

Weekly Pile for Week of January 3 2011

Happy New Year Everyone! (Horse Emailer's),
Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of January 3, 2011, 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.
- Please E-mail information to me by Wednesday each Week.
- Please keep ads or events as short as possible - with NO FORMATTING with 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 a like.
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send in to me.
- THERE ARE NO CONTINUAL RUNNING SPOTS - Ads must be sent in each week
- The Weekly Pile is not for listings for Commercial type properties or products.

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was a 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!

Included in This Weeks Pile:

1. Another Winter Weather Advisory - Don Campbell, EM Coordinator
2. Forage & Grasslands Council Winter Forage Conference, January 19th
3. 2011 Extension Horse Management Series Set
4. You Asked: Farm Classification
5. You Asked: The Pre-Purchase Exam
6. Choosing, Assembling & Using Bridles
7. Register now for Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference Jan 20- 21
8. ARE COYOTES AND FERAL DOGS IN OUR FUTURE? Feb 3 & March 10
9. Local Food Coalition Meeting to be held on January 25
10. Winter Horse Health Seminar - February 5 Northern Elementary School
11. Agritourism Networking Association's Winter Conference Feb. 17 & 18
12. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital – Bring In Your Magazines!
13. Uwharrie National Forest Equestrian Trail Riders
14. Hay Directory
15. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available
16. Take A Load Off

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1. Another Winter Weather Advisory
Donald L. Campbell, CEM - Emergency Management Coordinator
Guilford County Emergency Services

A few updates regarding winter weather potential
Today (Friday, January 07, 2011)

A Winter Weather Advisory has been issued by the National Weather Service from 4pm on Friday through

4am Saturday Morning. Precipitation is expected to begin as light snow or a mix of snow and rain and then transition to all snow as the evening progresses. The Triad can expect between 1 and 2 inches of snow for this event. Travel overnight is expected to be a significant concern as temperatures dip well below freezing and any slush on the road will freeze solid. A copy of the Winter Weather Advisory can be found at the end of this e-mail.

A Briefing from the National Weather Service can be viewed through this link: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rah/downloads/Briefings/>

Early Next Week (Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th)

Another winter system is expected to develop along the Texas coast over the weekend and move into our area Monday into Tuesday of next week. All of the models continue to vary on the storm specifics but a Prolonged Winter Weather Event with the potential for mixed precipitation types (Snow, Freezing Rain, Ice, and Rain) are very possible. Please take some time this weekend to ensure that you and your family are prepared for an extended winter event.

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2. NC Forage & Grasslands Council – Regional Conference - January 19th
SEND YOU REGISTRATION IN NOW SO YOU WILL NOT PAY FOR LATE REGISTRATION!

- Regional Winter Forage Conference – NC Forage & Grasslands Council - January 19th – Held at the Guilford Co Ag Center

The North Carolina Forage & Grassland Council in Conjunction with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will be hosting a series of winter conferences with one to be held January 19th from 2:30 -7:30pm in Greensboro at the Guilford County Agricultural Center located at 3309 Burlington Road. Doug Peterson, a Natural Resources Conservationist is this years speaker. He is currently Missouri's grassland conservationist and operates a cow/calf operation. Mr. Peterson will speak about using management through intensive grazing and high density grazing to improve soil health and limit the need for hay and fertilizer. Other area producers will speak about the forage management that they practice on their farms. This producer panel is always an audience favorite.

The cost is \$15 for NC Forage and Grassland Council members, \$20 for non-members before January 10th and \$25 for non-members after January 10th. For more information, give me a call at 342-8235.

Checks need to be received early to be pre-registered. Time is short.

SEND CHECKS TO: BEN CHASE
FORAGE & GRASSLANDS CONFERENCE
3309 BURLINGTON ROAD
GREENSBORO NC 27405

Plan on coming to this Program, Yes it will focus on Grazing Cattle, put the grazing principles will be similar.

It Will Be A Great Program!

