Weekly Pile for Week of May 16 2011

Hey Everyone,

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of May 16, 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. Boarding Horses
2. Send Your Info In
3. Equine Herpes Virus (EHV)
4. Frequently Asked Questions about Equine Herpes virus -1 (EHV)
5. You Asked - Do Parasitoids (parasitic wasp/flies) work?
6. Keys to Successful Fire Ant Baiting
7. A Word from Farm Service Agency
1. Boarding Horses

Private & Business Budgets are all very tight. During times like these everyone is trying to save or make money where they can. This week I have received numerous questions about Boarding Horses. It seems that folks are either looking at moving from where their horses are to save money or looking into trying to take in a few bucks by boarding for others. Questions ranged from the perspective of starting a Boarding Operation to Where can I Board My Horse and what should be required?

These questions are all very valid and there are many things to consider. Below are just a few things that you should think about as well as a few web sites that may prove useful.

Boarding Contracts
By: Milt Toby, JD

No one wants to add complication and aggravation to a business or pleasure activity, and for many horse enthusiasts, the use of written boarding contracts is viewed as providing more hassle than benefit. After all, you might think, what is the worst thing that can happen to me if I continue to do business as usual, without written agreements with my boarders? For starters, you might be responsible for a hefty veterinary bill that a reluctant client refuses to pay, you might have to absorb unpaid board bills with no legal recourse, or you might face lawsuits arising from a variety of situations.

Utilizing written boarding contracts will not protect you from everything that might go wrong; nothing can do that. Proper use of well-drafted written contracts can allow you to predict the outcome when something unexpected happens. Being surprised might be a treat on your birthday, but the fewer surprises you have to face where your farm and horses are concerned, the better off you are.

A contract is nothing more than a set of promises between the parties, a promise by one person to do something in return for a second person's promise to do something
else. A valid contract either can be written or oral. It can be as simple as an agreement between two people outlined on a cocktail napkin, or as complicated as a multi-page, multi-party document crammed to the four corners with incomprehensible fine-print legalese. A valid contract creates legal obligations between the parties, and allows for enforcement in court if the contract is broken.

The value of a valid, enforceable contract is that it allows the parties to avoid surprise in the event a business transaction does not proceed as planned. While even a professionally drafted contract cannot anticipate every potential problem, a well-drafted contract should cover the problems most likely to occur. Consider the following scenario:

You have been involved in the horse business for several years, as a competitor, owner, and small-scale breeder. You presently own three horses, which you keep on your small farm a few miles from town. One of your spouse's co-workers, a secretary, has just bought her first horse, a gelding intended for trail riding, and she wants to board the animal on your farm. Although you are not in the business of boarding horses, you agree, because the extra money will come in handy. You and the owner come to a mutual understanding, and she agrees that while the horse is at your farm, she will be responsible for several expenses--board, including feed and a safe stall; veterinary care; and blacksmith services. You agree to notify the horse's owner before incurring any non-emergency expenses.

You and the boarder have entered into a contract. You have promised to provide boarding services, for which the owner has promised to pay. The owner also has agreed to pay for certain out-of-pocket expenses. As we will see later, there are several other important terms that you and the boarder have not covered.

A few months later, when you are making a final check of the barn before turning in for the evening, you notice that the new horse is showing some signs of colic. He appears nervous, he is sweating, and he is nipping at his flank. The situation does not appear critical, though, and you attempt to contact the horse's owner before calling the veterinarian.

The owner is not available, and the horse's condition appears to be getting worse. You call your regular veterinarian, who diagnoses the condition as a potentially serious colic and recommends immediate surgery. Still unable to contact the horse's owner, you authorize the surgery, which saves the animal's life. The bill for the surgery and post-operative care amounts to several thousand dollars, which the veterinarian bills directly to the owner at your instruction.

At this point, one of two things will happen. Either the owner pays the veterinarian's bill (with or without attendant grumbling), or she refuses, and the veterinarian looks to you for payment.

This relatively common situation illustrates two important points about contracts. First, if everything proceeds as expected--you incur expenses on behalf of the owner
in an emergency, and the owner pays the bill when it arrives--the contract will have no practical impact. Because the expectations of both parties were satisfied, neither party should have any complaints. In other words, no one is surprised by the outcome.

