

## **Hello Folks,**

**Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the week of February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 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. Horse Management Monday Night!**
- 2. Your Help Needed** for this Monday Night
- 3. Your Input Is Needed!**
- 4. You Asked**
- 5. Navicular Syndrome**
- 6. Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition of the Horse**
- 7. Providing Salt**

**8. Water Troughs and Cold Weather**

**9. Grow by FarmHer - North Carolina Feb 20**

**10. Join Piedmont Horseman's Association**

**11. WOLFPACK ROUND UP**

**12. NC State Livestock Science Camp**

**13. 2018 Piedmont Regional**

**Beef Conference**

**14. Regional Sheep & Goat Producer Training 3/24**

**15. Rescheduled: Fuzzy Fun Show 3/3 Piedmont Saddle Club**

**16. February 2018 Green's Industry Meeting 2/23**

**17. HAY**

**18. Swap Shop**

**19. Take A Load Off**

+++++

**1. Horse Management Short Courses**

**MONDAY NIGHT!**

Classes held at Guilford County Agricultural Center

3309 Burlington Road Greensboro, NC 27405

7:00pm -9:00pm

# February 19 - Equine Hydrotherapy

Hassinger Equine Sports Medicine, Imaging and Rehabilitation Clinic

**Veterinarian Staff** Hassinger Equine Service, Aberdeen North Carolina

## Come Be a Part of this Series!

February 26 - Pulsed Electro-Magnetic Field (PEMF)

Therapy – An Overview

7:00pm -9:00pm

**Karissa Donohue, Greg and Nancy Frank,**

Magna Wave Certified Practitioners Willow Spring North Carolina

March 5 - Equine Mounted Shooting Demonstration

\*6:30pm -9:00pm **Purina - Technical information on Impact Pro & Outlast**

**Sam Helms**, Hired Gun Horsemanship, Monroe North Carolina

**Eric Shupe, Allie Roth**, Davis Feed & Purina Animal Nutrition LLC, Randleman, NC

*\*Dinner will be served, Reservations Required by March 2nd, call [336-342-8235](tel:336-342-8235)*

March 12 - **Success In Saddles** - Developing adaptable equestrian skill

7:00pm -9:00pm sets including Adjusting Weight, Saddle Time & Ground Work. Basic to Advanced.

**Ellen Beard**, Hollybrook Farm Lexington, North Carolina

March 19 – **The Amazing Horse** – Training, Riding, Stunts & Animal

\*6:30pm -9:00pm Coordinating - **Tommie Turvey**, Trainer, Showman Entertainer, Summerville, Ga

Horse Management Committee

Steva Allgood, Randy Boles, Sara Jo Durham, BJ Rierson, Georgianne Sims & Jerry Tyson Advisors - Extension Livestock Agents Sara Beth Routh & Ben Chase

Registration Fee: \$30 for entire series or \$5.00 per session. Registration Fee will be waived for 4-H members presenting an official current 4-H Program Membership ID Card.

For additional information, call Ben Chase, Rockingham & Guilford County Extension Livestock Agent, North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at 1-800-666-3625, 336-342-8235 or Email- [ben\\_chase@ncsu.edu](mailto:ben_chase@ncsu.edu).

In case of inclement weather, please call 1-800-666-3625 or 336-342-8235 for a recorded message.

+++++

2. **Needed for this Monday Night Horse Management Course:** Today I got a request from Hassinger Equine Sports Medicine, Imaging and Rehabilitation to have a mild mannered performance horse for demonstration purposes.

**If you can bring this horse, please let me know.**

(Would like to have a horse with some inflammation)

- **February 26 - Pulsed Electro-Magnetic Field (PEMF) Therapy**

**\*\*Need conditioned performance horses that are worked hard with reasonably calm dispositions**

If you can assist with these needs, please let me know!

Thanks for your assistance and will let you all know what else may be needed.

+++++

**3. Your Input Is Needed!**

As you all know, I will be retiring at the end of March. After that time, they will be posting the Livestock Agent positions (One in Rockingham & One in Guilford) to hire new Livestock Agents for Rockingham & Guilford Counties.

**What is needed from you are testimonials on what the impact of this Livestock position or the Livestock Program has had on you?  
(Especially economic impact/benefit)**

This will help in the justification of these positions and it is always very helpful when these justifications come through those who have benefited from it.

Please help out with this and write and send in to me ASAP these Testimonials, so I can pass these on. This will be very helpful in the rehiring process.

Thanks for the Help!

+++++

## 4. *You Asked: Do you have any suggestions about how to break a horse from cribbing?*

### Abnormal Horse Behavior

*Clint Depew, Extension Horse Specialist, Louisiana State University*

Animal behavior experts often refer to vices (bad habits) as stereotypies because they are often rooted in the behavioral nature of the animal. Understanding that vices are behaviorally based may assist in preventing and/or treating these problems. Common vices are described below.

Wood chewing	This occurs with both stabled and pastured horses and research suggests that this can be due to a lack of fiber in the diet, or due to boredom.
Cribbing	This term is sometimes confused with wood chewing; however, cribbing is more serious. It involves the grasping of a surface (often wood) with the teeth and swallowing air. It is unclear if there is a single cause or if there is an interaction of several variables that causes the behavior. This behavior can cause horses to lose weight, wear down their top incisors, and be more prone to colic.
Stall kicking	This behavior involves a horse habitually kicking or pawing the walls and/or floor of its stall. This behavior often intensifies near feeding time.
Weaving or circling	Weaving is the shifting of the horse's body from side to side. Circling and head bobbing are self-descriptive. All of these and other habitual movements may simply be annoying or may become so persistent that they actually result in a tired and listless animal.

