

## Weekly Pile for Week of January 17, 2011

Howdy Folks (Horse Emailer's),

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of January 17, 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. 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses
2. Coyotes & Feral Dogs In Our Future? Programs Feb 3rd and March 10th
3. Winter Horse Health Seminar - February 5 Northern Elementary School
4. Conditioning Horses for Performance
5. Feeding Round Baled Hay To Horses
6. You Asked: Feeding Oat Round Bales/ Prevent mold in enclosed arena
7. Horse Breeds
8. Upcoming events at Averett University
9. Shiitake Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshops
10. Beginning Beekeeping Class
11. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital - Bring In Your Magazines!
12. Hay Directory
13. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available
14. Take A Load Off

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1. Enough Of The Snow & Ice – Bring on the 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses!

Old Man Winter has sure shown himself, but that is not going to put a damper on the 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses. It's hard to believe that these will begin in a little over 1 week! – It's a Great Line up of Programs, the best yet and I hope that you will plan on attending.

Location: Guilford County Agricultural Center, 3309 Burlington Road,

Greensboro, NC 27405

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Each Evening

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

Monday, February 7 - Horse Psychology  
Dr Mike Yoder, NCSU Extension Equine Specialist

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

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

Monday, February 28 -  
Saddle Seat Equitation -Mary Orr, High Caliber Stables, Kernersville, NC  
Western Equitation - Kim & Dee Joyce Destiny Hill Farm, Greensboro NC

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

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

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

Horse Management Committee - Randy Boles, David Dick, Sara Jo Durham, Steva Allgood, Rita Nott, and Georgianne Sims

- 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](tel:1-800-666-3625),  
342-8235 or email - [ben\\_chase@ncsu.edu](mailto:ben_chase@ncsu.edu).

In case of inclement weather, please call [1-800-666-3625](tel:1-800-666-3625) or 342-8235 for a recorded message.

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## 2. Coyotes & Feral Dogs In Our Future? Programs Feb 3rd and March 10th

Announcing a Two-Part Educational Program aimed for the Northern Piedmont of North Carolina and Neighboring Counties in Virginia called "COYOTES AND FERAL DOGS IN OUR FUTURE?" These programs will take place on February 3rd and March 10th for the purpose educating all that are interested about this growing concern. We have arranged for numerous Wildlife Biologist, State & Federal Wildlife Officials, Law Enforcement and University Extension Specialist to be apart of these programs.

These will be GREAT programs!

PART I - Thursday, February 3rd - 8:30am - Field Demonstrations - Professional Coyote Trapping 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) Tips On Successful Coyote Calling & Hunting with a Wrap-Up session concluding with a Question and Answer Session.

PART II - Thursday, March 10th - 7pm - Managing Coyotes and Feral Dogs. To be held at 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 presented by Perry Sumner, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Wildlife Management Division, Section Manager Surveys/Research & Wildlife Diversity. Dr. Chris DePerno, Associate Professor of Wildlife Science and Wildlife Extension Specialist, North Carolina State University, will cover The Ecology and Management of Coyotes and Feral Dogs on the Landscape with a Wrap-up. & Q&A session to follow.

The Sponsors for these programs are:North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service - Rockingham & Guilford Counties  
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 Cattlemans Associations, Area Sheep and Goat Producers, Area Poultry Producers, Area Horse Owners

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### 3. 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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#### 4. Conditioning Horses for Performance

##### Is Your Horse Fit?

Whenever the weather gets warmer and riding activities and competitions increase, it is important for horse owners to start thinking about conditioning their horses. Lack of intense work and activity over the winter can leave your horse unfit. In order to best prepare the horse, a conditioning program should be aimed specifically towards an event. Considerations should include the time frame in which you have to condition the horse, any previous conditioning, the level you wish the horse to achieve, and whether the horse is recovering from previous injury or stress.

Learn more about conditioning horses by reading these eXtension horse articles.

