep from getting too fat.

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## 7. To Blanket Your Horse? or Not?

<http://www.equisearch.com/article/to-blanket-your-horse-or-not>

## To Blanket or not to Blanket? That's a Good Cold-Weather Question

<http://csu-cvmb.colostate.edu/vth/Pages/horse-blanketing.aspx>

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### 8. Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition of the Horse

Lauren Langley, Alamosa Co Extension Livestock Agent

Minerals are inorganic nutrients that are needed in relatively small quantities by the horse. The essential major minerals are calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, sodium, chloride, potassium and sulfur. The essential trace minerals needed are iron, zinc, copper, selenium, manganese, iodine, and cobalt.

A horse's mineral requirements will vary based on its body weight, age, physiological condition (e.g., pregnant, lactating) and activity level. For example, late gestation and lactating mares as well as young, rapidly growing horses have a proportionally greater requirement for some specific minerals e.g., calcium, phosphorus, copper, and zinc, than do other horses. The National Research Council (NRC) 2007 publication entitled, *Nutrient Requirement of Horses* lists daily mineral requirement as well as the mineral content of common feedstuffs. The mineral content of most grains and supplements are consistent enough that you can use values in the NRC tables; however, the quantity of minerals in forages can vary significantly with soil mineral content, plant species, stage of maturity at harvest, harvest conditions etc. Consequently, forages should be sent to a laboratory for mineral analysis. This can be done for a small fee of \$10 through NCDA&CS Farm Feed Testing Service. Check with your Extension agent for more information.

Providing minerals at less than the recommended quantities can result in a dietary deficiency whereas providing minerals in excessive quantities can result in toxicity. In addition to the amount of mineral required daily, the ratios of minerals with each other and with other components of the ration are important due to effects on absorption,

metabolism and/or excretion. In particular, a critical consideration in mineral nutrition of the horse is the calcium to phosphorus (Ca:P) ratio.

Although the quantity of trace minerals required for normal growth, development and metabolism is very small, they are all absolutely essential. Providing mineral supplementation can be accomplished in a number of different ways. You can use:

1. Trace mineral salt, either in block or loose form containing Na, Cl and trace minerals but no Ca or P. This approach assumes that the Ca and P levels as well as the Ca:P ratio provided in the rest of the ration are appropriate.
2. Commercial complete mineral supplements containing major minerals such as Ca, P, Na, Cl, trace minerals etc. The mineral supplement should be chosen to compliment the mineral content of the remainder of the ration e.g., type of forage and concentrate if any. The complete mineral supplement is fed daily at the recommended rate to each individual horse. This method ensures that each horse consumes the appropriate amount of mineral. When using a complete mineral supplement horses should also have access to a white salt block that does not contain trace minerals.
3. Commercial grain mix which contains major and trace minerals. If fed at the manufacturer's recommended rate, this method ensures that each horse consumes the appropriate amount of mineral. When using a commercial grain mix, horses should also have access to a white salt block that does not contain trace minerals.

Vitamins are organic compounds that are needed in even smaller quantities than minerals by the horse, although no less critical. Vitamins can be divided into two groups, the fat soluble vitamins A, D, E and K and the water soluble C and B-complex vitamins. The National Research Council (NRC) 2007 publication entitled, *Nutrient Requirement of Horses* lists estimates of the daily requirements for vitamins A, D, E, and the B-vitamins thiamin and riboflavin.

Vitamin A (or its precursor beta-carotene) and vitamin E are present in high concentrations in fresh green forages or newly harvested hay. Consequently, a horse grazing pasture will meet its vitamin A and E requirements. However, during the winter, when hay is stored, the levels of vitamins A and E in hay drop significantly, necessitating supplementation to meet requirements. Sun-cured forages contain vitamin D. The vitamin D requirement is also met if the horse is exposed to sunlight for four to six hours a day because the ultraviolet rays of the sun will convert a precursor present in the skin to vitamin D.

Source: Marcia Hathaway, PhD. Department of Animal Science, University of Minnesota

To view the full article click here:<http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/horse/nutrition/vitamins-and-minerals/>

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## 9. YELLOW FLOWERS

Was your pasture a wave of yellow with all those flowers late last spring? It sure was pretty but was not much good for grazing though! That yellow flower is called the Corn Buttercup and when you see the flower, it is too late to spray. Then when do I spray, you ask? NOW!! That's right, if you have had problems with buttercup, now is the time to start getting your sprayer ready. Because buttercup is a winter annual, late winter, early spring, is the time to spray, before you see the flower.