#### **Cribbing can be destructive to the horse as well as facilities.**

Correcting behavioral vices can be difficult. Punishment is almost never effective and may actually worsen the condition. Try to determine the basis for the problem. For example, if the horse is chewing the planks on the stall because of a lack of fiber in the diet, simply feed it more hay or a lower-quality hay with more fiber. If the horse is chewing because of simple boredom, provide stimuli, such as stall balls or other safe toys to decrease the boredom and the wood chewing. It is also sometimes effective to put up a barrier such as metal flashing, over the favorite chewing place, or to use a deterrent such as hot pepper sauce on the wood. Sometimes a simple change can prevent wood chewing. Moving the horse to a different stall or allowing more pasture time could help.

Cribbing is even harder to correct, but it is more important to find the solution, because it is potentially more dangerous to the horse. Sometimes, a cribbing strap placed around the throat

will make swallowing difficult enough that it curbs the habit. A grazing muzzle that allows grazing and drinking but prevents cribbing may also help.

Horses are social, or herd, animals. If part of their vice problem is boredom due to lack of companionship, providing a companion animal may help. A variety of companion animals, from chickens to goats, have been used successfully.

Sometimes horses that are developing a tendency toward weaving, circling, or other repetitive movement vices will stop the behavior if you simply introduce a companion animal in their stalls, enable them to get more exercise, or turn them out periodically into an open paddock or pasture.

## SUGGESTIONS

Made by: Michigan State University Extension

While cribbing doesn't provide any direct health issues, a horse's teeth can become abnormally worn by biting on the objects in order to crib, and dental issues can lead to serious problems if gone unchecked. It can, however, be an addictive behavior that is mostly impossible to eradicate.

There are things such as cribbing collars and muzzle-like devices you can buy for your horses to help discourage the behavior, but these don't always work. The muzzle is worn like a halter with a metal and nylon structure that covers the horse's mouth to prevent it from getting a grip on a solid object. It does not interfere with grazing or drinking and poses no danger to the horse's health.

The collar is just what it sounds like and is placed around the throatlatch tightly. The collar does not affect the horse's ability to breathe, eat or drink while the horse is not cribbing. The idea behind the cribbing collar is that it is pulled tight so when the horse tries to flex its neck to suck air, discomfort and pressure is felt and this will discourage the behavior. A poorly fitted collar may cause lesions to the area where the collar sits, so be sure it properly fits your horse.

These inventions help manage cribbers, but why do horses crib to begin with? We can't be certain as to what causes cribbing, as horses from around the world in varying conditions and lifestyles present this behavior. However, it is believed some horses crib out of boredom or if stalled for extended periods of time without exercise. Other theories include bad diet, ulcers and heredity.

Although cribbing is not completely understood yet, there could be different causes for each horse. While it is a bad habit, it is not dangerous. You can go love on your cribber just the same as the other horses.

+++++

## 5. Navicular Syndrome

By: Megan Eick, DVM, Former University of Minnesota Veterinary Student

Navicular syndrome is one of the most common causes of front limb lameness in horses. Navicular syndrome is defined as a forelimb lameness caused by pain arising from the navicular bone and/or related structures. It is usually associated with degenerative changes to the podotrochlear apparatus.

The podotrochlear apparatus includes the navicular bone, impar ligament, collateral sesamoidean ligament, navicular bursa, and deep digital flexor tendon (DDFT). One or all of these structures may be involved when a horse has navicular syndrome. The navicular bone resides palmar to (in back of) the coffin joint in the back 1/3 of the foot. The navicular bone acts as a fulcrum for the DDFT. The navicular bursa is a synovial sac between the navicular bone and the deep digital flexor tendon and provides a cushion for the tendon as it glides over the bone.

Navicular syndrome can affect horses of all ages and all breeds; however, it is most commonly seen in Quarter Horses, Thoroughbreds, and Warmbloods 4-15 years of age. The horses' size, type of work, frequency of activity, intensity of work, and conformation may all play a role in the development of navicular syndrome.

Clinical signs include loss of performance, stiffness or shortening of stride, intermittent shifting bilateral forelimb lameness, lameness that worsens on hard ground or in a circle, landing toe first in motion, tendency to stumble, toe pointing when standing, and pain when standing.

Poor foot conformation and poor trimming/shoeing are predisposing factors to breakdown of the podotrochlear apparatus. Inflammation in the back of the foot often develops as a result of excessive tension on the deep digital flexor tendon which in turn causes excessive pressure on the navicular region.

**Broken-back Hoof Pastern Angle.** This conformation results in an increased distance between the DDFT origin in the deep digital flexor (DDF) muscle along the back of the radius and its insertion on the palmar aspect of the third phalanx. Since this tendon stretches very little, increasing its traveling distance increases its tension. Increased DDFT tension results in increased pressure across the navicular bone.

**Low Heels/Long Toes.** This conformation delays the break-over of the limb. The more delayed the break-over, the greater the DDFT tension prior to advancing the limb. The more DDFT tension, the more pressure on the navicular bone.