If, on the other hand, one of the parties fails to perform as promised, the value of a contract becomes obvious. Say, for example, that the owner balks at paying what she calls a "ridiculous" veterinary bill for unnecessary and unauthorized surgery, a not unlikely reaction from a first-time horse owner with limited disposable income. The veterinarian, naturally, looks to you for payment. You pay the bill to preserve a good relationship with the veterinarian, who happens to be the only veterinarian with equine expertise within 50 miles, then seek reimbursement from the owner.

The boarding contract between you and the owner sets out the responsibilities and obligations of both parties. In this example, your responsibility to attempt to notify the owner in an emergency situation and the owner's obligation to pay the veterinarian's bill. If you must go to court in an attempt to force the owner to reimburse you for the bill, the judge or jury will have a basis for allocating the cost of the surgery. In this case, the terms of the contract indicate that the owner of the horse is responsible for the veterinarian's bill. Without an agreement of some kind, however, your chances of forcing the reluctant owner to pay are small.

Put It In Writing
This leads to the second important principle regarding contracts. While any contract is better than no contract, a written contract is best. In the example above, the boarding contract should be valid and enforceable whether it was an oral agreement between you and the owner, or whether the agreement was memorialized in writing and signed by the parties.

The advantage of a written contract is that neither the existence of the contract nor its terms are in doubt. In the case of an oral contract, however, the first step to enforcing the agreement in court often involves simply proving that the contract actually existed, and if it did exist, that the terms of the agreement are as you claim. This can be a difficult task months, or years, after the fact, when memories have faded and interests have changed. No matter how reasonable your actions in the above example, you might find yourself on the paying end of a large veterinary bill for someone else's horse if you must rely on an oral agreement to prove that the owner really is responsible for the care you authorized on her behalf.

Horse business traditionally has been conducted with nothing more than a handshake binding the parties. That probably never was sound practice, and the following rule of thumb should be followed--if a particular outcome of a business transaction is important to you, or if the effect of an unexpected problem would be unacceptable, you should have a written contract with the other party.

There is no such thing as a "one size fits all" contract. Each contract represents a particular business transaction, and the terms of the contract should be tailored to
the transaction's individual circumstances. A properly drafted boarding contract should address different concerns than a contract for leasing a competition horse, for example, and the respective contracts should be drafted with the particular transaction in mind. Even a comprehensive contract might have to be modified, based on the requirements of a particular boarding transaction.

There are a number of elements that should be included in all boarding contracts, and you should be familiar with them whether you are working with your attorney in drafting a contract, attempting to customize a generic fill-in-the-blanks contract from a book, or simply considering whether to sign a contract prepared by someone else.

Boarding contracts generally are prepared by, and for the benefit of, farm owners, but this is not always the case. Many boarding farms do not use written contracts, and in those situations it is the responsibility of the horse owner to insist on a written contract. You, as a boarder, have a right to be protected by a written agreement, and you can, and should, insist on one.

Identify The Parties
Every contract should identify by name, address, and contact number the persons or businesses that are parties to the agreement. If one, or both, of the parties is a business, the contract should also include a statement that the person executing the contract actually has authority to act on behalf of the business he or she represents.

Identify The Horse
Any time a horse is the subject of a contract, whether for boarding, leasing, sale or purchase, or breeding, the animal should be clearly identified in the written agreement. The reasons for this requirement should be obvious, because misidentifications can, and do, happen. The description should be sufficient to easily identify the horse in question, and should include color, markings, breed, sex, age, any registration number tattoos or freeze brands, and scars or other distinctive points. A photograph can be attached to the contract to make it easier to separate one "bay, no white" from another.
It also is important to record in detail the physical condition of the animal, as well as indications of previous injury. This should be done before you assume responsibility for the animal, for the same reason that prudent customers carefully examine a rental car for dents and scratches and report them to the rental agent before driving the car away from the rental lot.
Any tack or other equipment accompanying the horse also should be listed and identified to avoid later disputes about ownership of those items.

Who Pays What, When, And How Much?
Board charges can be calculated on a per day or per month basis. The latter is more common, because the monthly bill is not dependent on the number of days in the month and less bookkeeping is required. Per day charges, on the other hand, make it easier to pro rate a bill for a boarder who arrives at the farm or leaves in the middle of a month.
The contract should indicate when the farm will provide a bill to the boarder (every month is standard), and when the bill must be paid. A board bill usually becomes due on the first of every month, with a grace period of a few days before the bill becomes overdue. For the farm's protection, the contract should include a provision allowing the farm to charge interest on overdue bills. The rate, such as 1.5% per month, also should be stated.