You will need a fairly warm day (above 50 degrees) to spray. So, do not go out and spray when it is 35 degrees outside, then complain about poor control. **SPRAY ON A WARM DAY!!!** You will need to spray 2-3 years to control the weed. There are several products on the market that can give good control of buttercup. Give me a call for control recommendation, but don't wait until May or June!

**REMEMBER: BEFORE YOU USE ANY CHEMICALS, BE SURE TO READ AND FOLLOW ALL LABEL SPECIFICATIONS, AND that YOU ARE USING A PRODUCT THAT WILL CONTROL WHATEVER YOU ARE TRYING TO CONTROL.**

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# 10. Other Extension Programs

## Introduction Beekeeping Program

Tuesday February 2, 2016

6:30 PM

Rockingham County Agriculture Center

525 Hwy 65

Reidsville, NC 27320

Come learn the basics about honey bees and what is involved in beekeeping!

Sponsors: Rockingham County Beekeepers Association

Rockingham County Cooperative Extension

Contact Kathryn Holmes, Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Agent at 336-342-8230 or [Kathryn\\_holmes@ncsu.edu](mailto:Kathryn_holmes@ncsu.edu) for more information.

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## *Blueberry Production Program*

*Date: Thursday, February 18, 2016*

*Time: 6pm*

*Location: Rockingham County Agricultural Center 525 Hwy 65*

*Reidsville, NC 27320*

*This program is focused on new and young blueberry plants.*

*Come learn how to grow blueberries!!! Program open to people who want to successfully grow blueberries commercially or have a few plants in their gardens!*



*For more information or to register please contact Kathryn Holmes -  
kathryn\_holmes@ncsu.edu or 336-342-8230.*

## **Shiitake Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshops**

When: Choose either daytime or evening workshop

Workshop 1 Tuesday, February 23rd at 10:00 AM

OR

Workshop 2 Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:00PM

Where: Rockingham County

Senior High School Horticulture Classroom

Pre-Registration and payment REQUIRED! Class sizes limited. There is a \$25 fee for oak logs, spawn and wax. Participants will each take home one inoculated log.

Contact Kathryn Holmes to register or for more information  
at [kathryn\\_holmes@ncsu.edu](mailto:kathryn_holmes@ncsu.edu) or

(336) 342-8230.

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## **On-Farm Fruit Tree Training and Pruning Demonstration**

**Thursday, February 25, 2016**

**1 PM**

**Meet at Orchard :**

**Bee Sweet Orchards**

**2229 Pannel Rd**

**Reidsville, NC 27320**

**Come see how to correctly prune and train fruit trees!!!!**

**Dr. Michael Parker from NCSU will be doing the pruning demonstration on how to prune and train a peach and apple fruit trees for strong trees and maximum fruit yields.**

Contact Kathryn Holmes, Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Agent at [kathryn\\_holmes@ncsu.edu](mailto:kathryn_holmes@ncsu.edu) and 342-8230 or John Ivey, Guilford County Cooperative Extension Agent at [john\\_ivey@ncsu.edu](mailto:john_ivey@ncsu.edu) and 336-641-2416 for more information

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## 11. HAY

**PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE HAY FOR SALE!**

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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## 12. Swap Shop

- Looking to take English riding lessons, I do not own a horse. I live outside of Gibsonville (61 N). Please let Ben know your information to share with me if you give lessons.

- Experienced free lance Instructor/Trainer, Independent Contractor, wanted for an established horse center to assist with an active ongoing lesson program. Three references required. Please contact Mary at [seahorseriders7719@gmail.com](mailto:seahorseriders7719@gmail.com)

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# 13. Take A Load Off

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

A fella moves out to the country and decides he's going to start farming. He goes to the local Ag Store and buys 100 baby chickens. The next week the man returns and buys 200 more baby chickens. Again, a week later the man returns. This time he buys 500 baby chickens." "Wow!" said the salesman who had sold all the previous birds to him, "You must really be doing well. "Naw," said the man with a sigh. "I'm either planting them too deep or too far apart!"

I always need more help with the jokes!

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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!

**PLEASE SEND TO ME YOUR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS!**

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!

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

**Have A Good**

# WEEKEND!

## Ben Chase

Rockingham and Guilford County Extension Agent

Agriculture & Livestock

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<http://rockingham.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=animalagriculture>