**Underrun Heels.** Due to the anatomy of the fetlock joint, a horse's center of gravity is actually behind where the foot rests on the ground surface. Weight bearing force is therefore greatest on the palmar aspect of the foot closest to the limb's center of gravity. The greater the distance between the foot and the center of gravity, the greater the weight bearing force on the back of the foot. Underrun heels are farther from the center of gravity of the limb, and are therefore subject to greater weight bearing or concussive forces. Frequently, the navicular bone lies just above the point where the heel meets the ground and the force is the greatest. Underrun heels, therefore, result in increased concussive pressure on the navicular bone.

To diagnose navicular syndrome, lameness exams and nerve blocks, radiographs, and MRI can be done.

On lameness exam, affected horses can have a mild to severe bilateral forelimb lameness and may or may not be positive in the heel region with hoof testers. Affected horses will usually block to a palmar digital (PD) nerve block and performing this block can cause them to become lame in the contralateral limb until the other PD block is performed. Radiographs of the navicular bone can help determine a diagnosis of navicular syndrome, however, it is only accurate in assessing the bony structures. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is the diagnostic test of choice and a superior diagnostic modality for evaluating the soft tissue structures surrounding the navicular bone.

Although there is no cure, proper management can help relieve pain and slow progression of the disease, including:

- Trimming and shoeing to restore the proper hoof-pastern angle, balance, and to ease break over
  - NSAIDS (phenylbutazone)
  - Stall rest (in some cases)
    - Coffin joint injections
  - Navicular bursal injections
    - Neurectomy

There is no cure for navicular syndrome and the goal of treatment is to slow the disease process. The degree of soundness that can be achieved after treatment depends on the severity of the disease. Many horses can return to previous work activity with proper shoeing, NSAIDs and/or corticosteroid injections.



## 6. Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition of the Horse

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

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.

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. The Ca:P ratio should be about 2:1 with twice as much Ca as P; with acceptable ratios ranging from 1.5 to 3:1 in the young growing horse and 1:1 to 6:1 in the mature horse, assuming that adequate levels of P are provided. A ratio less than 1:1 where the P content actually exceeds that of the Ca content, even if the absolute amounts of Ca and P are adequate, will result in interference of the bioavailability of Ca which can cause orthopedic or bone disorders, especially in young, rapidly growing horses. The Ca and P content in forages can be quite variable, with legumes typically having higher Ca concentrations than grasses whereas grains are usually high in P and low in Ca. Consequently, it is important to know the Ca and P content of all feedstuffs to ensure that the appropriate Ca:P ratio is achieved. High quality forages are typically adequate in Mg, K and S. The Na and Cl requirements are met by providing salt. However, a performance horse that sweats a great deal may require K, Na and Cl supplementation to replace excess mineral loss via the sweat.

Although the quantity of trace minerals required for normal growth, development and metabolism is very small, they are all absolutely essential. Trace mineral content of feedstuffs is quite variable and needs to be determined via laboratory analysis for an accurate assessment if you intend to formulate a ration from common feedstuffs alone. Moreover, there are interactions between many of the trace minerals which can affect their absorption and post-absorption utilization. For example, very high levels of zinc can interfere with copper utilization, even though copper requirements have been met. Another trace mineral, selenium (Se) has a fairly narrow range of daily intake which satisfies the horse's Se requirement before being so high as to be toxic. Consequently it is advisable to be aware of the horse's trace mineral requirements and meet them without excessive over or under feeding in order to minimize potential adverse interactions.

Because it can be complicated and/or difficult to formulate a ration using only common feedstuffs to meet all of a horse's mineral requirements, supplementation of minerals may be the most practical solution. The safety margin for most trace minerals is fairly wide which allows you to use a mineral supplement in addition to traditional feedstuffs without risk of exceeding the maximum tolerance levels. 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. Care should be exercised when selecting trace mineral salt in either the block or loose form since the compositions of different trace minerals mixes can vary significantly, especially for different species. If providing free choice trace mineral salt, no other source of salt should be available to the horse. The goal is to encourage free choice consumption of trace minerals to ensure requirements are met. The use of a loose form of trace mineral mix results in an approximately 15% greater consumption. Placing the mineral supplement holder in areas where horses congregate, as well the addition of flavorings, such as dried molasses to the mineral mix can also increase voluntary mineral intake. The mineral mix should be kept fresh, since high humidity in the summers can cause clumping which reduces consumption. The expectation is that horses will consume about 1.5 - 2 oz/horse/day. If the horse is not eating the supplement at expected rates, do not assume it doesn't need the minerals, rather attempt to relocate the mineral mix holder and try different additives to encourage consumption. This approach to supplementation of minerals is the least dependable since different horses will consume different amounts and it is very difficult to be sure that each horse is getting the minerals it needs.
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. If however, the grain mix was formulated to be fed at 6 pounds / day, but was fed at a lot more or a lot less, the result would be either

over or under feeding minerals, respectively. It is also important that you not top dress a commercially prepared grain mix, which has already been balanced for mineral content with another feedstuff (oats, wheat bran etc.) without carefully factoring in the impact of the mineral contribution it makes. When using a commercial grain mix, horses should also have access to a white salt block that does not contain trace minerals.

The minerals used in supplements will differ in chemical form, concentration and bioavailability. They are usually available either as salts or in a complex with an organic compound e.g., protein. Studies in horses, comparing the use of trace mineral salts to trace minerals complexed to proteins have not shown overall, that either form is better than the other.

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. Requirement estimates in the NRC for different vitamins are based on a variety of criteria with the intent of preventing dietary deficiencies, maximizing tissue stores and optimizing specific biological functions. Since vitamins play a number of very diverse and interactive roles in normal metabolism, supplementation of vitamins at levels greater than those estimated in the NRC may prove to be advantageous in certain circumstances.

