Hey Everybody,

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of April 15, 2012, Extension's Equine related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties. To have something included in the Weekly Pile, please follow these simple guidelines:

- Information included needs to be educational in nature &/or directly related to Rockingham or Guilford Counties.
- Provided information is a resource to the citizens of Rockingham/Guilford Counties.
- Provided information does not require extra time or effort to be listed.
- Listings for Swap Shop will not list pricing details.
- Please E-mail information to me by Wednesday each Week.
- Please keep ads or events as short as possible – with NO FORMATTING, NO unnecessary Capitalization's, and NO ATTACHED DOCUMENTS. (If sent in that way, it may not be included)
- Please include contact information - Phone, Email and alike.
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send into me.
- The Weekly Pile is not for listings for Commercial type properties or products.

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was probably an oversight on my part, but please let me know!

If you have a question or ideas that you would like covered in the Weekly Pile, please let me know and I will try to include. As Always – I would like to hear your comments about the Weekly Pile or the Extension Horse Program in Rockingham or Guilford Counties!

Included in This Weeks Pile:

1. Safety Guidelines for Horseback Riding on the Trails

2. Contagious Disease Control

3. What are zoonotic diseases (diseases transmitted or shared) between animals and humans?

4. You Asked

5. Parasite Control

6. Gastric Ulcers

7. Grazing Sticks Available
1. Safety Guidelines for Horseback Riding on the Trails

Jenifer Nadeau, Equine Extension Specialist, University of Connecticut and Betsy Greene, Equine Extension Specialist, University of Vermont

In order to be safe while horseback riding or driving a horse, there are many considerations. It is very important to perform a safety check of your horse, rider, tack, facility and/or trail before starting out on your ride or drive. There are also several safety guidelines and items you should pack when you go trail riding.

Safety Guidelines for Trail Riders

Cell phones are a great safety tool on the trail, however they do not always have dependable signals when riding in remote areas. Prior to embarking on your journey, make sure that the phone batteries are charged and that your phone can transmit a signal at the location. Have the park station's number on the speed dial function of the phone. If a cell phone is not operable, you may want to invest in some long-range walkie-talkies. Always leave the park station with your emergency contacts, as well as departure and expected arrival times.

Travel with a map and compass. Stay on the marked trail when possible, avoiding switchbacks and fire lanes. Carry a flash light in case nightfall catches you still on the trail.
Travel with both horse and human first aid kits. Include insect repellant, ointments for cuts and sunburns, bandages, and a set of hoof pliers to remove loose shoes. If you have any allergies or illnesses, notify others in your riding group.

If your horse goes lame on the trail, dismount immediately and check the hooves for a rock or the legs for an abrasion. If the horse can proceed, lead the horse to the next nearest loading site and call for help.

It is best not to ride alone. ALWAYS tell someone where you are going, and what time you expect to be back. Consider carrying a whistle or cell phone to use in case of an emergency. It takes less effort to blow a whistle than to yell for help.

Consider attaching an ID tag to your horse when trail riding. The tag should include the horse’s name, your name, and your cell phone number. Should you become separated from your horse and you are some distance from home, a cell phone number will aid anyone who has caught your horse in reuniting it with you.

Carry a current map of the area and have an idea where you are going. Study the area around you, noting landmarks. Occasionally look behind you to help recognize the trail for your return. Use fluorescent clothespins to clip to branches along the trail to help mark your return. Remember to remove the markers on the return trip. Some riders find a GPS (Global Positioning System) unit to be helpful in keeping track of where they have ridden.

Stay on designated/marked trails. Do not ride horses at a pace greater than a walk on muddy trails. You should cross rivers, creeks, or wetland only in designated areas to guard against adverse impact on the environment and for the safety of you and your horse. Good riding etiquette prevents land abuse and destruction. If you ride on federal or state lands, ask the park officials for their advice on the best trails to take or if there are any map changes. Ride only on lands offered for public or private use where you have permission to ride.

