

Weekly Pile for the Week of July 4 2011

Howdy Horse E-mailers,

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of July 4, 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. Hot weather & Electrolyte Supplementation
2. Forage Management Tips
3. Horse Welfare
4. You Asked
5. Livestock Getting Out
6. Yellowjackets
7. More Bugs - Earwigs & Bee Flies

8. Tractor Safety Tips
9. First Annual Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Advisory Golf Tournament
10. Ag Biz Planner Program
11. Hay Directory
12. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available
13. Take A Load Off –

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1. Hot weather & Electrolyte Supplementation

Many people think their horse needs electrolytes during the summer. Provided the horse is conditioned properly and is consuming a properly balanced diet, supplemental electrolytes probably are not necessary. However, during extremes of temperature and humidity, the horse may need an electrolyte solution, but it should not be needed or given on a daily basis. If you think a solution is needed, make sure the horse has a choice between the solution and plain water. A horse that is working hard and sweating profusely will be able to maintain its electrolyte balance provided it is fed a balanced diet, has unlimited water, and is conditioned properly. Neither diet nor supplemental electrolytes will prevent symptoms if the horse has been inadequately trained or conditioned. A properly conditioned horse will sweat more efficiently, losing less electrolytes per volume of sweat. The kidney is thought to become more efficient in conserving electrolytes as the horse becomes conditioned. Use electrolytes when you think your horse may be experiencing electrolyte depletion. This may occur even in the conditioned horse when the sum of the temperature and humidity exceeds 150.

Commercial electrolyte solutions are available, but a simple solution can be made of one part limestone (CaCO₃) and two parts light salt (NaCl/KCl mix). This mix should be added at the

rate of four tablespoons per gallon of water. It is important to offer the horse two buckets of water, one with the electrolyte solution, and the second with plain fresh water. Commercial electrolytes that contain bicarbonates should not be used for the exhausted, sweating, and dehydrated horse. These types of electrolytes are designed for use in diarrheal diseases and will only aggravate the problem in exhausted horses.

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2. Forage Management Tips - July - August -September *With poor growing conditions, it is so important to get the maximum use of available grass, utilize cross fencing. This will stretch out your forage and decrease wastage. IT WORKS! *A late planting of summer annuals may be made to extend forage supply *Take soil samples for fall plantings. Come by and pick up your free soil sample boxes and sheets. *Finish grazing cool season grasses before grazing warm season. *Apply nitrogen to warm-season grasses after each cutting (or 4 to 6 weeks) *Graze bermudagrass to a 2-4 inch stubble and harvest excess every 4-6 weeks. *Control weeds *Be aware of potential of Nitrate & Prussic Acid poisoning from animals if grazing stunted, highly fertilized summer annuals, *In August, prepare for fall plantings and fertilizer applications. *Keep good forage records. *Drag pastures to spread manure *Be cautious of combustion - Hay Fires - Hay in round bales should not contain no more than 18% moisture and square bales no more than 20%.

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3. I saw this and thought I would share.

Horse Welfare: Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences from Cessation of Domestic Slaughter

<http://www.gao.gov/Products/GAO-11-228>

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4. You Asked:

A. What is the relationship between grazing on pasture and laminitis?

- Stephanie Valberg, DVM and Paul Peterson, PhD, U of Minnesota

One of the factors that can predispose horses to laminitis is the rapid intake of nonstructural carbohydrates (sugars and starches). Intake of starches or fructans (a sugar) stored in pasture can cause laminitis. Fructans are the primary reserve carbohydrate stored in cool season grasses like fescue and bluegrass. Grazing management is important for horses predisposed to laminitis (often ponies and overweight horses). This includes limiting grazing during the times of day when fructans are at their highest level in grasses. Generally, horses predisposed to laminitis should graze in the evening and over night and be inside or in dry lots during daylight hours. Grazing should also be limited during times of environmental stress on plants such as drought or cool temperatures. Rotational grazing is recommended where regrowth is limited to 4 to 6". It is important not to over graze pastures as the lowest stems often contain the highest amount of sugar. Avoid grazing on pastures with lots of seed heads as they also contain high amounts of sugar.

B. How can you protect horses from ticks. Can you just pour on, or inject, Ivomec.

Given horse skin can be quite sensitive, it is best to stay ON LABEL! I think there are oral pastes of ivermectin (and moxidectin), which will produce blood titers high enough to kill feeding ticks. I am less sure about pour-ons for horses. If one were worried about ticks on horses, my advice would be to keep them out of areas where ticks will be abundant. These would be densely vegetated (tall grass, shrubby ground) habitats. Dry paddocks and grazed pastures inside fences should not be a problem. Before riding into such areas, dose legs with a permethrin-based product (again, only if formulated for use on horses), which will repel ticks before they get attached.