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. Vitamin supplements differ in chemical form as well as activity and stability. Commercial vitamin/ mineral supplement combinations are readily available, as well as commercial grain mixes which contain the necessary vitamins. Feeding such sources, even when the horse is on pasture when vitamin A and E requirements have been met, does not present a problem. 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. Specific daily requirements for vitamins K, C and B-complex are not delineated in the NRC, because they are usually available in sufficient quantities from a combination of common feedstuffs, microbial synthesis in the horse's gastrointestinal tract and production by the horse's liver. Consequently they do not generally need to be supplemented.



## 7. Providing Salt

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service

As it gets closer to summer, it's important to ensure horses are getting enough salt as they lose substantial quantities of electrolytes through sweating. Hay alone cannot supply a horse's salt needs, as some forage is quite low in sodium. Overall, the diet of the horse should contain between 0.25-0.5% salt. For an 1100 lb horse that means it should consume 25-50 g of salt per day. Many horses also receive a concentrate in addition to the forage they are eating. Typically, most horse feeds are formulated to contain between 0.5 and 1% salt. This increased concentration of salt in the feed is based on the knowledge that most horses will be consuming less grain than hay. However, the tricky part is that the salt concentration is typically not listed on the feed tag, so you really don't know how much it is supplying. Therefore, to be safe, you should supply your horse with some sort of salt source in addition to his feed. If you look at most feeding guidelines for equine feeds it is stated to supply your horse with salt on a daily basis.

The easiest way to meet the horse's needs is to supply a salt block. Researchers have shown that on average horses willingly consume about 50 g from a salt block per day. However, the variability in intake is high. Individual horses may range between 9- 143 g of salt per day! Therefore, some horses will eat too much, while others not enough. Even the same horse may alter his intake of salt quite a bit from day to day. If you really like projects, and have a sensitive scale at home, you could determine your horse's average salt intake per day (if he is kept alone with his block) by weighing it every day.

Also, some horses just won't eat their block. If your salt block shows no evidence of licking and is covered with dust, you have a non-licker. Alternatively, you could try to provide loose salt, which some horses prefer or specifically feed salt to your horse. So how much salt should you provide your horse per day, especially if he is a non-salt block licker? For your maintenance horse, that would be about 1 oz. which is 28 grams. If you prefer to use your teaspoons to measure instead, one teaspoon contains 6 g of salt. So your horse would need 4 teaspoons of salt per day.

## Exercising horses

A horse in heavy work requires about twice that of horse which isn't worked, or about 50 grams of salt per day. However, for those intensely working in hot climates, some researchers have indicated their need for electrolytes may increase 9 fold. Now remember, these are horses at a high level of work, such as race horses, three day eventers etc. Obviously for the exercising horse in hot climates, they may not be able or willing to consume that much via their salt block, which is why it is important to consider supplementing your horse. If you are supplementing your horse with table salt, you would increase that amount from maintenance to 2 oz or 8 teaspoons (2 2/3 tablespoons), with an increase to 3 oz or 12 teaspoons (4 T.) in hot climates. There are also many commercially available electrolytes as well which can be added to water or provided in a paste form.

## Getting the water back in

Typically if you need to provide a horse with electrolytes, you should also be concerned with rehydrating the horse. Oddly enough, the horse's own system can work against it. As the sweat of horses is so much more hypertonic (or contains more solutes) than its plasma, when horses sweat heavily, their blood becomes hypotonic. This does not provide the normal stimulus to drink that having a higher electrolyte concentration in the blood does. Therefore, even if offered water, they may not drink.

Providing electrolyte pastes or saline solution after exercise may cause the horse to restore his water balance and recover more quickly. However, do not just offer a horse salt water solutions if they have not been trained to drink it. This will result in water refusal and only exacerbate the problem.

They should also be offered a choice of non-saline water to ensure that they replenish the water they have lost. In addition, horses seem to prefer tepid water to ice water when given a choice. So remember, it is as imperative that the horse is also restoring his water balance after exercise as it is to provide electrolytes.

Which type of salt lick is better for horses, rock salt or brine?

Regular (white) salt or rock salt is best for horses. Many people use a mineral block; however, the amount of block consumed is so variable between horses that it is not a good idea to provide minerals other than sodium chloride (salt) in a block.

Can I safely use rock salt to melt the ice in areas where my horses walk? While you can use salt, excessive salt could be harmful to the paddock and may affect your ability to grow grass in the area later. The other concern is the effect of salt on your horses' feet. You might try something like sand or cat litter to provide traction for the horses.



## 8. Water Troughs and Cold Weather

*Posted by Kim Woods*

*Adapted from article written by Dr. Clair Thunes, PhD, an independent equine nutrition consultant who own Summit Equine Nutrition in Sacramento, California.*

The winter of 2017/2018 has been pretty tough to take at times – and there are still several weeks to go according to the calendar. There have already been two snow events and record setting cold temperatures. When you have animals and these types of weather conditions, keeping water thawed can be a huge challenge. It may be something we think about skipping so we can get back in the warmth of the house, but water consumption is critical, even in the winter. Here are some things to think about and possibly implement to help keep the water thawed for your livestock.

Remember some of these ideas may have limitations if temperatures get really low.