Hot Weather

When riding in hot weather, continually monitor your horses for signs of heat stress. If the horse is breathing rapidly or has stopped sweating, search for a shady spot. Take off the horse’s saddle and sponge the horse’s face, neck, chest and back with water. Try offering the horse something to drink and let the horse rest until recovery is evident. Lead the horse to the nearest loading location and take him to a veterinarian. The horse may require additional treatment for dehydration and electrolyte loss.
Suggested List of Items to Bring on a Trail Ride

1. Current health papers and Coggins test
2. Sunglasses
3. Sharp knife and/or all-in-one pocket tool
4. Lip balm
5. A form of identification
6. Sunscreen
7. First aid kits for horses and riders
8. Tissues or toilet paper
9. String or leather for tack repair
10. Snacks
11. Compass
12. Gloves
13. Rain gear
14. Hoof pick
15. Jacket
16. Water
17. Water proof matches
18. Insect Repellent
19. Hat

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2. Contagious Disease Control

Contagious diseases are those that can be spread from one animal to another. Control programs should be targeted at reducing exposure to disease-causing agents and increasing disease
resistance. To reduce contagious disease exposure to resident horses, it should be required that new horses have a negative test for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA, Coggins Test) and have been appropriately vaccinated and dewormed before they arrive. New horses should be received and maintained in an isolation barn or paddock for 30 days to ensure that sick horses or horses incubating a contagious disease are not inadvertently introduced into the farm population. The isolation area should be physically separated from the resident horses. Separate equipment and preferably separate personnel should be used to take care of the isolated horses. Isolated horses should be cared for after the resident horses. During the 30-day quarantine period, horses should be monitored daily for signs of contagious disease. Common signs to look for are decreased appetite or activity level, coughing, fever and discharge from the nose or eyes.

Additionally, any resident horse that becomes ill with a potentially contagious disease should also be promptly isolated. Isolation should continue for at least 10 days after all symptoms are gone. Separate equipment and personnel should be used to take care of sick horses. If separate personnel are not available, sick horses should be tended to after other horses on the farm. Stalls that have housed sick horses should be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and left empty for as long as possible before being used by other horses.

Disease resistance in horses can be enhanced by proper housing, feeding, exercise and the use of vaccines. Vaccines are health products that trigger positive immune responses and prepare the vaccinated individual to fight future infections from disease-causing agents. There are many vaccines and vaccine combinations available for use in horses. The specific vaccines needed by a particular horse will depend on several factors, including the horse's age, exposure to other horses and geographic location. Your veterinarian will help you determine the vaccination program best suited to your horse.

In general, all adult horses should be vaccinated against tetanus, Eastern & Western Encephalomyelitis (EEE & WEE), West Nile Virus (WNV) and rabies each year. Horses that are exposed to other horses during shows, trail rides and other events should also be vaccinated for influenza and equine herpes virus 1 and 4 (EHV-1 and EHV-4). Booster vaccines may need to be given every three to six months for effective immunity. Pregnant mares should be vaccinated against EHV-1 the fifth, seventh and ninth months of gestation. Pregnant mares should also be booster for tetanus, EEE, WEE, WNV, EHV-1, EHV-4 and influenza four to six weeks before foaling. Only "killed" vaccines may be use in pregnant mares. Foals from appropriately vaccinated mares usually start their vaccinations when they are 3 to 4 months old. Foals from unvaccinated mares need tetanus antitoxin right after birth and should start their vaccines at 2 to 3 months of age. Many other vaccines are available and may be recommended in your area. Again, work with your veterinarian to set up a vaccine protocol specific to your horse's individual needs.

The vaccinations your horse needs will vary depending on its age, activities it is involved in, and where one lives. Please contact your veterinarian to advise you on what vaccination schedule is best suited for your horses & to your situation.

3. What are zoonotic diseases (diseases transmitted or shared) between animals and humans?

A disease that can be transmitted (or shared) between animals and humans is called a zoonosis (zoh-ah-NOH-sis) or referred to as being zoonotic (zoo-ah-NAH-tic).