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3. 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses – Great Line Up Of Programs

I am very pleased and excited about the 2011 Extension Horse Management Series that will begin on January 31 – March 21st. (8 consecutive Monday Nights). This year's series will include great topics and

numerous live demonstrations. In fact, 6 of the 8 programs will have demonstrations associated with them. These are the topics demonstrations for this year:

2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses
Guilford & Rockingham County Extension Programs

January 31 – Preventative Health Care – Lameness - Causes & Prevention- Dr James Meeker, Davie County Large Animal Hospital, Mocksville NC

February 7– Horse Psychology – Dr Mike Yoder, NCSU Extension Horse Husbandry

February 14- Dressage Equitation & Hunt Seat Equitation
Cindy Sydnor, Braeburn Farms, Snow Camp NC

February 21 - Barefoot Hoof Health –Sandy Judy, Gibsonville NC

February 28 – Saddle Seat Equitation – Mary Orr, High Caliber Stables, Kernersville, NC

Western Equitation – Kim & Dee Joyce Destiny Hill Farm, Greensboro

March 7 - Trail Riding & Safety - Shannon Hoffman, St.Clair Red Mule Farm, Zebulon NC

March 14 –Therapeutic Riding - Jan Clifford at Horsepower/ Piedmont Saddle Club, Colfax, NC

March 21 - Natural Horsemanship –James & Kate Cooler, Summerfield NC

Mark your calendars and Plan on attending the 39th Year for this Series!

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4. You asked: Now until through Mid-April the Extension office receives numerous calls about how to get a Tax Number for the farm or Do you know how to go about making our farm a working farm for tax purposes.....how to make it a business and get a Tax ID? Sometimes those who ask don't really understand what they are asking. Below are things that need to be considered, I have more information on this so if you would like me to Email it to you please send me an email and ask for it. (It includes numerous files which I did not want to attach to this newsletter)

Farm Classification??

How can my farm be classified as a farm? This is a common question and to get the answer to this question you must first ask yourself another question. For what reason/purpose do you want or need to be classified as a farm?? This question could be one or all of 3 reasons. In all cases it would be wise to discuss this decision with your tax advisor and attorney.

- For Sales Tax Exemption – fill out NCDR Form E-595EA

Sales taxes are by category, if farm products are bought from a farm supply store the appropriate tax should be paid. The only grey area is when you buy farm supplies in consumer size packages from a garden type store--then you might pay full sales tax but it is store policy so there is nothing you can do about it. Some stores may give a wholesale discount but again this is a store policy, so you only find out if you ask or shop around.

This Sales Tax Exemption form can be found at

http://www.dor.state.nc.us/downloads/fillin/E595EA_webfill.pdf

- For Property Tax purposes - Included is a link of the "Use Value Assessment & Taxation Of Agricultural, Horticultural Or Forest Lands" publication that addresses the tax definitions, classification, present use

value, change in use, deferred tax and duty of the Dept. of Revenue and applications.http://www.co.surry.nc.us/Departments/Forms/Forms_PDF/Tax_Forms/Agricultural_Horticultural_Forestland_Value_Assessment.pdf

- For Zoning Reasons or Purposes - Please contact the Rockingham County Department of Planning & Building Inspections: Rockingham County - 342-8134, Guilford County 641-3334 and discuss with them the reasons why your property should or should not be Marked on the map as Ag Use. There are definite criteria that one must meet for this Ag use classification and can affect many things associated with how things are done on the property.

- To participate in Farm Service Agency Agricultural Programs - To participate in any Federal agricultural program you must have a Farm Number issued by the Farm Services Agency (FSA). The FSA offices can be reached in Rockingham County - 342-0406 Ext. 2, in Guilford County – 375-5401 Extension 2. To establish New Farm/Ownership Change you will need:

- * A copy of Aerial Tax Map
 - * Copy of Recorded Deed/Recorded Will
 - * Death Certificate if bringing in Recorded Will
 - * Names, Addresses, Social Security Numbers, Dates of Birth, Marital Status, Veteran Status and Telephone Numbers and All Owners on Deed
- NCFARMID #- <http://www.ncagr.com/ncfarmid/>

You need to talk to all of the above agencies. These agencies are independent of one another and the Ag classification requirements are also different.

You may also go to the NCSU Agricultural and Resource Economics webpage at <http://www.ag?econ.ncsu.edu/extension.htm> for more information about Business Management, Taxes and Budgets.

