

Weekly Pile for week of January 24 2011

Howdy Folks (Horse Emailer's),

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of January 24, 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. It Begins Monday Night - 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. Manure Management
5. Hauling Horses
6. Body Condition and Cold Weather
7. Are you overpaying your taxes?
8. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital - Bring In Your Magazines!
9. Hay Directory
10. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available
11. Take A Load Off

+++++

1. It Begins Monday Night - 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses!
Don't Miss em! It's a Great Line up of Programs, the best yet and I hope that you will plan on attending.

2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses
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.

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

+++++

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.

Directions

From the South and East.

Take US 29 north of Reidsville, NC to NC 14. This exit says Eden. (If coming from the east on 158 it comes into Highway 14) Go NW on NC 14 for approximately 10 miles. At the bottom of a steep hill take a LEFT at the stoplight, onto Harrington Highway. (you have gone to far if you go over the bridge over the Dan river into Eden on 14) Once on Harrington Highway go several miles, cross over the Dan River and continue straight at stop light crossing over Highway 135. Stay on Harrington Highway until you come to a stop sign at NC 770 where you turn LEFT. After this left on NC 770, go for approximately 2.5 miles. Across from a convenience store and Shell Gas sign, go RIGHT onto Settlement Loop Road. Go 2 miles and take the second RIGHT onto Rakestraw Road. At the end of Rakestraw Road, go RIGHT onto Price Grange Road. Go across a small bridge and up the hill. When nearly at the top of the hill, go LEFT onto Barnes Rd. (Look for Coyote Program signs but the road sign is missing) Go approximately 1 mile to 725 Barnes Road, on the RIGHT. You will see the farm buildings and Program signs.

From the North and West.

On US 220 and go to the NC 770 Exit for Stoneville. Go EAST on NC 770, through Stoneville. Go approximately 3 miles, and take Settlement Loop Road to the LEFT. Go 1 mile and take LEFT onto Rakestraw Road. Take Rakestraw to its end, and go RIGHT onto Price Grange Road. Go across a small bridge and up the hill. When nearly at the top of the hill, go LEFT onto Barnes Rd. (Look for Coyote Program signs but the road sign is missing) Go approximately 1 mile to 725 Barnes Road, on the RIGHT. You will see the farm buildings and Program signs.

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

+++++

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!

+++++

4. Manure Management MSUE Equine AoE Team

Fact: A 1000 pound horse produces 31 pounds of feces and 2.4 gallons of urine a day adding up to a total of 51 pounds of daily waste.

You've got the horse, you've got the farm and you've got lots of plans. One thing you may not have, however, is a plan for handling the manure your horses will produce. What are the options for responsible manure management?

Stockpiling

One of the most common manure-handling methods is putting it in a pile and leaving it Alone. Though this option is appealing to many, it is not the most environmentally friendly or neighborly solutions. Putting manure in a pile and leaving it is not the same as composting it, no matter how long it sits.

Composting is an active process that involves a decrease in volume and an increase in nutrient quality, and it produces an end product with many uses. Manure that sits in a pile may be slowly decomposing, but it's also attracting flies and generating odors, and it has potential for environmental pollution through runoff or leaching to groundwater. All of these factors can ultimately result in unhappy neighbors and increased complaints.

Hauling Away

Another option involves short-term storage of manure that will eventually be hauled away. Local farmers may spread manure on hay fields or crops. A composting operation may also be willing to accept horse manure. In some areas, manure may be hauled to a commercial landfill. This option is expensive and is not a long-term or environmentally friendly solution.

Land Application

If you're lucky enough to have adequate land and the right equipment, you may have the option of spreading manure on your own property. Composting before spreading will increase the nutrients' benefits. If the manure is not composted before spreading, the low nitrogen content in common bedding material may reduce soil quality and pasture production potential.

Some people have the option of spreading manure and bedding on arenas. Depending on your soil type, adding some waste material may improve footing or soil consistency, but this is a limited solution. Spreading raw manure on pastures may increase harmful bacteria and parasite levels in the soil. The composting process reduces these risks.

Anytime manure and bedding are spread on land, horse owners should take several factors into consideration. These include timing spreading to avoid neighborhood events, family gatherings and holidays. It is also important to consider weather conditions when spreading manure. If the ground is frozen or heavy rain is predicted, spreading should be avoided because of runoff potential and surface water contamination.