Here is a list of some diseases transmissible between animals and humans:

- Anthrax
- Avian influenza (bird flu)
- Bartonellosis (cat scratch disease)
- Baylisascaris procyonis (raccoon roundworm)
- Bovine tuberculosis
- Brucellosis (Bang's disease or undulant fever)
- *Bubonic plague
- Campylobacter
- Contagious ecthyma (orf or sore mouth)
- Cowpox
- Cryptosporidal enteritis
- Dermatophytosis (ringworm)
- Echinococcosis (hydatid disease)
- *Ehrlichiosis (one of several tickborne diseases)
- *Encephalitis (EEE, WEE, VEE)
- Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli infection
- Giardiasis
- Hanta virus
- Larva migrans (aberrant larval worm migration)
- Leptospirosis
- Mange (parasitic mites)
- Monkeypox
- Psittacosis (parrot fever, ornithosis)
- Q fever
- Rabies
- Salmonellosis (typhoid fever or typhoid and non-typhoid)
- Toxoplasmosis
- Trichinosis
- *Tularemia (rabbit fever, deer fly fever)
- *Typhus (a rickettsial disease carried by fleas and lice)
- *West Nile virus

*The diseases marked with an asterisk are transmitted through vectors, such as mosquitoes, fleas, or ticks.

4. You Asked: Should I remove horses from a pasture when I spray for weeds and, if so, how long should I keep them off the pasture?
With any herbicide or pesticide, you should carefully read and follow the label directions. If the label does not contain specific information about horses, look for livestock recommendations. If there are none, you should contact the manufacturer about recommendations for safe application to horse pastures. It is always a good practice to remove horses from a field while spraying.
5. Parasite Control

Controlling internal parasites, or worms, is an extremely important component of horse health care. Internal parasites are silent thieves and killers. The damage they cause often goes unnoticed until problems are severe. The most common and troublesome internal parasites in horses are roundworms, small and large strongyles, tapeworms and botfly larvae. Young horses are more likely to be adversely affected than adult horses. All internal parasites have similar life cycles: Parasite eggs are passed in faeces of infected horses; horses ingest parasite eggs or larvae from the environment; parasite larvae migrate through various tissues of the horse specific for each parasite and usually end up in the gastrointestinal tract, where they mature into adults. Migrating larvae can cause tissue damage to the lungs, intestinal wall and blood vessels. The physical presence of the adult worm can cause intestinal irritation and intestinal obstruction and will take valuable nutrients away from the horse.

Unfortunately, there is no single parasite control program that suits all horses and all situations. You should consult your veterinarian to help devise a parasite control program for your horse or your farm. In general, parasite control programs should include appropriate selection and use of anthelmintics, or dewormers, management practices that further reduce parasite transmission and evaluation of the control program. The dewormer used must be highly effective against the parasite infesting your horse. Your veterinarian can help you determine which dewormer is appropriate for which horses. The correct amount of dewormer must be administered based on an accurate estimation of your horse’s weight; using a weight tape is strongly recommended.

Routine removal of feces from stalls, pastures and paddocks will decrease the number of parasite eggs/larvae in the environment. Manure should not be spread on pastures unless it has been properly composted for the appropriate amount of time. True composting will kill internal parasite larvae in approximately three months, while piling manure and letting it sit will take a year. The effectiveness of parasite control program should be evaluated once or twice yearly by having fecal examinations performed.

Control of Internal Parasites of the Horse

http://www.uky.edu/Agric/AnimalSciences/pubs/vet1.pdf
http://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1033&context=utk_agexani

6. Gastric Ulcers

There are many factors which are claimed to predispose gastric ulcers in swine. They include:
NUTRITION - High energy diets, Low Fiber diets, low protein diets, Heat-gelatinized grain, Pelleting, Small particle size (fine-grinding, i.e., particle size less than 700 microns), Wet Feeding, High Fe, Cu, Ca, Zn, Vitamin E and/or Selenium deficiency, Rancidity
MANAGEMENT – Overcrowding, Confinement, Cage-rearing, Restraint, Handling and Transport,
INFECTIONS - candida albicans, Ascaris suum, Erysipelas, Swine fever
OTHER - Stress, Pregnancy, Parturition, Heredity, Reserpine, Histamine, Ligation of the bile duct

Clinical cases rarely respond to treatment and are slaughtered. Sub-clinical cases with early stages of ulceration will respond quickly to removal of the offending ulcerogenic factor. Inspection of stomachs at the slaughter house can provide useful early warning of an impending outbreak. Attempts should be made to avoid all situations likely to precipitate ulceration. Effective treatment of individual cases is usually hampered by the lack of early diagnosis. If the specific inciting cause or causes can be identified, they must be corrected if possible. The ration should be evaluated to determine if it contains adequate vitamin K to support blood coagulation and to make sure that the feed is not being ground too finely (one of the primary, if not the primary causes of gastric ulcers in swine). Pelleted rations should be avoided in problem herds and at least 30 percent coarsely ground oats could be included in rations of problem herds. Transportation of sows in late gestation should be avoided and possible overcrowding of animals should be corrected, if this is a problem. Adequate ventilation and other factors important to animal comfort must be considered. If this is a confinement operation, it may be helpful if foundation breeding stock can be obtained from herds that have previously used confinement successfully.