##### Basic Conditioning of the Equine Athlete

[http://www.extension.org/pages/Basic\\_Conditioning\\_of\\_the\\_Equine\\_Athlete](http://www.extension.org/pages/Basic_Conditioning_of_the_Equine_Athlete)

Conditioning Horses for Different Equine Events - Archived Web chat with eXtension Horse Quest experts. [http://www.extension.org/pages/Conditioning\\_Horses\\_for\\_Different\\_Equine\\_Events](http://www.extension.org/pages/Conditioning_Horses_for_Different_Equine_Events)

##### Nutritional Concerns for Exercising Horses

[http://www.extension.org/pages/Nutritional\\_Concerns\\_for\\_Exercising\\_Horses](http://www.extension.org/pages/Nutritional_Concerns_for_Exercising_Horses)

##### Patience, Long Slow Distance Important for Conditioning Horses for Competition

[http://www.extension.org/pages/Patience,\\_Long\\_Slow\\_Distance\\_Important\\_for\\_Conditioning\\_Horses\\_for\\_Compensation](http://www.extension.org/pages/Patience,_Long_Slow_Distance_Important_for_Conditioning_Horses_for_Compensation)

How to Body Condition Score Horses - Learn more about equine body condition scoring in this learning lesson!

[http://www.extension.org/pages/HorseQuest\\_Learning\\_Lesson:How\\_to\\_Body\\_Condition\\_Score\\_Horses](http://www.extension.org/pages/HorseQuest_Learning_Lesson:How_to_Body_Condition_Score_Horses)

Conditioning Your Horse for the Show Season - Webcast Recording, sponsored by My Horse University and eXtension Horse Quest.

[http://www.myhorseuniversity.com/resources/webcasts/conditioning\\_show\\_horse\\_jan08](http://www.myhorseuniversity.com/resources/webcasts/conditioning_show_horse_jan08)

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#### 5. Feeding Round Baled Hay To Horses

Many folks have been feeding round bales to horses, it saves a lot of time and effort. But, take precautions to prevent problems.

##### SELECTING, STORING AND FEEDING ROUND HAY BALES TO HORSES

Dr Bob Mowrey, Extension Horse Commodity Coordinator

North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service - North Carolina State University

Forage is a major component of the equine diet. Pasture and hay provide an economical supply of energy, protein, vitamins and minerals. Fiber, provided by forages is critical to normal digestive tract function in the horse. The mature horse, two years of age and older, will consume an average of 2% of its body weight in dry matter daily. In all production situations, the horse must consume more than 50% of its daily dry matter intake as long-stem hay or pasture to minimize the occurrence of colic and founder (Lewis, 1996).

##### Selecting Round Bales

The traditional form of feeding hay in the horse industry has been square or small rectangular bales. Although they are easy to handle with an average bale weight of 45 to 65 pounds, they are more labor intensive to bale, resulting in a higher cost per pound of forage. Since the baling process requires more

labor and time to transport baled hay to storage facilities, the hay is marketed at a higher price, and since hay growers already face the environmental challenges of high humidity and unpredictable weather patterns, many of them are opting to produce round bales to reduce labor and baling time. Farm equipment companies report more round and large package balers are being sold when compared to conventional square baling units. Consequently, the availability of round bales has surpassed the supply of “horse quality” square bales.

Like square bales, round bales must be properly cured and harvested at an immature growth stage to provide horse quality hay. Under ideal harvesting conditions, round bales should be:

- Free from dust, weeds, and contaminants.
- Harvested at an early growth stage with a high ratio of leaves to stems; limited blooms (legumes) and seedheads (grasses) should be present and stems should be soft, pliable and flexible.
- Baled at 15% moisture or less: Hay harvested at higher moisture levels will heat up and bind nutrients making them unavailable for the horse to digest. - Under extreme heating the hay will change from a rich green color, indicative of proper curing, to a brown shade. - A high moisture content, above 20%, may be associated with Mold will appear, in tightly packed areas within the bale, as a white/gray color with an associated musty odor. - Moldy hay should not be fed to horses!
- The most success in selecting high quality round bales for horses is achieved when a nutrient analysis is conducted in conjunction with a visual evaluation of the hay. The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services offers an excellent feed and forage testing program through the Food and Drug Protection Division Forage Laboratory ([919-733-7366](http://919-733-7366)) in Raleigh ([www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/feedprog.htm](http://www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/feedprog.htm)). Free forage testing kits and sampling recommendations can be obtained from each North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service county office. The analysis cost is \$10 per sample and provides extensive information on the nutritive value including:
  - Dry Matter Content
  - Adjusted (available) Crude Protein
  - Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)
  - 6 Macro-Minerals: Calcium (Ca) Magnesium (Mg) Phosphorus (P) Sodium (Na) Sulfur (S) Potassium (K)
  - 4 Trace Minerals: Copper (Cu) Iron (Fe) Zinc (Zn) Manganese (Mn)
  - Digestible Energy
  - % Nitrate Ion (Requires a veterinarian request)
  - 4 Mycotoxins:
    - Don Zeralenone
    - T-2
    - Aflatoxin
    - mold formation