To reduce the amount of manure handled and improve horse health, keeping your horses on pasture continuously may be a solution. Manure may still build up in certain areas, however, and may need to be spread out or removed. The best time to drag a pasture is when the sun is shining, hot and dry — this helps to control parasites in the manure. Manure is a fact of your horse-managing life. Fortunately, solutions are available for dealing with it. Depending on your setup, one or more of the options may work for you.

+++++

5. Hauling Horses

As someone involved in the horse industry, you may haul horses frequently or from time to time. It may be necessary to transport them to the veterinarian, the breeding farm, a show, a sale, or just to go riding on a Sunday afternoon.

With some planning, the trip can be successful, and the stress associated with hauling horses can be reduced on the animals and for you.

Transport considerations will vary depending on the purpose you have for trailering your horse. While you might plan for days for a trip to the mountains to trail ride, the emergency trip to the vet clinic won't be as well planned. Despite those differences, you can still have a basic plan for hauling your horse.

Below are some articles that I think should be helpful:

Horse Trailering Tips

http://www.extension.org/pages/Horse_Trailering_Tips

Traveling With Your Horse

http://www.extension.org/pages/Traveling_With_Your_Horse

Safe Loading Practices for Horses

http://www.extension.org/pages/Safe_Loading_Practices_for_Horses

Pre-Travel Vehicle and Trailer Check for Hauling Horses

http://www.extension.org/pages/Pre-Travel_Vehicle_and_Trailer_Check_for_Hauling_Horses

Considerations When Hauling a Horse

http://www.extension.org/pages/Considerations_When_Hauling_a_Horse

+++++

6. Body Condition and Cold Weather

Dr. Judy Marteniuk, Equine Medicine and Extension Veterinarian
Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Michigan State University

This has been unusually cold, with temperatures well below freezing for many days. This cold weather can be particularly dangerous to animals that live outdoors, and these type conditions can increase the number calls of animals that are hungry or starving.

During the winter, it is imperative that you monitor your horses' body weight by putting your hand on them frequently.

Furry coats make visual assessment of body condition impossible. The only way you can assess your animals' condition is by touch. As temperatures continue to remain cold, it is important to remember that your animals require extra calories to maintain body temperature and body weight. Once an animal's body condition has deteriorated, it may no longer be strong enough to eat enough food to survive.

Remember that older animals with poor teeth and young animals may require more feed and should be fed separately from other horses to ensure adequate intake.

Points to remember:

- The average inactive horse needs to eat 1.5 to 2 percent of its body weight in food per day just to maintain weight without any other energy demands. In the winter, the amount of food needed will increase because the amount of energy the horse expends to keep warm will increase. This means that the average 1,000-pound horse in good condition needs at least 20 pounds of hay during normal weather and may need as much as 35 to 40 pounds of hay and grain products during cold weather.

If your horse is considered underweight, the amount of feed needs to be calculated on the basis of his ideal weight, not his current weight. Though hay diets are generally ideal, certain animals will require grain, complete feeds or fat supplements to maintain body weight.

- Separate young, old or debilitated horses. The dominant horse will frequently eat most of the food provided, resulting in some horses being healthy and others facing malnutrition.
- Blankets and shelters will help decrease energy demands. However, remember that a blanket hides body condition, so it is important to place your hands under the blanket and remove it at least every week or so to assess body condition.
- Old horses with poor dentition (teeth) may be unable to chew fiber (hay) adequately, so they may require complete pelleted feeds* that are easily broken down. For the average horse that should weigh about 1,000 pounds, at least one-third of a 50-pound bag needs to be fed daily just to maintain body weight, and more will be needed if severe energy demands are present.
- Water intake is also very important during the winter. Many horses will suffer from impaction colics due to inadequate water intake. Older horses may require the water to be not only frost-free but warmed because they have sensitive teeth.
- Remember, during extremely cold weather, to provide extra (free choice) hay. This will generate more energy and comfort than just increasing the grain (concentrate) portion of the diet. Just the physical aspect of moving and eating will make the horse more comfortable. The hay fermenting in the large intestinal tract will generate heat, and the horse will utilize the calories absorbed from the feed.

A complete pelleted feed is a product that contains at least 15 percent crude fiber and can be fed as the sole source of nutrition for horses. Horses that are routinely fed a complete pelleted feed are senior horses that are lacking teeth or have severe dental problems.

A complete pelleted feed can also be used as part of the diet when hay is in short supply (a hay extender)

or fed to horses that have certain digestive disorders.