7. Grazing Sticks Available –

Grazing sticks are handy tools that simplify the tasks of when to rotate animals on and off a pasture to graze, measuring pasture yield, and tracking changes in productivity. These are all critical aspects of good pasture management.

Grazing sticks are a simple and useful tools for making immediate pasture management decisions, but also good records of pasture yield, grazing days, and other data will provide a means to evaluate past efforts to improve the system.

The grazing stick is a quick guide, so carry the stick with you whenever you check animals or move fences: you can quickly assess pasture regrowth and readiness for grazing. You will see the suggested starting height for grass species on the stick for height when to graze which ensures that forage is in a high-quality vegetative stage, and when to stop grazing height that ensures that some leaf tissue is available for grass regrowth. Removal of basal leaves will slow grass regrowth and limit yield. If pastures are growing quickly in the spring, you may need to harvest or clip them to keep them productive and in a high-quality condition.

There are grazing sticks available for purchase.
If you wish to have one of these grazing sticks – please call or E-mail me for details! These are Great Management Tools!

8. Meat Handling & Cutting Workshop
Cooperative Extension In Rockingham County will be holding a Meat Workshop on June 1st at the Rockingham County Agricultural Center from 1-4pm.
There will be a registration fee of $20 for this workshop.

At this workshop we will have a Meat Cutting Demonstration & Discussing things such as:
Perceptions or Misconceptions of the Meat industry,
Food Safety Common Calls
Meat Myths Meat Quality
Freezing Packaging
Handling Meat for Market

We will also have time allotted for Questions & Answers.

Go ahead & make plans to attend this workshop. Space Will Be Limited to 50 participants.
To reserve your place for this event, fill out the registration form and turn in your $20 fee.


From: Mike Waldvogel and Patty Alder, Extension Entomology

Clover mites are quite common at this time of year. The adults are visible to the unaided eye and are dark reddish color with their front pair of legs noticeably longer than the other legs and other held out in front giving the appearance of “feelers”. Immatures are a brighter red color. High populations of clover mites can cause some damage to lawns, clover and a few other plants, but the major problem is typically more the “nuisance factor” of the mites coming indoors. There is some anecdotal evidence that overuse of high-nitrogen fertilizers may increase the incidence of clover mite problems. This isn't to say that this is common but certainly the pursuit of the perfect lawn often leads people to over apply fertilizer. This is a good opportunity to tell people about the value of getting soil samples tested BEFORE they spend a
A wad of money on bags of fertilizer that may not be the appropriate type and/or may not even be necessary for their lawn. Also remind people that the red color in the clover mites is a pigment (they’ll find that out anyway when they squish some mites indoors and they get that nice red stain). We do get a few callers who assume that the mites are blood-sucking parasites.

Indoors, control options are limited in terms of spraying. Most of the problems are typically around windows and doors. Spraying the window ledges will help for a while. Any of the common household insecticides should help but please remind people, particularly those with small children, to think twice about the idea of treating exposed surfaces where they or their children may rest their arms while looking out the window. A vacuum cleaner may do just as adequately indoors. We prefer that any pesticide applications be focused on outdoor areas to keep out the little red invaders. Treatments should target areas around the window/door frames, the foundation (the lower 18") and about 2 to 4 feet of the soil out from the foundation. In these cases, you can use any of the common pyrethroid insecticides (those containing cyfluthrin, bifenthrin and lambda-cyhalothrin are examples). Remind callers to read the product labels first because most of the recently-manufactured pyrethroid products will have labels limiting the use of product, except in very targeted amounts (no more broad exterior treatments of buildings). Particularly with the drier weather we’ve had, soil treatments require far more water than structural treatments so that you get thorough saturation. A garden hose sprayer probably works best in these situations.