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5. Livestock Getting Out -

If you own livestock, animals will get out of fences from time to time. It's going to happen. It is during these times when animals are out that it can

be difficult locating the livestock owner to let them know their animals are out.

Good fencing protects and confines valuable livestock by presenting barriers that restrict animal movement. When livestock or horses get out on the highway, it can be deadly - both for the animals and the drivers on the road. Law enforcement & Animal Control officers will tell you that animals get out fairly often in our area. This may be due animals being frightened and running through fences, occasionally lacking fence maintenance or a opened gate. Most of the time during storms, trees and limbs fall onto fences & provides the easy escape route.

Storm season is here and according to Scott Greene, Director of Animal Control in Guilford County, “Our calls have increased for livestock being loose & in the road. The Goal for Animal Control is to get the livestock out of the road and back to their owner as quickly as possible. We do not want to house livestock because of price to transport and keeping them up”.

In an effort to assist Animal Control in locating livestock owners, Ben Chase, Livestock Agent in Rockingham & Guilford Counties, is mapping where animals are located. The goal of this mapping project is when an animal is out, we can look at this map and contact those in that area that have been mapped to help identify animal owner. This will hopefully, help in getting animal back to where it belongs in a timely manner and help avoid fines and penalties.

This is a huge under taking, and it can not be done without the assistance of livestock owners. So, what is needed from livestock owners is to come by the Ag Center at 3309 Burlington Road and fill out a SHORT form with your contact information, and you will indicate on a Guilford County Property Map the location (s) of your animals. This will be of GREAT benefit, in assisting animal control if an animal is loose, or if a disaster was to strike an area of the county. Up until now, there has not been any way of identifying where this animal may have come from, or knowing what animals may be affected in the event of a disaster. This mapping project will assist us in doing that!

Scott Greene said “Guilford County Animal Control is really making an effort to work with the farm community and we want them to work with us. Recently we had two successful (getting animals back to owner) cattle

calls but neither were on the map and it took longer to find the owner than if they were documented”.

If you have questions about this effort, please contact Ben Chase, Livestock Agent in Rockingham & Guilford County with North Carolina Cooperative Extension at 800-666-3625 or ben_chase@ncsu.edu

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6. Yellowjackets

Yellowjacket nests start from scratch each spring, as they do not reuse old nests. The nests are probably at their largest around the end of July. Wasps and yellow jackets are great predators of other flying insects and caterpillars.

Be aware of the potential for yellowjacket nests around shrubs and when mowing the lawn & mowing Hay. Undisturbed "natural" areas in the landscape are good spots for them. They generally nest in the ground in loose-rooted areas at the base of shrubs and trees or below-ground rotted wood. Once-containerized plants that are now in the landscape often have voids where the media has degraded away. If the nest poses a stinging threat to humans or pets, control may be appropriate. Spray an aerosol hornet and wasp insecticide directly into the entrance hole at night. Don't use gasoline for a bunch of reasons! (Besides, it is too expensive.) Yellowjacket traps that are sold in stores (or homemade) have not been shown to be effective in North Carolina, though they make great conversation pieces in the yard.

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7. More Bugs - Earwigs & Bee Flies

**From: Patty Alder, Training Coordinator, Department of Entomology
Earwigs**

Earwigs get their name from a European superstition that these insects enter the ears of a sleeping person and bore into the brain. While earwigs may cause alarm because of their “pincers,” rest assured they do not enter people’s ears!

Earwigs are elongate, flattened insects that may be light red-brown to black in color. They are easily recognized by their forcep-like appendages (cerci) on the end of the abdomen. The size and shape of the cerci vary between species and between males and females. If wings are present, the first pair is hard and very short. Immature earwigs (nymphs) are similar

to adults and will have a white to olive-green appearance and do not have wings.

Earwigs can move about readily and often hitchhike in laundry baskets, cut flowers, luggage, newspapers, cardboard boxes, lumber, baskets of fruits and vegetables, etc. They require moist, cool places and are usually found in damp crawl spaces or basements, flower gardens near the home, in mulches, compost piles and trash, under boards, and in woodpiles.

During dry, hot weather, earwigs sometimes migrate indoors. They are active primarily at night and are often found around lights. They feed on mosses, lichens, algae, fungi, insects, spiders and mites, both dead and alive. Some earwigs are predators, feeding on aphids, while others feed on living plants and may become pests in greenhouses and on certain crops such as vegetables, fruits, ornamentals, forages and field plants.