The contract should specify which out-of-pocket expenses are the responsibility of the owner. In the example above, the owner assumed responsibility for farrier and veterinary services. For show horses, out-of-pocket expenses might include transportation to shows, instruction at the show grounds, and grooming and braiding charges. Whether out-of-pocket expenses will be paid by the farm and billed to the owner, or billed directly to the owner by the person providing the service, also should be stated in the contract.

Finally, the contract should explain the nature of each bill. For example, the bill due on May 1 could include the board charges for the coming month (requiring a boarder to pay in advance protects the farm), plus any out-of-pocket expenses that were incurred during the preceding month.

Many boarding contracts include the phrase "In consideration of $______ ..." or something similar. In this context, "consideration" is a legal concept that refers to the money paid by the boarder to the farm owner. It represents the inducement for the farm owner to provide the promised boarding services. Consideration of some kind is necessary for a valid contract.

What Do I Get For My Money?

The contract should state that the farm will provide normal and reasonable care, and spell out in detail the services and facilities that the farm is agreeing to provide as part of the board. These can include stall or pasture board, turnout service, exercise, grooming, training, and anything else about which the parties can agree. Whether you are the farm owner or the boarder, it is important to understand what will be provided. Any special instructions relating to the horse's care also should be listed in detail.

Boarding Horses
http://agalternatives.aers.psu.edu/Publications/horses.pdf

Horse Boarding Enterprise

What to Look for in a Horse Boarding Facility
http://umaine.edu/publications/1012e/

*Beginning a Boarding Facility Business*
http://www.gaitedhorses.net/boarding.htm
Can I Make Money Farming?

Farm Business Management Update

Horse Facilities Handbook
http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS?this_category=71&store=413&item_number=1059&form=shared3%2fgm%2fdetail.html&design=413&__session_info__=pzDeOCPJDhFd3KZchEQLhhrGnOZULdeHPi700WHUVrQwijNNUPoHzHql10Gd1%2bjq5XR655b44d%2fgLpyxPE1%2fiNWTYeY4Ul1Y

2. Send Your Info In

Don’t forget to send to me If you Have Not Already done so -

Your Name:
US Mailing Address
County
Phone #
Cell #

This is so I can match up email addresses with US Mailing address, it will save me a whole lot of time. Please help me do this.

Thank You

3. Equine Herpes Virus (EHV)
Shannon Hoffman sent me some current info on Equine Herpesvirus (EHV) and current situation. In past years there have been multiple outbreaks but they have been small and able to be controlled. The latest news releases have stated that an outbreak at a large show in Utah that has spread several cases all over the Western States of the Country.

Here is a link to AAEP information about the disease, how it is spread and how to react it if think your horse may be effected. There is a nice PDF Brochure at the bottom of the page that you can download and read. Other information on http://www.aaep.org/ehv_resources.htm

Stay vigilant and alert, but don't panic and call your Vet with any questions!
(Thanks Shannon)
Q. What is Equine Herpes Virus-1 (EHV-1)?
A. Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) is a contagious viral disease of horses that can cause respiratory disease, abortion and occasionally neurologic disease.

Q. Is there another name for Equine Herpes Virus?
A. Rhinopneumonitis or ‘rhino’. It is a herpes virus that is common among horses.

Q. How is the EHV-1 disease spread?
A. Aerosol (airborne) and fomites (feed, clothing, boots, hands, etc.)

Q. Can EHV-1 spread to humans?
A. No, but people can transport the virus on their clothes, boots, etc.

Q. Can EHV-1 spread to other species of animals?
A. No

Q. What are the clinical signs or symptoms seen with EHV-1?
A. Respiratory disease, abortion and occasionally neurologic disease (lack of coordination, inability to stand, etc)

Q. Are these clinical signs similar to any other equine diseases we have in our horse population?
A. Yes. Equine Influenza Virus may cause respiratory disease, Equine Viral Arteritis may cause abortions, and West Nile Virus may cause neurologic disease.

Q. If my horse has some of the above clinical signs, will I be able to tell which disease he/she may have contracted?
A. No.

Q. Is there a vaccine available to help prevent the spread of EHV-1?
A. Yes, but it doesn’t directly protect against the neurologic form of the disease caused by EHV-1.

Q. My horse is up to date on its vaccinations, including EHV-1, can my horse still be at risk of contracting the disease?
A. It’s possible, but horses that have not been vaccinated are at a much higher risk.

Q. Will EHV-1 affect all of my horses or are some of my horses at more of a risk of contracting the disease?
A. Young, old, weak, high exposure, immune challenged, and stressed horses are more likely to get sick.