Body condition score

The body condition scoring (BCS) system is based on a scale of 1 through 9 and is designed to assess a horse's overall condition. Horses with a BCS less than a 4 are at increased risk of hypothermia and starvation, especially when the weather conditions cause an increase in energy demands just to maintain weight. An individual that is already thinner than desired (BCS < 4) will not have adequate body mass (fat) to help provide insulation from the cold or a supply of energy when the diet is lacking in energy and demands are higher than expected.

To determine your horse's BCS, you must touch your horse, especially in the winter. Winter hair hides a horse's true BCS, often until it is too late to successfully correct the weight loss. Feel over the ribs, neck, shoulder area, mid-spine, hips and tail head. If your horse's ribs over the widest part of the barrel are easily felt, with little or no tissue between the skin and the ribs, the BCS is below 4. This horse is suffering from malnutrition and is at a high risk of hypothermia when the temperature drops, particularly if the wind chill is high and little to no shelter is available.

For more information on body condition and feeding horses during the winter, please contact your veterinarian. The Web site www.extension.org is also a very good source of information on feeding, care and body condition scoring.

+++++

7. Are you overpaying your taxes?

Each year, one in four people who are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) fail to claim this benefit. For the past 35 years, the EITC has reduced taxes for working families and individuals. Recently, North Carolina became one of 22 states that offer a state tax credit in addition to the federal EITC.

The EITC could put money into the hands of families who desperately need it. Eligibility for the credit is based on family size and earnings. Single individuals and those without children may be eligible for a smaller EITC. There are special rules for the military and clergy, taxpayers receiving disability benefits, and people affected by disasters.

To qualify for the EITC, earned income and adjusted gross income must be less than \$43,352 (\$48,362 if married filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children; \$40,363 (\$45,373 if married filing jointly) with two qualifying children; \$35,535 (\$40,545 if married filing jointly) with one qualifying child; and \$13,460 (\$18,470 if married filing jointly) with no qualifying children. The maximum amount of investment income allowed for the 2010 tax year is \$3,100.

A qualified tax preparer can determine if you qualify for the EITC. If you feel confident doing your own taxes, use the E-file link on the IRS website:

<http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=96406,00.html>

Older adults should contact their local senior center for free tax preparation details. Others who make \$49,000 or less can take advantage of the IRS-sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Visit www.irs.gov or call [1.800.829.1040](tel:18008291040) to learn how to use this resource.

+++++

8. 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.

+++++

9. 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!

+++++

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

- For Sale Black 17" Wintec 500 dressage saddle, only used a few times. Comes with 2 gullets, girth, stirrups, cover, breast plate, and Bridle. \$450.00 Call Ellen 337-6754 or email fourkfarm@yahoo.com

- Pasture Board - NE Guilford \$150/mo. Good pasture, cross-fenced, run-in sheds, arena. Brought into 8-stall barn once daily to feed your grain. Tack room, hot & cold wash, trails in area. Call Sandy [336-584-5617](tel:336-584-5617) or larknspursandy@bellsouth.net.

+++++

11 Take A Load Off – These chickens want books

A pair of chickens walk up to the circulation desk at a public library and say, 'Buk Buk BUK.' The librarian decides that the chickens desire three books, and gives it to them...and the chickens leave shortly thereafter.

Around midday, the two chickens return to the circulation desk quite vexed and say, ' Buk Buk BuKKOOK!' The librarian decides that the chickens desire another three books and gives it to them. The chickens leave as before.

The two chickens return to the library in the early afternoon, approach the librarian, looking very annoyed and say, 'Buk Buk Buk Buk Bukkooook!' The librarian is now a little suspicious of these chickens. She gives them what they request, and decides to follow them.

She followed them out of the library, out of the town, and to a park. At this point, she hid behind a tree, not wanting to be seen. She saw the two chickens throwing the books at a frog in a pond, to which the frog was saying, "Rredit Rredit Rredit..."

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

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

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.

--

Ben Chase
Rockingham and Guilford County Extension Agent
Agriculture & Livestock
North Carolina State University
North Carolina Cooperative Extension,
Physical address: 525 NC 65, Suite 200, Reidsville, NC 27320
Mailing address: PO Box 200, Wentworth, NC 27375-0200
[\(336\) 342-8235](tel:336-342-8235) [800-666-3625](tel:800-666-3625) Fax: [336-342-8242](tel:336-342-8242)
Email : ben_chase@ncsu.edu
<http://rockingham.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=animalagriculture>

--

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>