### 1. Locate your trough for sun exposure.

Let Mother Nature help you out. Placing your trough so that it receives as much full sun as possible can help keep it thawed throughout the day. Place the tank in a south-facing area as this will increase the potential amount of sunlight during daylight hours

### 2. Insulate your trough.

Insulation can help keep the cold out and the warmth of the water in. Styrofoam board and/or foil covered insulation works well and can be wrapped around the outside of the trough. What works even better is putting one trough inside another with a gap of a couple of inches all the way around. Then, place insulation on the bottom between the two troughs and

around the outside of the interior trough. Finally, fill any gaps with spray insulation that sets hard. You can also build a plywood box, line it with insulation, and put your trough inside it.

Another means to help insulate the trough as much as possible is to put an insulated lid over the trough with just enough surface area for the animals to drink. This might work pretty well if you have a limited number of animals, but a trough that needs to supply water to 50 cows, for example, may not be conducive to this suggestion. You can install a plywood lid with insulation attached to the underside of the lid. This can help keep the warmth in the trough.

### 3. Place a float in the trough.

Floating something in the trough helps in a couple of ways. First, it keeps the surface of the water moving as it bobs about, making it harder to freeze. Second, if the horses learn to depress the floating object, it will expose an open area in the ice so they can drink. This can be done with soccer balls, but another tactic is to fill an empty two-liter soda bottle two thirds full with water and 1 to 2 cups salt dissolved and seal tightly. There is enough air in the bottle for it to float, and saltwater freezes at a lower temperature than the water in the trough, so the water keeps moving. These methods receive mixed reviews. Some people swear by them, while others find it doesn't work at all.

### 4. Bury your trough.

If your ground is frozen it is likely too late this year, but digging a hole for your trough and sinking it into the ground might help by insulating the through. Again this is going to depend on where you live and how deep down your ground freezes. One account from someone living in North Dakota indicated they had used a fence post auger to dig a 12-inch hole several feet deep under their water trough. Apparently the heat rising from deep within the earth helped prevent the trough from freezing.

### 5. Heat your trough.

Water trough heaters are available in a number of different styles. The most important thing with any of these heaters is to make sure it is installed correctly and safely. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Animals are naturally curious. Make sure you have taken all precautions to ensure their safety around these heaters.

One thing to consider is "natural heat". Try putting manure under the trough. When manure breaks down through composting, a lot of heat is generated. You will probably need a manure layer that is several inches thick in order to capture the heat that is produced.

Actively heating your trough in combination with one or more of the above ideas will likely reduce energy costs.

No matter what improvements you implement to keep the water thawed, you want to check those troughs at least twice a day to make sure the animals have access to the water and that there are no other issues.



## 9. Grow by FarmHer | North Carolina

Tue, February 20, 2018

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM EST

NCSU Talley Student Union

2610 Cates Avenue

Raleigh, NC 27606

This event is designed to inspire and inform young women in agriculture, ages 16-22, about their opportunities and potential. With keynote speakers and a powerful panel discussion, the day will be empowering and impactful. Each attendee will walk away from the event with connections to peers and mentors.

Thanks to generous sponsors and other people who are involved, the Grow by FarmHer event is sure to be a day to remember. The event will be filled with positive and fun learning experiences, guiding women in their journey to becoming a young woman in agriculture.

You can email [grow@farmher.com](mailto:grow@farmher.com) with any questions or call

319-461-8088.

### Schedule

8:00 am – Registration

8:30 am – Welcome

9:00 am – Keynote: Cristen Clark, 'What I Wished I Would Have Known at 22'

10:00 am – Break

10:15 am – 'Finding Your Passion' Panel

11:15 am – 'Women Leading the Way' Luncheon

12:00 pm – Workshop: Marlene Eick, 'Creating a Pathway for Leadership'

2:30 pm – Break  
2:45 pm - College Track: 'Connect + Grow' Networking Opportunity  
2:45 - High School Track: 'Discovering Your Future' Speaker  
3:30 – Keynote: Marji Guyler-Alaniz, 'FarmHer Inspiration'  
4:00 – Event Concludes

For tickets & more information go to

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grow-by-farmher-north-carolina-tickets-40164784953>

+++++

## **10. Join Piedmont Horseman's Association**

**Are you looking for a local open horse show association that is friendly and offers a variety of classes for all ages? Look no further...Piedmont Horseman's Association has been around for 47 years and still going strong! PHA is offering field hunter, stock type hunter, western pleasure and working western classes.**

**Piedmont Horseman's Association helps create a wholesome, family atmosphere in the great sport of Horse Showing; and for each member to exhibit his or her horse or pony in a sportsmanlike manner. There are many benefits of being a member of PHA; reduced entry fee at sanctioned shows, accumulate points for year-end awards, and much more! We hope you will become part of the PHA family!!**

**We have 9 shows scheduled for this year so be sure to check our calendar. You can find all the details on the web site:<http://www.phasince1971.com>**

**Our first show of the season is April 7th at Flintrock Farm in Reidsville. Kountry Kids 4-H club will be hosting the show and proceeds will benefit their 4-H club youth.**

**We look forward to having you as a part of our PHA family!**

+++++

## **11. WOLFPACK ROUND UP**

**Sixth Annual Wolfpack Roundup April 14th, 2018 @ 11:00 am**

**Location : NCSU Beef Educational Unit**

**4505 Mid Pines Rd, Raleigh NC**

**Open House April 7th, 2018 @ 10:00 am**

**Location: NCSU Educational Unit 5100 Reedy Creek Rd,  
Raleigh**

**Offering: Yearling Horses , Sheep, Goats, and Beef Cattle**

**From: NCSU Animal Educational Units and Piedmont Research Station**

**Sale Managed by: NCSU Livestock Merchandising Class**

## **Sires of this Year's Offering**

**"Kololed by Krymsun" (Krayola)**

**"Ima Bego Too" (BJ)**

**"Time for Chocolate" (Chocolate)**

**Come to the sale for a chance to go home with Chocolate's final offspring!**

**For more information contact:**

Gary Gregory: 919-515-4027 ggregory@ncsu.edu

Website:[http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/an\\_sci/extension/animal/wolfpackroundup/index.html](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/an_sci/extension/animal/wolfpackroundup/index.html)

Facebook:<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wolfpack-Round-Up/474434492610906>

### Free Raffle

Win a chance to breed to NCSU's new stallion

Ima Bego Too (BJ)

\*Artificial insemination not included in raffle.