When selecting the hay for horses, the ADF (which is a measure of the indigestible portion of the hay) and the available crude protein (which represents the protein actually available for the horse to absorb) are critical components. Mature hays that are high in ADF (greater than 40%) are considered poor quality. Forages with ADF values from 35-40% are considered moderate in quality. Immature forages with ADF values 34% and lower are considered to be high quality. Additional information on the interpretation of forage analysis can be obtained in Horse Feeding Management Fact Sheet AG-558-5, Interpreting Horse Feed Analysis.

Hay that is unprotected when stored will lose nutritive value due to weathering of the outer layer. Soluble carbohydrate levels will be leached out by moisture and the percent of indigestible fiber will increase. The increase in indigestible fiber will cause the horse to reduce the amount of digestible forage consumed.

Table 1. Quality of Weathered and Unweathered Portions of Grass and Grass-alfalfa Hay in Round Bales (1)

Hay Type	Bale Portion (cattle)	Digestibility	Acid Detergent Fiber
Grass	Unweathered	58.8	44.4
Grass	Weathered	42.5	49.4
Grass-Legume	Unweathered	56.5	45.0

Grass-Legume Weathered 34.2 48.7  
 1 Lechtenberg et al., 1979

Unprotected round bales stored outside will form a thatch on the outer layer of the bale due to moisture and rainfall. Over time, mold will form in the thatch, which may produce mycotoxins that can irritate the lungs causing heaves and could be deadly for the horse. Forage in the outer thatch may also heat up, which results in a binding of nutrients to indigestible fiber. Protein is especially sensitive to such binding action. Fortunately horses consume round bales through the ends of the bale and avoid the less palatable, more weathered tops and sides. Horses will hollow-out the bale, eating from the center outward. Eventually the weathered outer surfaces will cave-in. Horses, not provided another source of clean forage, will consume the weathered, potentially harmful outer thatch. This represents a portion of the round bale that should not be fed. Horses should not be forced to eat the weathered portion of the bale. The thickness of the outer thatch depends on the amount and intensity of the initial rainfall and the location of the round bales during storage. Ideally, round bales should be stored and fed under cover. If hay is fed unprotected, the stocking rate (number of horses per amount of hay) should be increased to ensure consumption of all hay in less than one week.

Round bales are available in a variety of different sizes (Table 2). There is a trend nationwide for the use of the larger hay balers. However, in North Carolina the 4'x5' or 4'x4' balers are more typically used to produce round bales for horse owners.

Table 2. Estimates of the Round Bale Weights, Based on a Soft-Core Baler 1,2

Hay Variety	Bale Diameter		Bale Length		
	4'	5'	5.5'	6'	
Alfalfa hay	4'	490 lb.	610 lb.	675 lb.	735 lb.
	5'	765 lb.	960 lb.	1055 lb.	1150 lb.
Mixed Hay	4'	450 lb.	565 lb.	630 lb.	680 lb.
	5'	705 lb.	885 lb.	970 lb.	1065 lb.
Grass Hay	4'	415 lb.	520 lb.	575 lb.	620 lb.
	5'	650 lb.	810 lb.	890 lb.	970 lb.

1From D. Tasse. Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Ontario, Canada.