Rockingham & Guilford Counties have Voluntary Agricultural Districts. Your Agricultural Land is a Valuable Asset to the Citizens of the County, Look into how Your Farm Can Become a Voluntary Agricultural District!

Voluntary Agricultural District
<http://www.co.rockingham.nc.us/soil/volag.htm>

If someone starts to farm as a sole proprietor they use their social security number as their tax i.d. number (TIN). If the farm is a corporation or a partnership, and therefore a new tax "entity" someone will need to contact the IRS and get a different TIN. Also, if ANY farm hires workers and must withhold and deposit federal income taxes, state income taxes and Social Security taxes for these workers s/he needs a seperate TIN and can apply for one by filling out a SS4 form. This form is available on the web at the IRS web site.

Other Info of interest

This URL takes you to the 2011 Tax Calendar: <http://www.tax.gov/calendar/>

Once there, check out a few of the links accessible on the left side of that page:

2011 News - <http://www.tax.gov/calendar/news.htm>, which includes information on the Health Care Tax Credit

Tax Topics - <http://www.tax.gov/calendar/topics.htm>, which has information on business and tax planning issues

Resources - <http://www.tax.gov/calendar/resources.htm> - and the link to "Nothing but Net" takes you to a great set of resources

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5. You Asked: The Pre-Purchase Exam

Equine Purchase Exams

Glenn F. Anderson, DVM, Private Equine Practitioner;Carolynn MacAllister, DVM, OSU Extension

Veterinarian

Equine purchase exams inform the buyer of existing or potential problems that could render the horse unsuitable for its intended use. This article explains what a veterinarian examines when conducting a purchase exam.

Unlike other consumer products that one might purchase, horses rarely come with a guarantee. Therefore, the buyer must make the best possible attempt to select an animal that is suitable and capable of performing a given function. The final determination, of course, is the price. The combination of function capability, suitability and price enter into the ultimate decision of whether a prospective buyer should purchase a given animal.

The purchase examination or pre-purchase examination, done by a qualified veterinarian, is perhaps one of the best ways to help the prospective buyer determine serviceability. It is the veterinarian's responsibility to look for physical and medical evidence to determine whether the horse will withstand a particular use for the prospective buyer. The term "purchase examination" implies a complete clinical examination that includes consideration of the pertinent medical history and environmental factors. All other terms that have been associated with this type of examination should be abandoned because they are either incomplete or cause confusion about the type of examination.

The role of the veterinarian is to find medical problems on the date of the exam and evaluate conformation defects in light of problems that they may cause, as well as evaluating overall health. Even though the procedure is applicable to all classes of horses, the veterinarian involved should have a thorough knowledge of the class and use of the horse to be examined.

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Serviceability

Serviceability is not synonymous with soundness. Perfectly sound animals — those with no physical faults — are rare. A horse may have minor deviations from perfection and still be able to perform the given task. The question is, whether these deviations are numerous or severe enough to limit usefulness. It is the veterinarian's responsibility to note the existing problems and assist the buyer in determining which can be overlooked and which will limit present use or have potential to cause problems. The future can often be accurately predicted, but not guaranteed.

It is inadvisable to examine and determine the potential of an animal that is not on a regulated work schedule. The immature animal that is not in training must be given extended paddock exercise in order to completely evaluate the musculoskeletal and cardiopulmonary systems. It is not the domain of the examining veterinarian to determine the presence of undesirable traits or vices. The disclosure of this information is dependent upon the integrity of the seller.

Oral and Written Reports

An oral or written report is permissible, depending on the desires of both the veterinarian and the prospective buyer. However, it is imperative that the animal examined is completely identified. In addition, a record of all clinical findings, including radiographs (X-rays) if taken, must be maintained in the permanent office files of the examining veterinarian.

The Examination

It is important that each veterinarian develop a standardized basic procedure in the examination of the horse for purchase. More detailed diagnostic techniques are performed in the event of suspicious disease problems or client request. In these cases, consultation with a specialist may be required.

Before the examination is begun, any history of preventive medicine programs and previous medical problems is obtained. The horse's markings and other means of identification are noted. Ideally, the horse has been worked by the prospective buyer before the examination so it is evident that horse and rider are suited for each other. Findings should be recorded in the order noted so the entire examination is not trusted to memory.