Must attend NCSU Wolfpack Round Up on April 14th, 2018 in order to win.

More information can be found on the website or Facebook page.[https://projects.ncsu.edu/cals/an\\_sci/extension/animal/wolfpackroundup/index.html](https://projects.ncsu.edu/cals/an_sci/extension/animal/wolfpackroundup/index.html) <https://www.facebook.com/Wolfpack-Round-Up-474434492610906/>

+++++

## 12. NC State Livestock Science Camp

Residential summer camp experience for youth age **14-17 years old** from **June 17-22, 2018** through North Carolina State University Department of Animal Science

### What is the NC State Livestock Science Camp?

The summer camp is a five and a half day, five-night conference designed to increase and expand the student's understanding and knowledge about not only the livestock and agricultural industries but also the careers and disciplines related to them both. Want to know more about the camp? Please read the following article about last year's program.

### Who can attend?

Any high school student (age 14-17) with or without a livestock background, who wants to learn more about the livestock industry and the potential opportunities that it could provide

are encouraged to apply to attend the camp. ***No experience necessary-only a desire to learn!***

### **How do I apply?**

- Fill out the online application by March 9th, 2018
- Acceptance notification will be made by email or mail
- Camp is limited to 36 participants

### **What does it cost?**

The cost for the camp is \$750.00

Camp fee includes your 5 nights lodging on campus, meals, field trips, and workshop materials.

Is cost a concern? Three full diversity scholarships will be available. Scholarship priority given to low income or first generation college students.

Thank you to the Department of Animal Science, NC Cattlemen's Association, and North Carolina Pork Council for your support.

\$250 deposit is due by April 6th, if selected and balance is due by **May 4th**, 2018. **\*No refunds once payment is submitted.**

### **What's in it for me?**

During the five and a half day NC State Livestock Science Camp, you will be able to receive a sneak peek of what it's like here at NC State by staying in a dormitory, visiting University facilities, as well as interacting with faculty, staff, and current CALS students.

Attendees will learn about the vast field of agriculture and livestock production outside of the world of veterinary medicine. You will have the chance to participate in a variety of hands on activities such as:

- Visiting Beef and Dairy Cattle, Swine, Sheep, Goat and Horse Educational Units
- Running laboratory experiments
- Learning about Meat Quality Assurance
- Farm and Meat Processing Tours
- Science, Technology, and Biotechnology of Livestock Industries
- Leadership Activities

And MOST importantly, you'll make lots of new friends from all over the State of North Carolina.

**Still want more information? Email Dr. Carrie Pickworth or call (919)513-0262**

<https://ans.cals.ncsu.edu/extension/ncsu-livestock-science-camp/>

+++++

## **13. 2018 Piedmont Regional Beef Conference**

**Guilford County Agricultural Center  
3309 Burlington Rd Greensboro, NC**

**March 1, 2018**

**Join us for the 2018 Piedmont Regional Beef Conference to be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Guilford County Extension Office. If you are a beef cattle producer or connected to the beef cattle industry you will not want to miss this event!**

### **Conference topics include:**

- Cattle Industry Structure and Changes
- Panel Discussion on Feeder Calves
  - Cattle Market Outlooks
- Hoof Anatomy, Care, & Management with Demonstration
  - Vendor Trade Show

**The North Central District Livestock Extension Agents have teamed up to bring you the best speakers in the country on the topics presented.**

**Duane Lenz, Cattle-Fax  
Chris Jeffcoat, American Angus Association  
Ritchie Roberts, Double R Cattle Services, Inc.**

**and a Guest Speaker Panel on Marketing Feeder Cattle in NC**

## Speaker Bios

**Go ahead and get your pre-registration sent in.**

**If you pre-register before February 16, the cost is \$15 (non-refundable),  
whereas cost is \$20 at the door.**

## Conference Information & Registration Form

+++++

# 14. Regional Sheep & Goat Producer Training

Regional Sheep & Goat Producer Training

**MARCH 24!**

**Location: Guilford County Extension Office,  
3309 Burlington Rd., Greensboro, NC 27405**

**Registration at the door is \$20/person.**

<http://go.ncsu.edu/2018goatsheeptraining>

### Agenda

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Opening Session – Predator Control – NC Wildlife

9:45 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:

Session 1A: Purchasing Practices – Joe Hampton

Session 1B: Animal Soundness – TBA

Session 1C: Artificial Insemination Part 1 – Dr. William Farmer

11:00 a.m. Break  
11:15 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:  
Session 2A: Hoof Health – Sara Beth Routh & Lauren Langley  
Session 2B: Biosecurity – TBA  
Session 2C: Artificial Insemination Part 2 – Dr. William Farmer  
12:15 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Closing Session – Producer Panel Discussion  
Problems Faced & Conquered in Small Ruminant Production