2Add 20 to 30% increase on bale weight to convert from soft-core to hard-core baler

Hay balers can be manufactured to produce a soft-core or a hard-core bale. The hard-core balers produce bales that are 20 to 30% heavier than the soft-core balers, while still having the same dimensions. However, regardless of manufactured specifications, bale weight, not bale dimension, will also vary depending on the forage specie, stage of maturity, RPM's of the power-take-off (PTO) and tractor speed while baling. Legumes, such as alfalfa hay, pack tighter in the baler and produce heavier bales with the same bale size compared to grass forages. Legume-grass mixed forages will have bale weights mid-way between the pure legume and pure grass hay bales. Hay can be baled at a higher moisture content with a soft core bale, but they typically do not store as well uncovered as hard core bales. Consequently, round bales should be purchased on a weight, not bale, basis. If purchasing a large shipment of round bales, weigh several bales on a vehicle of a known weight to determine an average bale weight.

### Storage of Round Bales

The cylindrical shape of round bales provides some natural drainage when rainfall occurs. The amount and intensity of the first rainfall on unprotected round bales affects the depth of the outer weathered layer, typically referred to as the thatch. As much as 16% of the total volume of a 4-foot by 4-foot round bale can be lost in a two-inch outer weathered layer. Smaller round bales lose relatively more total volume at a given weathering depth than larger-sized hay bales. The outer thatch of unprotected bales could contain molds and associated mycotoxins and should not be fed to horses.

Round bales can be stored in a variety of different ways. The ideal storage method would provide the greatest protection of hay from moisture, resulting in less dry matter loss, while being cost effective (Table 4). Storage methods include:

- Unprotected on the Ground

This is the cheapest method that represents the greatest dry matter weathering loss. Yield losses are greatest where airflow is the least and contact with moisture is the greatest.

The greatest dry matter losses occur on the bottom of the bale, which could exceed 38%. Elevating the hay off the ground on wood pallets, tires, stones, etc. increases airflow and decreases moisture uptake from the ground.

Bales are held together with twine. The twine rots making moving difficult.

- Plastic Wrap

Plastic wrap is a relatively new technology that places solid plastic non-reusable sheeting over the bale during the baling process. It is the preferred cover for outside storage. The plastic repels water and protects the bale from absorbing ground moisture and does not degrade during storage and transportation. The plastic replaces the need for twine to hold the bale together. Dry matter yield losses are typically reduced from 38% for unprotected bales to 7% when using plastic wrap. Plastic is removed prior to feeding.

- Net Wrap

Net wrap is a porous material, which permits airflow for greater drying and sheds some water. It is applied at baling, is not reusable and reduces dry matter loss considerably compared to unprotected bales stored on the ground.

- Tarps and Bale Covers

Reinforced tarps and covers have a longevity of more than 5 years and are a cost-effective way to protect hay. The tarps are anchored to the ground and treated to repel ultraviolet light. However, the use of tarps involves more labor and requires multiple laborers to secure the tarps. Non-reinforced plastic tarps, held in place by tires or weighted blocks, wood, etc. provide an affordable short-term 1 to 2 year option. Stacking hay in a pyramid type design enhances the repelling of water. Hay stacked three layers and higher requires the use of a larger tractor with a front-end-loader. The hay bale stack should be placed on pallets, tires, or stone to elevate the bales off the ground. A 50-foot wide tarp will cover five-foot diameter bales that are stacked three high in a triangular formation.

- Bale Sleeves

Sleeves are added after the baling process and prior to storage (to correctly sized bales). This is a more expensive process due to additional labor needs to add the sleeve to twine-tied bales.

- Hay Storage Facilities

Facilities should be designed to permit at least a three-layer stack with more than two-feet of clearance above the top stack for ventilation in order to avoid moisture build up. Building costs range from \$5-10 per square foot, resulting in a cost of \$10 per ton of storage capacity, per year. Buildings can either be completely closed or have an open wall facing south. Stacking bales on the end, rather than on the side, reduces weight on the barn walls and maximizes the use of floor and storage space. However, stacking on end requires a fork lift or squeeze attachment on the loader rather than a less expensive spear.

Table 4. Comparison of Storage System Life, Approximated Cost per 1,000-pound Bale, and Dry Matter Loss.