The horse is viewed in its stall for evidence of abnormal stance or posture and temperament. The horse's eyes are then examined with a direct ophthalmoscope. An indirect, aspheric viewing lens with a halogen-illuminated light source is excellent for a panoramic view of the ocular fundus (rear portion of the eye). Ophthalmic abnormalities are interpreted in terms of the horse's intended use.

The transilluminator of the ophthalmoscope is used to examine the nasolacrimal puncta and external ear canals. The mouth is rinsed and examined, manually and with the transilluminator, for dental disease, malocclusion or other abnormalities of the oral cavity.

With the horse still in the stall, the rectal temperature is measured and the respiratory rate and pattern noted. The heart is monitored with a stethoscope from both sides while the transverse facial or facial artery are palpated for irregularities of rate or rhythm. Occluding the horse's nostrils for at least 30 seconds or using a large plastic bag over the nostrils often accentuates respiratory problems as indicated by subsequent coughing or dyspnea. This technique also causes the horse to breathe deeply for thorough monitoring of the lungs. The trachea and larynx are monitored carefully and the nasal sinuses tapped to diagnose the condition of the underlying parts.

The horse is then taken to a well-lit, level, firm surface and made to stand with its weight equally distributed on all four legs. The horse's conformation, balance and symmetry from all views, are carefully evaluated, with faults predisposing to lameness or gait abnormalities noted.

The Head

Next, the head is observed for symmetry, carriage and coordination of movement, and any cranial nerve defects noted. The mandibular lymph nodes, parotid glands and guttural pouch areas are palpated. The larynx is palpated for atrophy of the cricoarytenoideus dorsalis muscle or signs of previous surgery. The laryngeal cartilages often can be compressed, causing inspiratory noise in horses with laryngeal hemiplegia (roaring). The ventral neck muscles are palpated and the patency of both jugular veins determined. The cervical vertebrae neck bones are palpated, beginning at the poll. Symmetry of the wings of the atlas (first cervical vertebra) and the horse's response to cervical vertebral palpation and manipulation are noted.

The Body

Examination of the body begins on the left side with palpation of the spine of the scapula, point of the shoulder, and muscles of the shoulder and chest. Working posteriorly on the topline, the withers, dorsal spinous processes of the vertebra, tuber sacrale and point of the hip are palpated. The muscles of the back, loin and croup are palpated, and evidence of muscle guarding noted. The girth region and ventral abdomen are examined for midline dermatitis, absence of the umbilicus or signs of previous abdominal surgery. Several breeds of horses will not allow the exhibition of horses with altered tail function. An electromyogram may be necessary to prove normal tail function. Normal tail tone and function should be determined by manipulation and careful observation when the horse is worked. Evidence of coccygeal muscle atrophy and surgical or medical alteration of normal tail function should be noted; the gluteal and caudal thigh muscles are palpated and compared for symmetry. Unilateral muscle atrophy may indicate chronic rear-leg lameness. The external genitalia are also examined at this time. Examination of the body is then repeated on the right side.

The Legs

Next, each limb is inspected, beginning with palpation of the structures of the left forelimb. The digital pulse (pulse at the posterior fetlock) is taken before the sulci and the frog are cleaned and the sole pared, if necessary. The comparative size, balance, wear and quality of each hoof are noted. A flat sole, atrophied frog, divergent growth rings, sheared heels, improper hoof-pastern angle and dished cranial hoof wall may indicate previous or existing foot disease. The type of shoe, presence of pads and shoe wear may also provide useful information. The pliability of the collateral cartilages of the coffin bone and presence of coffin joint excess fluid are determined. The posterior pastern region is examined for neurectomy scars, painful neuromas, digital sheath effusion, thickening of the distal sesamoidean ligaments and ringbone. Firm pressure applied to either side of the extensor tendon on the face of the fetlock may reveal villonodular lesions (proliferative nodules), extensor process fractures, or osselets

(bony protrusions). Fetlock joint effusion, windpuffs and annular ligament constriction are conditions commonly encountered.