Another non-chemical management practice for clover mites is to keep an 18 to 24" vegetation-free zone immediately adjacent to foundation. You can have ornamentals in this area (although shrubs should be out further than that), but not grass, weeds or organic mulch. Decorative gravel works well in these situations. This approach is not 100% guaranteed to work, but it is somewhat preferable to all-out chemical warfare. The problem typically stops in about 7 to 10 days, which is still longer than most people’s patience endures.
For more information about clover mites go to:  

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10. Flintrock Farm
Flintrock Farm Schooling Hunter Series - April 21st - 9:00am
www.flintrockfarm.com for more information  For class sheets, entry forms and more information... www.flintrockfarm.com

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11. Cooler Horsemanship Trail Sessions and Clinics
Need to build your horse’s confidence outside the arena and on the trail? Want better control while riding in a group? Join us at Fiore Farms for our Trail Sessions.
Saturday April 21st, 1pm - 4pm
Saturday May 19th, 9am - 12pm
Have a group that wants to do a Trail Session, contact us to schedule a date.

April 27-29 - Weekend Horsemanship Clinic at Fiore Farms
Friday evening overview/demo - 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday Clinic - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Auditors welcome: $5 for Friday overview, $15/day, or $25/for entire weekend

May 25-27 - Weekend Horsemanship Clinic at Fiore Farms
Friday evening overview/demo - 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday Clinic - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Auditors welcome: $5 for Friday overview, $15/day, or $25/for entire weekend
www.CoolerHorsemanship.com for more info on all upcoming events.
kate@coolerhorsemanship.com  This e-mail address is being protected from spambots.
You need JavaScript enabled to view it , 843-304-3407
Fiore Farms, 7600 Millbrook Road, Summerfield, NC 27358

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12. Piedmont Saddle Club Open Fun Show will be held on April 21st, 2012 at 9 a.m. Please visit: www.piedmontsaddleclub.org for classlist and directions.
Admission is $5/person (children 10 and under are free) and $5/horse. There are no class fees, casual attire, prizes and ribbons given to all classes.

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13. Fun Show at Flintrock Farm on May 5, 2012 from 9:30 to 4:30. Divisions include Over Fences, English, Western, Therapeutic and
Fun classes. New this year is high point champion and reserve champion ribbons for each performance and age division. Grilled hotdogs and hamburgers concessions will be on site. $7/class or $50 all day. All proceeds go to benefit HorseFriends Therapeutic Riding Program! For more information please visit www.horsefriendsnc.org. The Event and class list can be found at https://www.facebook.com/events/291348067606249/

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 or 342-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.
MANAGE YOUR PASTURES!
Please let me know if you have hay to sell!

15. SWAP SHOP
- Pine SHhavings, etc. – 2.8 cuft compressed plastic bags, easy to pick, no waste, easy to store $ 4.50 + tax per bag. Contact Terri C. Aprile @ (336) 698-0207 shoponys@gmail.com
- Equine Sports Massage Theraphy – Certified since 1994 from Equissage. I will come to your farm for appointments. Contact Terri C. Aprile @(336) 698-0207 shoponys@gmail.com
- Riding Apparel For Sale - English (saddle seat-suits, day coats, shirts, jodphurs, ties/silk cumber bun sets & hunt seat-shirts, ties) & Western clothes, misc. tack, etc. Contact Terri C. Aprile @ (336) 698-0207 shoponys@gmail.com
- some folks are looking at the opportunity to raise and care for hens in a school courtyard. They have a chicken coop already built, and are looking for 4-5 egg layers. If you have some, please let Ben know. Thanks

17. Take A Load Off –
I need your clean Jokes, so please send em to me! -

Red Skeleton's Tips for a Happy Marriage
1. Two times a week, we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, then comes good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays, I go on Friday
2. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in Ontario and mine is in Tucson.
3. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.
4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen.
5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster, and electric bread maker. Then she said, "There are too many gadgets, and no place to sit down!" So I bought her an electric chair.
7. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburetor. I asked where the car was, she told me, "In the Lake."
8. She got a mud pack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.
9. She ran after the garbage truck, yelling, "Am I too late for the garbage?" The driver said, "No, jump in!"
10. Remember. Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.
11. Statistically, 100% of all divorces start with marriage.
12. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always.
13. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her.
14. The last fight was my fault. My wife asked, "What's on the TV?" I said, "Dust!"

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 Newsletters!*****

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.

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