Storage System	System Life Years	Approximate Cost \$/bale/yr	Dry Matter Loss %
Conventional Shed	20	5.00	4-7

Pole Structure with Plastic roof on pad	4	3.00	4-7
Reusable tarp on pad*	5	3.00	4-7
Bale sleeve on ground	1	3.00	4-7
Elevated stack on pad	20	2.62	13-17
Net wrap on ground	1	1.50	15-25
Stacked on ground (cost of twine)	1	.75	25-35

\*Bales are stacked.  
Adapted from M. Collins, et al, University of Kentucky.

### Feeding Round Bales to Horses

Protected round bales without a weathered outer layer are preferred for free choice feeding of horses. The use of round bale feeders, designed for equine, not cattle, can reduce hay loss by as much as 20% from trampling into the ground and crowding during group feeding. Placing of round bales in run-in sheds or covered feeders protects the bales from moisture and potential mold formation during the feeding period, but may limit accessibility for the more timid horses if the shed is not open on all sides.

The lower cost of round bales versus the traditional square or rectangular bale is a significant savings. However, a tractor with a hay moving attachment is required. The improper storage and feeding of round bales could result in dry matter losses of up to 50%, which may negate the savings. Unprotected round bales fed on the ground (no feeder) and square bales fed in a feeder were 37% cheaper than square bales fed on the ground.

### Summary

The selection, storage and feeding of round bales to horses requires close evaluation of the condition of the forage, a method to protect the forage during feeding and storage, and an accurate calculation of the amount of forage required per feeding period. Due to variation in baling equipment and harvesting techniques, round bales should be purchased on a weight (dollars per ton or dollars per pound) basis. A nutrient analysis provides valuable information on the nutrient value, intake levels and quality of the hay. Proper storage of round bales will reduce the dry matter loss of hay and maximize savings. Round bale feeding systems that protect hay from weathering and mold formation reduce labor and increase the amount of consumable hay with a higher nutritive value. The added cost of round bale feeders and protective storage can be recouped in a short period of time before feeding more affordable round bales rather than conventional square bales.

To see this Complete Article, Charts and References, go to [http://www.extension.org/mediawiki/files/5/5f/Selecting,\\_Storing\\_and\\_Feeding\\_Round\\_Hay\\_Bales\\_to\\_Horses.pdf](http://www.extension.org/mediawiki/files/5/5f/Selecting,_Storing_and_Feeding_Round_Hay_Bales_to_Horses.pdf)

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### 6. You asked:

- Can I feed round oat hay bales free choice to horses?

You can feed oat hay, but feed it to mature horses and make sure nitrate levels are at acceptable levels. Oat hay is not a commonly fed hay but can be an effective hay for older horses. The oat hay needs to be harvested in the soft dough stage when the leaves and stems are still green. If the oat hay is harvested when the plant is more mature and only a small amount of grain remains, the forage has the nutritional value of straw, therefore limiting its value in feeding to horses.

The energy and protein content of good oat hay makes it a suitable forage for mature horses at maintenance and early gestating mares. The hay is palatable; however, horses still will selectively consume the grain and leaf portion of the hay and leave the stems. Oat hay has the potential for high nitrate levels. Higher levels of nitrate may be present in oat hay if it was grown with high nitrogen fertilization or if the plants have suffered the effects of drought. Either situation can cause the accumulation of nitrates in the feed. You can have the hay tested for nitrate levels to ensure that the forage is safe. The level of nitrate in the horses' total diet should not exceed 0.5 percent.

- How do I prevent mold in and on the dirt in an enclosed horse arena??

Mold needs nutrients and moisture to grow. Therefore, reducing those two components in the arena floor will reduce mold growth. To reduce moisture, the airflow inside the barn needs to be adequate — typically a minimum of four to eight air changes per hour through natural ventilation in from the eaves and out through the top ridge vents or cupolas. Don't keep the barn airtight by closing eaves and roof ridges, or the air will quickly become saturated with water vapor. Sometimes forced air ventilation using fans may be needed, depending on the barn design.

Including something in the arena floor that absorbs moisture may help, too. Calcium chloride (ice melt) incorporated into the flooring may help some, but it alone may not be able to overcome a total lack of ventilation.