While the horse's leg is flexed at the knee, each sesamoid bone and its branch of the suspensory ligament is palpated for thickening, enlargement or pain. Then the suspensory ligament is palpated to its origin and the flexor tendons palpated for thickening, pain and loss of separation along their lengths. During palpation of the suspensory ligament, abnormal enlargements of the splint bones are often encountered. With the limb still flexed, each splint bone should be palpated from its distal end to its proximal attachment. Pain on palpation of splint bone enlargements and degree of impingement on the suspensory ligament should be carefully considered.

With the leg flexed, the carpal bones are palpated for thickening or tears of the fibrous joint capsule and synovial effusion. The accessory carpal bone and carpal canal are also palpated. Proceeding from the carpus, the muscles of the forearm, distal radius, chestnut and olecranon are inspected.

The range of motion and response to forced flexion or rotation of the digit, pastern, fetlock and carpus are determined after palpation of the forelimb. The shoulder and elbow usually are not manipulated. Decreased range of motion and abnormal response to manipulation are noted and reevaluated when the horse is examined in motion.

Examination of the hindlimb below the hock is similar to that of the forelimb. At the hock, effusion of the tarsal sheath, tibiotarsal joint and tendon sheaths over the face of the hock are evaluated. The bony structures of the hock, point of the hock and plantar ligament are palpated. The surgical sites for cunean tenotomy and lateral digital extensor tenotomy are examined. Proceeding to the stifle joint, the tibial crest, patellar ligaments, patella and lateral trochlea of the femur are palpated. Horses with chronic upward fixation of the patella often resent palpation of the lateral trochlea of the femur as well as attempts to fix the patella. By this time, the horse's temperament should be evident. Most horses permit the examiner to stand behind them and palpate both stifle joints simultaneously, allowing comparison of synovial effusion and joint capsule thickening. The medial collateral ligament of the stifle should also be palpated. After the structures of the hindlimb are examined, the digit, pastern, fetlock, hock and stifle are manipulated for range of motion and pain.

When the body and legs have been examined, hoof testers can be applied to the feet. Occasionally, a seller may implicate the hoof testers as causing lameness. For this reason, examination with hoof testers is done after the horse has been observed at work.

The Horse in Motion

The next phase of the examination is to observe the horse in motion. Initially, the horse should be observed at a walk toward and away from the examiner. The length of stride, arc of the foot in flight and how the foot lands should be related to conformation and suspected problems. The horse should be backed and turned in tight circles to detect subtle neurologic deficits.

On a longe line, the horse is worked in both directions at a trot. Work is started in large circles that are gradually tightened. This provides the examiner a good opportunity to evaluate length of stride, fetlock over extension, toe stabbing or dragging and other gait abnormalities.

Timed flexion or other manipulative tests are performed after work on the longe line, with emphasis on areas with suspected problems. The response to forced flexion, rotation or digital pressure varies greatly between individuals and must be considered carefully, along with the history and clinical findings. The horse is then watched at work under saddle. After a warm-up period, the horse is observed at a walk, trot and canter. Trotting in a tight figure-8 pattern frequently reveals subtle lameness. Lead changes and length of stride can be evaluated at a canter.

Though it is the trainer's job to determine whether the horse's disposition and athletic ability are suited to the rider and intended use, it is very informative to watch the horse perform as intended. Tail-wringing, ear-pinning, unwillingness to work in one direction, cross-cantering, failure to pick up leads or other

inappropriate behavior often indicate problems. After the horse is worked hard, the larynx and heart are auscultated. Heart and respiratory rates are determined during recovery from exercise.

Other Procedures

Once the physical examination is completed, other diagnostic procedures may be done. Radiography is probably the most common ancillary procedure performed. Radiographs are not routinely obtained in the absence of clinical findings, unless requested by the buyer. Other special diagnostic procedures performed include endoscopic examination of the upper respiratory system, fecal exam for internal parasite ova, rectal examination, uterine biopsy and breeding soundness examination. Blood is drawn for a Coggins' test for equine infectious anemia, if not current. Blood chemistry analyses, a CBC, urinalysis, drug tests and an electrocardiogram and cardiac ultrasound are other tests that are mentioned for the sake of completeness. However, certain situations may warrant the use of these tests.