2:00 p.m. Wrap-up & Evaluation

Questions? Please Call: 336-318-6000

For Inclement Weather Status: 1-800-666-3625

+++++

## **15. Rescheduled:** Fuzzy Fun Show 3/3 Piedmont Saddle Club

**Rescheduled:** Fuzzy Fun Show - March 3rd, 2018, Saturday 10am @ Piedmont Saddle Club, Colfax, NC. We're giving the weather another 2 weeks to hopefully dry a bit. All other details remain the same. Negative Coggins Required. Breakfast & lunch concessions on grounds. [www.piedmontsaddleclub.org](http://www.piedmontsaddleclub.org) for class list and more information. \$15 per horse for the whole day with no class entry fees. Show contact:

Jenny Taylor 919-323-9910

or [info@piedmontsaddleclub.org](mailto:info@piedmontsaddleclub.org).

+++++

## **16. February 2018 Green's Industry Meeting**

**Rockingham County Agricultural Center**  
**525 Highway 65, Reidsville, NC 27320**  
**Friday, February 23, 2018**

9am

**Fleas & Ticks, Pesticides, and Pet Grooming**

Sydney Ross, NCDA Pesticide Inspector

**Nematodes in Turfgrass**

Lee Butler, NCSU Pathology Extension Associate

**Insect ID and Control Options for Residences**

Mike Woldvogel, NCSU Entomology Extension Specialist

**Respirators for Pesticide Applicators and Nozzle Tip Know-How**

Kathryn Holmes, Horticulture Extension Agent NCCE Rockingham County

**NC Pesticide Recertification Credits Available:**

**3 Credits in Subclasses D, N, and X**

**AND**

**2 Credits Subclasses K, O and L**

**AND**

**1 Credit Subclasses A and H**

**AND**

**NC Landscape Contractor Credits Available:**

**4 L Credit Hours**

**AND**

**NC Irrigation Contractors Continuing Education Credits**

**2 Irrigation Credits**

Contact Kathryn Holmes at Rockingham County NCCE Kathryn\_holmes@ncsu.edu or 336-342-8230 to register – helps with chair and handout counts.

Cost \$10

+++++

## 17. HAY

Please let me know if you have hay to sell. 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 have hay to sell (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!

+++++

## 18. Swap Shop

Equestrian Exchange Tack Sales - Spring Sale

March 22-25, 2018

Raleigh, NC

NC State Fairgrounds, Holshouser Building, 1025 Blue Ridge Blvd, Raleigh, NC 27607

Consignor Drop Off Tuesday March 20 11am-9pm

Special Premier Shopping Night, Open to the Public- \$10 CASH Admission, Thursday March 22 5pm-10pm (extended hours!)

Open Shopping- Free Admission, Friday March 23 10am-10pm, Saturday March 24 10am-9pm

\* Sunday March 25 11am-5pm

\*some items 1/2 off on last day of sale

**Consignor Pick-Up, Tuesday March 27, 11am-8pm**

The Holshouser building is the large round brown building located between the NC Fairgrounds Flea Market & the NC State Hunt Horse Complex.

**How the Sale Works:**

**\*Pre-Register \*Price & tag your own items. Use the Barcode Tagging button of the Barcode Tagging page on our website to tag your items. Items must be entered into the system by Monday March 19th at 8pm in preparation for check-in.**

**\*Bring your items and an inventory list to the sale at drop off day, Tuesday March 20th.**

Changes for 2018 - Unfortunately, due to increases in rent, insurance, advertising, and many other fees, the commission for bar coded items is increasing from 25% to 30% as of 2018. We have not increased this fee since 2005. We researched other consignment sales and resale outlets and feel that this is still a fair charge that will still allow the consignor to make money and price items fairly while allowing us to continue hosting the sale. We sincerely wish we did not have to raise fees, but the costs have risen significantly over the last 15 years.

**Sign Up for Work Exchange & Shop Early! Work Exchange Helpers (formerly known as Volunteers) are needed throughout the sale. In exchange for helping us 8 hours, you get to shop early for the best selection and deals! Work exchange early shopping hours start at Noon on Opening Day Thursday March 22nd.**

**You do not need to be a consignor to register as a volunteer. However, you will need to email us if you have registered as a volunteer only first and then want to be a seller as well.**

**Registration ends on Monday March 19th at 8pm (if you want to sign-up to help after this time, please stop by the sale to see what time slots are available).**