Management - Earwigs are attracted to light. Reduce lighting around doors, windows, and other potential entry sites. For exterior lighting, use sodium vapor yellow lights, which attract fewer insects compared to white, neon, halide, or mercury vapor lights.

Earwigs need and are attracted to moisture around buildings, particularly when the weather turns hot and dry. High populations may be present around foundations, in landscaped areas, in mulch, under boards, etc. Eliminate damp, moist conditions in crawl spaces, around exterior water spigots, air-conditioning units, and along building foundations. Rain gutters and downspouts should carry water away from the foundation. If possible, use a 12 to 18 inch gravel border around the foundation wall. Use caulk to seal up possible entry points, especially at ground level.

Earwigs can be trapped indoors with ordinary sticky traps placed under sinks or other such areas where earwigs have been seen.

Earwigs are easily killed by residual insecticide treatments. Indoors, focus on cracks and crevices where earwigs might hide. Any indoor treatments should supplement pesticide applications outdoors since earwigs do not typically become established indoors, except in areas of high moisture.

Outdoors, you can treat 18 to 24 inches of the foundation wall and possibly a 3 to 6 foot band around the building adjacent to the foundation to stop or limit earwig invasions. There are also some granular baits that can be used

outdoors for earwigs, crickets, and cockroaches. If you plan to use baits, do not treat these areas with insecticides, so that the bait is not contaminated.

Bee Flies

Large bee flies (*Bombylius* spp.) are 1/4 to 1/2 inches in length. They are quite hairy and resemble bumble bees at first glance. Their mouthparts are slender and beaklike, almost as long as the body. Adult bee flies are often found around homes and other structures with ornamental flowers and gardens. Large bee flies feed on nectar and are often seen hovering next to the plant they are feeding on. They usually rest two legs (front or hind) on the flower while feeding.

Bee fly larvae are parasites of solitary wasps and bees. Bee flies are often seen hovering in mid-air motionless as they wait for a female solitary bee. The female bee fly follows a solitary bee species from a flower to her nest. The bee fly waits for the solitary bee to depart, and then lays her eggs in the nest entrance. The larvae of the bee fly feed on the larvae of the solitary bee, pupate in the nest, and emerge as adults in early summer.

No control measures are needed for large bee flies as they do not invade homes nor do they sting. Upon closer inspection, the long, slender beak usually clues people in that they are not dealing with a bumble bee.

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8. Tractor Safety Tips

- Never start the tractor from the ground; always be in the seat - Do not start the tractor by using the bypass starting procedures.- Keep your tractor in good repair- No seat, no rider.- Check lights and double-check that the slow moving vehicle emblem is visible- Make sure the PTO master shield is in place - Wear your seat belt if your tractor is equipped with a Rollover Protective Structure (ROPS) Most tractors can be retrofitted with a ROPS. Consult your local dealer- To prevent rollover, avoid depressions, do not drive too close to a ditch bank; use proper hitch points; use caution while on steep areas; and avoid excessive speeds while turning- When working with PTO implements, turn the tractor off to perform maintenance and remove the key- Be aware of all vehicular traffic and bystanders.

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9. 2011 First Annual Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Advisory Golf Tournament

The 2011 First Annual Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Advisory Golf Tournament will be held on July 20, 2011, at Wolf Creek Golf Club, 722 Wolf Island Road, Reidsville, NC.

Proceeds from the golf tournament will help establish an endowment fund for the support of our Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Agents in their program costs. Extension Agents play a vital role in areas such as Food Safety, Youth Development and Leadership Skills, Crop/Livestock Production, and Local Food Opportunities. According to Mark Davis, Chair of the Extension Advisory Leadership, “Cooperative Extension in Rockingham County provides education and resources available to every citizen.”

Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Center gives our county's residents easy access to the resources and expertise of NC State University and NC A&T State University. Through educational programs, publications, and events, Cooperative Extension agents deliver unbiased, research-based information to Rockingham County citizens.

The Golf Tournament event is hosted by the NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. in conjunction with the Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Advisory Leadership Council. For sponsorship opportunities and to sign up players teams, please contact the Rockingham County Cooperative Extension office at 336-342-8230, or contact Brenda Sutton, County Extension Director Brenda_sutton@ncsu.edu or Mark Davis mhdavis@ncgrange.com

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**10. Carolina Farm Credit Now Accepting Applications for Ag Biz Planner Program
Maggie Hamm, CAROLINA FARM CREDIT,**

Statesville, NC – Carolina Farm Credit is now accepting applications for the third class to participate in an e-learning financial and business planning course. The Ag Biz Planner curriculum includes financial and business planning, budgeting and other money matters essential to a farm’s success.