Prospective buyers should also be made aware of the potential for genetic problems in certain breeds/sire lines of horses. An example is Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis (HyPP). HyPP is an inherited defect seen in descendants of a particular Quarterhorse sire characterized by intermittent episodes of muscular fasciculations, weakness, mytonia and/or involuntary recumbency. During these episodes the serum potassium is often elevated but between occurrences the potassium concentration is normal. For affected horses, this disease is a lifelong problem. This disease is an autosomal dominant trait. Owners and breeders with affected horses should inform prospective buyers of the potential for this disease to occur. There are four methods for confirming HyPP—hyperkalemia during an episode, a potassium chloride challenge, electromyography and testing for a horse-specific sodium channel genetic marker.

The Prognosis

After the entire examination is complete, the veterinarian may offer a prognosis to the buyer. In considering the prognosis for a performance horse, one must consider the horse's conformation, temperament, intended use, past history, clinical problems and results of ancillary diagnostic procedures.

Summary

The purpose of the purchase examination is not to pass or fail the horse but to inform the buyer of existing or potential problems that could render the horse unsuitable for its intended use. Certain warranties or agreements between the buyer and seller -- such as the length of serviceability, performance ability and avoidance of drugs before the examination -- are not the responsibility of the veterinarian.

The relatively small investment at the time of purchase for a good quality examination can help prevent a much larger investment in treatment or loss of performance later on. Such an exam is certainly a good choice for an informed purchase.

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6. Choosing, Assembling & Using Bridles

[http://www.extension.org/pages/Choosing, Assembling & Using Bridles](http://www.extension.org/pages/Choosing,_Assembling_&_Using_Bridles)

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7. Register now for Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference

Regular registration for the 2nd Annual Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference, happening Jan. 20-21, 2011 in Oxford, NC, ends one week from today on Jan. 14th. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to connect with commercial-scale organic producers and organic commodities and livestock experts.

If you are interested in: growing organic, raising livestock sustainably, marketing organic products, and food safety and good agricultural practices, you need to attend this conference. In addition, this unique event will host more than 150 farmers growing grains, vegetables, and tobacco and raising livestock. It is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to network with and learn from experienced organic farmers.

We've had a lot of interest in this free conference and spaces are limited.

Register today:

- By Phone: [\(919\) 542-2402](tel:9195422402)
- On-line: Register at CFSA's on-line store
- By Mail: Print out the conference registration form (.pdf) and mail it to:

CFSA
PO Box 448
Pittsboro, NC 27312

The conference includes lunch, keynote address, multiple workshops on production and marketing of organic crops, and an evening reception in the exhibit hall on Thursday, January 20th.

There is no cost to attend this conference thanks to the generous support of sponsors. This conference is hosted by NCSU, Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, and CFSA.

For more information about the conference, visit: <http://carolinafarmstewards.org/oclc.shtml>

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Amy Armbruster - Communications Coordinator
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
www.carolinafarmstewards.org

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8. ARE COYOTES AND FERAL DOGS IN OUR FUTURE? Feb 3 & March 10 - Announcing a Two-Part Educational Program aimed for the Northern Piedmont of North Carolina and Perhaps Neighboring Virginia

There has been a lot of interest in this topic, so we are pleased to announce a Two-Part Educational Program aimed for the Northern Piedmont of North Carolina and Neighboring Virginia to educate all interested on February 3rd and March 10th. We have arranged for numerous Wildlife Biologist, State & Federal Wildlife Officials, Law Enforcement and University Extension Specialist to be apart of these programs. This will be GREAT programs with Demonstrations that I have not heard being done before, So Plan to attend!

PART I – Thursday, February 3rd - 8:30am - Field Demonstrations - Professional Coyote Trapping and Tips on Successful Coyote Hunting at Dumaine Farms farm on 725 Barnes Road, Eden, NC 27288.

This program will include a basic introduction to trapping by Dr. Pete Bromley, Professor Emeritus, Wildlife Science, North Carolina State University, Certified Wildlife Biologist, Trustee of Dumaine Farms, Trapping Basics, presented by Todd Menke, Assistant Director, USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services, Raleigh, NC, Certified Wildlife Biologist and Todd will also cover Running the Trap Line (On Farm Demonstration) with a Wrap-Up session with Questions and Answers.