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

**Email: [equestriansale@aol.com](mailto:equestriansale@aol.com)**

**Lynn Beeson (336) 362-6248**

**Tanya Wright (540) 977-1950**

**FIORE FARMS**

**Premiere Equestrian Facility, turn key is**

**FOR SALE**

**~117 Ac total. Min available purchase ~92 Ac.**

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



## 19. Take A Load Off

### Things You Wish You Could Tell Non-Horse People...

1. A Pony is NOT a Baby Horse
2. There is a distinct difference between being Bucked-off and FALLING-off
3. Trotting is NOT the same thing as Galloping.
4. The horses in the field are NOT blindfolded
5. The horses in the field laying in the sun are NOT dead, they're just napping.
6. Jumping is not what you see in the old western movies
7. You cannot just throw a saddle on ANY horse, and expect to ride it.
8. Yes it IS hard to ride a horse, no it does NOT do all the work and NO you don't just SIT THERE.
9. yes, in the wild horses didn't live in stalls, wear blankets or get their feet trimmed, but they also did not do dressage or jump 3' with an extra 180# on their backs.
10. There's a difference between galloping for fun and being run away with.
11. Just because my horse is a boy does not mean he is a stallion.
12. Kicking a horse in the ribs and yelling "YAAAHHH" isn't the appropriate way to start.
13. An awful lot of the big names in the movies actually couldn't really ride that well. The horse deserved his own award  
for tolerance.
14. If you are 23, and have a degree in animal/equine science. You Are NOT GOING TO GROW OUT OF IT. ITS NO LONGER JUST A PHASE!
15. In real life, horses do not whinny constantly like they do in the movies.
16. No, he will not automatically kick you if you walk behind him.
17. Not \*all\* horses are either Beer Horses (Clydesdales) or Race Horses.
18. Just because you are a good rider doesn't mean you no longer need a trainer.
19. Not ALL baby horses are COLTS! Girl horse babies are called FILLIES!
20. Getting a pony and keeping it in your backyard for the kids is probably not a good idea.
21. The nails in shoes are NOT sticking into the 'feeling' part. They horse really can't feel the nails. I promise.
22. Rearing is not cool.
23. just because you have children, and I have horses, does not mean that the two groups shall be joined together, EVER.
24. ALL chaps are Butt-less. If they had a butt, they'd be leather pants, wouldn't they?
25. After you just got stepped on, and a non-horse person asks you if you are alright, and you say "what"? not realizing what they are talking about.

# Glossary of Horse Terms

- \* Hock: Financial condition of all horse owners.
- \* Stall: What your rig does at rush hour in an unfamiliar city on the way to a big horse show .
  - \* A Bit: What you have left in your pocket after you've been to your favorite tack shop.
  - \* Fence: Decorative structure built to provide your horse with something to chew on.
    - \* Horse Auction: What you think of having after your horse bucks you off.
- \* Pinto: Green coat pattern found on freshly washed light colored horses left unattended for 2 minutes.
  - \* Well Mannered: Hasn't stepped on, bitten, or kicked anyone for a week.
  - \* Rasp: Abrasive metal tool used to remove excess skin from ones knuckles.
- \* Lunging: Popular training method in which a horse exercises their owner by spinning them in circles until dizzy.
  - \* Gallop: Customary gait a horse chooses when returning back to the barn.
- \* Nicely Started: Lunges, but not enough health insurance to even think about riding him.
  - \* Colic: Gastrointestinal result of eating at horse fair food stands.
    - \* Colt: What your mare gives you when you want a filly.
- \* Easy to Load: Only takes 3 hours, 4 men, a 50lb bag of oats, and a tractor with loader.
  - \* Easy to Catch: In a 10x10 stall.
    - \* Easy Rider: Rides good in a trailer; not to be confused with "ride-able".
  - \* Endurance Ride: End result when your horse spooks and runs away with you.
- \* Hives: What you get when receive the vet bill for your 6 horses, 3 dogs, 4 cats, and 1 donkey.
- \* Hobbles: Walking gait of a horse owner after their foot has been stepped on by their horse.
  - \* Feed: Expensive substance used to manufacture manure.
- \* Dog House: What you are in when you spend too much money on grooming supplies and pretty halters.
- \* Light Cribber: We can't afford to build anymore fencing or box stalls for this buzz saw on four legs.

\* Three Gaited Horse: A horse that. 1) trips, 2) stumbles, 3) falls.

**I always need more “Help” with Clean jokes!**

++++  
++++  
++++  
++++

**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 GREAT SAFE Weekend!**

**Hope To See You Monday Night!**

++++

North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University

Is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not

discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability.

Moreover, North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of black students. North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University regards discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to be inconsistent with its goal of providing a welcoming environment in which all its students, faculty, and staff may learn and work up to their full potential. The Universities values the benefits of cultural diversity and pluralism in the academic community and welcomes all men and women of good will without regard to sexual orientation.

+++++

***The use of brand names or any listing or mention of products or services does not imply endorsement by the NC Cooperative Extension Service nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned.***

- *Based on USDA requirements, our equal opportunity statement is required on all materials produced for public information, public education and public distribution (regardless of quantity produced).*
- *This includes all printed and non-printed public communication resources, such as pamphlets, brochures, newsletters, letterhead, websites, news releases, advertisements, outreach letters and so forth.*
  - *It may appear in the most convenient spot on your communication piece and can be as small as 6pt type.*

*NC State University and N.C. A&T State University are collectively committed to positive action to secure equal opportunity and prohibit discrimination and harassment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, political beliefs, family and marital status, sex, age, veteran status, sexual identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, or disability. NC State, N.C. A&T, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made at least 10 days prior to the event by contacting:*

*In Rockingham County - Will Strader, County Extension Director, at (336) 342-8230 or by email at [william\\_strader@ncsu.edu](mailto:william_strader@ncsu.edu) or In Guilford County – Karen Neill, County Extension Director, at (336)641-2400 or by email at [karen\\_neill@ncsu.edu](mailto:karen_neill@ncsu.edu)*

--

**Ben Chase**

**Rockingham and Guilford County Extension Agent**

**Agriculture & Livestock**

**North Carolina State University**

**North Carolina Cooperative Extension,**

**525 NC 65, Suite 200, Reidsville, NC 27320**

**(336) 342-8235 800-666-3625 Fax: 336-342-8242**

**Email : [ben\\_chase@ncsu.edu](mailto:ben_chase@ncsu.edu)**

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