Carolina Farm Credit is offering the Farm Credit University on-line program in conjunction with the Farm Credit Associations in North Carolina and Virginia including AgCarolina Financial, Cape Fear Farm Credit, Farm Credit of the Virginias, and Colonial Farm Credit. Participants will have the opportunity to chat and benchmark with producers from the other associations throughout the program and network at a conference at the conclusion of the program in Raleigh, NC. Farm Credit’s e-learning program targets young, beginning, small, and minority farmers throughout the state. Participants will be assigned a Carolina Farm Credit loan officer to serve as their mentor throughout the course. Highlights of the program include modules that cover business and personal financial planning, understanding income statements, cash flow, and the smart use of credit on the farm. Each participant will have completed a business plan for their operation at the conclusion of the class.

Carolina Farm Credit will accept up to five participants for the program which will begin in October 2011 and run through March 2012. Applications, a course outline, and program information are available at www.carolinafarmcredit.com.

Applications will be accepted through September 1, 2011. Individuals selected for the program will be notified after September 15. The course will conclude with a group conference in Raleigh, NC March 19-20, 2012.

Tuition for Ag Biz Planner is \$500: Carolina Farm Credit will pay \$250 and upon acceptance into the program, each participant will be asked to pay one half of the tuition (\$250). \$150 will be refunded to the participant upon successful completion of the 10 modules and presentation of their business plan. Carolina Farm Credit will also cover hotel meal and speaker fees during the final conference in Raleigh. Each participant will be responsible for their own transportation to the meetings.

Carolina Farm Credit is a stockholder-owned cooperative providing short, intermediate, and long-term financing to full and part-time farmers and agricultural-related businesses and also provides financing for the construction and purchase of homes in 54 counties through 36 service centers. Other financial services available are credit life insurance, crop insurance, appraisal services, leasing programs and financial planning.

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11. 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!

WHEN YOU HAVE CUT HAY AND HAVE SOME TO SELL, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!!

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12. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available FOR SALE – 3 nice trail horses. 2 Palomino QH geldings and 1 red dun QH Mare. Call for more information. Elizabeth Cell 336-613-0932 or email ejorsey@bellsouth.net

4 Sale - Very Nice 2005 Twister Alum. 3H Slant load Horse Trailer with full LQ. 7'6 Tall drop down windows on all sides 8 wide 8 long. Cactus interiors. Like New Asking \$45,000 Please call Beverly at 336-420-6146 Can send pictures.

- Pasture Board Plus - 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 or larknspursandy@bellsouth.net.

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13. Take A Load Off – Things To Try At Wal-Mart When You Are Bored!

- 1. Go into the dressing room and yell real loud..."Hey, we're out of toilet paper in here!"**
- 2. Set all the alarm clocks to go off at ten minute intervals throughout the day.**
- 3. Make a trail of orange juice on the floor, leading to the rest rooms.**
- 4. Walk up to an employee and tell him in an official tone, "I think we've got a Code 3 in house wares," and see what happens.**
- 5. Tune all the radios to a polka station; then turn them all off and turn the volumes to "10."**
- 6. Challenge other customers to duels with tubes of gift wrap.**
- 7. Put M&M's on layaway.**
- 8. Move "Caution: Wet Floor" signs to carpeted areas.**
- 9. Set up a tent in the camping department; tell others you'll only invite them in if they bring pillows from Bed and Bath.**
- 10. When someone asks if you need help, begin to cry and ask, "Why won't you people just leave me alone?"**

11. Look right into the security camera, and use it as a mirror while you pick your nose.
12. Take up an entire aisle in Toys by setting up a full scale battlefield with G.I. Joes vs. the X-Men.
13. Ask other customers if they have any Grey Poupon.
14. While handling guns in the hunting department, suddenly ask the clerk if he knows where the anti-depressants are.
15. Switch the men's and women's signs on the doors of the rest rooms.
16. Dart around suspiciously while humming the theme from "Mission Impossible."
17. Set up a "Valet Parking" sign in front of the store.
18. In the auto department, practice your "Madonna" look with various funnels.
19. Hide in the clothing racks and when people browse through, say things like "pick me! pick me!!"
20. If the store has a food court, buy a soft drink; explain that you don't get out much, and ask if they can put a little umbrella in it.

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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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