PART II – Thursday, March 10th – 7pm - Managing Coyotes and Feral Dogs - to be held in the Rockingham County Agricultural Center, 525 HWY 65, Wentworth, NC

This part of the program will cover - Introduction and Laws affecting Coyotes and Feral Dogs, Presented by Barry Joyce, Master Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Rockingham County, also to be covered will be the History of Coyotes in the Northern Piedmont, Perry Sumner, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Wildlife Management Division, Section Manager Surveys/Research & Wildlife Diversity followed by Ecology and Management of Coyotes and Feral Dogs on the Landscape. Dr. Chris DePerno, Associate Professor of Wildlife Science and Wildlife Extension Specialist, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. And conclude with a Wrap-up. & Q&A session

These programs are loaded with Wildlife Biologist along with State & Federal Wildlife Specialist and will

be a very unique learning opportunity. The current Sponsors (more are being solicited) North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services, North Carolina Office North Carolina Trappers Association, Hunting Advisory Committee, Rockingham County Board of Commissioners, Dumaine Farm Trust, Wentworth, NC, Area Cattleman's Associations, Area Sheep and Goat Producers, Area Poultry Producers, Area Horse Owners.

These will be really good programs so plan on being there!

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9. Local Food Coalition Meeting to be held on January 25
YOU are invited to the next meeting of the Rockingham County Local Food Coalition.

Mission: To establish an organization for marketing and distribution of a locally-grown supply of fresh, quality products to preserve small family farms through environmentally friendly sustainable agriculture. Through these actions, this organization embraces seasonality, preserves diversity and, with good agricultural practices, supports local economics in Rockingham County and consumers throughout the region

Please join us on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rockingham County Ag Building (525 Hwy 65, Reidsville NC) for annual membership meeting.

It's time to invest in our regional local food project for the year 2011. Please send your membership renewal (or new membership application) with payment as appropriate prior to meeting date.

Note that membership may be processed at end of meeting, also.

Agenda will include: Board of Directors for 2011
Plans for 2011 for marketing local foods and upcoming trainings
Update on www.piedmontlocalfood.com project by Sandra Wesson
Announcements and Networking Opportunities
Membership Opportunity

As always, beverages and paper products will be provided. You may bring food to share! You are also invited to bring products or information to exhibit and share or sell!!!

RSVP and contact with any questions or agenda items:
Brenda Sutton, County Extension Director brenda_sutton@ncsu.edu 342-8230 or
Sam Thompson, President llamalea@earthlink.net

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10. Winter Horse Health Seminar - February 5 Northern Elementary School

Carolina Equine Hospital is holding the Winter Horse Health Seminar on February 5, 2011 at Northern Elementary School. Registration starts at 8:30am and the program is from 9am to noon. There will be free breakfast, exhibits, door prizes and great information!

Speakers and topics are: Dr. Cali Fogle from NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine on Colic and Dr. Mark Crisman from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine on the Geriatric Horse. Please RSVP by calling 349-4080.

We hope that lots of our horse youth and adults can join us that day!
This is a great opportunity for youth and adults to gain some horse knowledge from the experts!

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11. Agritourism Networking Association's Winter Conference Feb. 17 & 18
Martha Glass, Manager, NCDA&CS Agritourism Office [\(919\) 707-3120](tel:9197073120)

The Fifth Annual Agritourism Networking Association Winter Conference will be held Feb. 17 and 18 at the Little River Golf and Resort near Carthage. The conference is designed for agritourism entrepreneurs and others who may be interested in starting an agritourism venture and those who support rural tourism in North Carolina.

"Agritourism opportunities continue to grow in North Carolina, to the benefit of farm families, local communities and North Carolina's economy," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "When it comes to starting an agritourism venture, there is no one-size-fits-all approach, so events such as this conference give folks an opportunity to learn more about the many different types of agritourism adventures in the state."

Optional mid-afternoon farm tours will be held Feb. 17, with a reception to follow. Seven workshops will be held Feb. 18, focusing on marketing the local food movement, successfully marketing your niche farm products, success with media along with information sessions on community supported agriculture ventures and successful agritourism farm shops and stores.

"This conference allows participants plenty of time to network and to ask questions of presenters and other agritourism operators," said Martha Glass, agritourism manager at the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Early registration by Feb. 3 is \$70 for ANA members, \$85 for non-members and \$60 for cooperative extension staff. The registration fee increases to \$100 after Feb.3.