Removing high-nutrient soil that has a lot of fine dirt and manure and replacing it with low organic-matter sand will reduce the substrates that mold can use for nutrients.

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7. Horse Breeds: From time to time I get asked about the various breeds of horses and the purposes of the breed. There is a great site that you can learn about all the different breeds of horses, as well as all the other livestock breeds.

You can find this at: <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/>

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8. Upcoming events at Averett University-Providence NC

March 23-26: USDF Instructor Certification Mega-Workshop and Pre-Certification Lunging, Riding and Teaching will all be taught in one day formats. Sign up for individual days or get a discount by attending the whole series. Auditors are welcome for \$25 per day or \$50 for the entire workshop. USDF Faculty will include Sarah Geikie and Bailey Cook. Contact Ginger Henderson for more info [vhenderson@averett.edu](mailto:vhenderson@averett.edu)

April 8-10: Around the World in 80 Days  
Evening performances at 7:00 PM Friday and Saturday  
Matinee at 2:00PM on Sunday

Join us for an evening celebrating the beauty and artistry of dancing on horseback. The Averett Equestrian Department joined by some of the leading riders on the east coast will take you on a trip around the world featuring music from film and stage. Horses and riders will perform interpretive rides to selections highlighting countries and cultures from across the globe. From the dramatic James Bond ride of England to the fan favorite Circle of Life from Africa, you will be entertained by the intricate choreography, creative costuming and the magic that happens when horse and rider become one. A percentage of proceeds will be donated to the Horses and Humans Research Foundation (HHRF). The primary goal of HHRF is to support, promote and fund scientific research that explores the claimed, yet unsubstantiated benefits of equine-assisted activities and therapies, leading to the discovery of the most effective methods and techniques for conducting thousands of existing and future programs. <http://www.horsesandhumans.org>

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Seating is limited so advanced tickets are recommended. Contact Gloria Robertson to reserve your tickets now. [gloriar@averett.edu](mailto:gloriar@averett.edu) or [434-791-5638](tel:434-791-5638)

April 16: Dressage and Combined Test Schooling Show  
For more info contact ginger Henderson at [vhenderson@averett.edu](mailto:vhenderson@averett.edu)

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9. Shiitake Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshops

When: Choose either daytime or evening workshop  
Workshop 1 Thursday, February 17th at 1:00 PM  
OR  
Workshop 2 Thursday, February 17th at 6:00PM

Where: Rockingham County Senior High School Horticulture Classroom

Pre-Registration and payment REQUIRED!  
There is a \$15 fee for oak logs, spawn and wax. Participants will each take home one inoculated log.

Call Kathryn Holmes to register or for more information at [\(336\) 342-8230](tel:336-342-8230).

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10. Beginning Beekeeping Class

Saturday February 12, 2011 9am-4pm  
AND  
Saturday February 19, 2011 9am-4pm

Location: Rockingham County Agriculture Center  
525 Hwy 65 Reidsville, NC 27320

Topics: Bees, Beehive Construction, Obtaining Bees, Beekeeper Equipment, Pollination with Bees, Bee Pests and Diseases.

Cost: \$30 per person and \$16 each additional family member (only one book)  
Box Lunch included per person

Sponsors: Rockingham County Beekeepers Association  
Rockingham County Cooperative Extension

Call Kathryn Holmes, Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Agent at 342-8230 for more information. Pre-registration required. Checks payable to Rockingham County.-525 Hwy 65 Suite 200 Reidsville, NC 27320.

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11. 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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12. HAY DIRECTORY - A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at [1-800-666-3625](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!

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13. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available -

- Horse/dog blanket repairs - don't throw out that ripped or torn horse blanket - save money and have it repaired! Turnout blankets, stable blankets, sheets, hoods and dog coats. Expertly repaired in a timely manner. Buckles and curcingles replaced, rips and tears fixed. References available. Some pick up/delivery available depending on location and quantity. Laundering and waterproofing also available. For prompt service please call [336-813-1235](tel:336-813-1235) or reply to email

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14. Take A Load Off - Married Four Times (Repeat)

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation. "He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought.

He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her early 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now in her 80's, a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

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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 Weekend!

Ben

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