For more information or a registration form, go to www.ncagr.gov/agritourism, or call Martha Glass at [\(919\) 707-3120](tel:9197073120).

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12. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital – Bring In Your Magazines!

We are collecting magazines for Veterans in the VA Hospital. If you have any magazines that you have read and need to dispose of, please drop them off at the Farm Service Agency located in the Rockingham County Agricultural Center. (or at either one of my offices) There are women as well as men located in this hospital and all variety of magazines is appreciated. This is an excellent way to 1) RECYCLE and save our environment and 2) boost the morale of the Veterans that have served our Country and protected our rights as Americans.

Thanks in advance for your contribution.

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13. Uwharrie National Forest Equestrian Trail Riders

Do you want to maintain common sense use and enjoyment of trails into the future? Are you interested in being a responsible advocate for equestrian trail access? Do you want to volunteer and give back to the place you love to ride? Do you want to be part of a solution?

If you answer yes to these questions, email your contact information to RICHBQ@mindspring.com

The North Carolina Horse Council will organize an exploratory meeting of Uwharrie equestrian trail riders in early 2011 to discuss ways for better engaging the Uwharrie National Forest staff in discussion about equestrian trails in the Forest. The meeting will also provide information on the latest Forest Plan efforts and help users understand the planning process and impacts on equestrian trails. We would like to establish a group of trail riders that will be accurately informed about the Forest Planning process and will collaboratively work with the National Forest staff and other recreational users to resolve conflict. Your contact information will only be used for this purpose. Please

e-mail RICHBQ@mindspring.com if you have questions.

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14. 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](tel: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.

*Please let me know if you have Hay to Sell or looking to purchase!

As you know we have been very dry and conditions have not been very good for growing quality hay. Quality hay will be hard to come by, in fact it already is. I would suggest that you make arrangements for your winter hay supply now before the hay is gone. I am getting request from other areas, so don't wait until it is to late.

Give me a call if you would like me to come pull a forage test, I will be happy to put you on my schedule. The lab cost of the analysis from NCDA is \$10.

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15. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available –

- Horse Pasture Board \$150/mo NE Guilford. Brought into barn daily to feed your grain. Run-in sheds in pasture. Stalls available in extreme weather. Tack room, hot & cold wash, bathroom. Trails in area. [336-584-5617](tel:336-584-5617) larknspursandy@bellsouth.net

- For Lease: Reidsville Country Home on 75-acre Equestrian Estate, located on Route 150 Two-bedroom home--with total renovation: new roof, new siding, new windows and doors, new energy-efficient heat pump, new water heater, new kitchen and bath cabinets and fixtures, new flooring. Includes large eat-in kitchen, 9x12' closet, laundry room, large enclosed mudroom, back porch. Behind the house are well-fertilized paddocks with new safety horse fence and run-in shed. Located on 75 acres full of riding trails. \$500 month for house, \$75/month per horse, up to 2 horses. Contact Jan Sorrells, [336-342-3900](tel:336-342-3900)

- Horse Blanket Repairs! Don't throw away that torn or dirty blanket; have it professionally washed and repaired. Now offering repairs or turnout blankets, sheets, hoods, stable blankets and dog coats. Rips, tears, missing buckles, surcingles, etc. expertly repaired in a timely manner. Some drop off and pick up available in Triad area. Call for more info [336-813-1235](tel:336-813-1235). References available.

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16. Take A Load Off – Its all About Ones Perspective – One Mans Noise Is Another Mans Music

John MacDonald from the Isle of Skye went to study at an English university and was living in the hall of residence with all the other students there. After he had been there a month, his mother came to visit him. "And how do you find the English students, John?" she asked. "Mother," he replied, "they're such terrible, noisy people. The one on that side keeps banging his head on the wall and won't stop. The one on the other side talks very loud and screams and screams all night." "Oh John! How do you manage to put up with these awful noisy English neighbors?" "Mother, I do nothing. I just ignore them. I just stay here quietly, playing my bagpipes."

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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 WEEKLY PILES!*****

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. We owe everything to those who are and have served! Thank You!

I hope that you all have a Great & Safe New Year!

Have a Good Weekend

Ben

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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

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