Q. How long will it take for my horse to show clinical signs of the disease after her/she has been exposed to the disease?
A. Usually 3-7 days following exposure (range: 2-10 days)

Q. How long can my horse be contagious and potentially spread the disease?
A. Horses can shed the EHV-1 from the onset of clinical signs until 1-2 weeks after the clinical signs are gone. A 21 day quarantine period following the disease is recommended.

Q. How do you test for EHV-1?
A. A blood test is available. Test results will usually take 3-7 days to be completed.

Q. I only have one horse. Do I have to be concerned about my horse contracting EHV-1?
A. Yes, while the virus is spread more readily from horse to horse via infected droplets in the air, on facility surfaces, fences, buckets and a common water source, etc.; there is also the possibility of spreading the disease as a result of droplets being carried on clothes, boots, jackets, etc.

Q. As a horse owner, what should I do to prevent the potential spread of the EHV-1?
A. Horse owners do not need to panic, but should follow appropriate bio-security measures, such as those listed at the end of this article.

Q. What about vaccinations?
A. There are vaccines available to protect horses against EHV-1. Since EHV-1 is a common virus in horses, it is recommended that all horses be vaccinated at least once a year. For horses congregating at shows and competitions, more frequent vaccinations may be recommended. CONSULT YOUR VETERINARIAN to discuss the risk potential and vaccination recommendations for your horse.

Q. What disinfectant(s) are best to use for cleaning my facilities?
A. Generic disinfectants such as bleach, chlorhexidine, quaternary ammonias and others are effective in killing the EHV-1 virus.

Q. I only have a couple horses. Do I have to follow the preventative measures?
A. Yes.

Q. I have an active and full barn of horses that frequently travel through out the state and out of state. What preventative measures should I be practicing to minimize the risk of spreading EHV-1?
A. See the recommendations for isolation and bio-security measures listed at the end of this article. Prior to traveling with your horses, check on the current health status of horses at your final destination.

Q. My farrier is scheduled to come and work on my horses’ feet? Should I still have him/her come or cancel the visit?
A. Have them come unless there is a high level of disease in surrounding barns. Practice the appropriate bio-security measures, regardless of area farm status. If the work is not needed immediately and there is a high level of disease in the area, rescheduling to a later date may be the wisest decision.

Q. If I have new horses coming to the barn, what should I do before they arrive and after they arrive?
A. Your horses should be up to date with their EHV-1 vaccinations. Quarantine/separate the new arrivals for 3 weeks.

Q. We like to trailer to another barn and ride. Can we still do this?
A. While your barn may not be under quarantine, the potential to spread the disease is minimized if horses are not exposed to additional sources of contamination. It is important to still enjoy spending time with your horse, however, by taking the initiative to keep unnecessary travel to a minimum, the potential for spreading EHV-1 will be reduced.

Q. How long should we not travel from barn to barn during an EHV-1 outbreak?
A. No definitive answer can be given as the length of time is dependent on the success of minimizing the EHV-1 outbreak.

**BIO-SECURITIY MEASURES FOR HORSE OWNERS**
- Immediately isolate any sick horses in the barn. Isolate any new horses or horses returning from another location or show for at least 7 days. If horses were exposed to sick horses while away, take further precautions and isolate horses for at least 21 days.
- As the EHV-1 virus can be spread on clothing, all human traffic (clients taking lessons, boarders, visitors, trainers, blacksmiths, veterinarians) should be vigilant about disinfecting boots before entering and leaving a different barn, wearing clothing (ex: jeans, jacket) that have not been worn in another horse barn, and washing hands before handling the horses. At the entrance of the barn, provide a tub of disinfectant and instructions for all to use. Bleach water (1 part bleach to 10 parts water) may be used and should be changed daily. Phenolic based disinfectants will be less effective if a lot of feces and other organic material collects in the tub, so clean out and replace the disinfectant solution regularly.
- Do not rotate horses from stall to stall. Don’t share feed tubs or water buckets among the horses. Inserting a water hose previously submerged in a bucket of a sick horse, can potentially spread a virus.
- Disinfect any areas of the barn that may have been exposed to a sick horse or a horse that is of question, including disposal of all bedding and hay/feed. The above disinfectants can be used. If the stall is needed, allow disinfectant to dry before placing a horse in the same location.
- Always work with the sick horse(s) last in your chore routine and exit the barn without completing any other tasks.
- When possible, separate horses in to small groups to minimize the number of horses that may be exposed, if you do have an infected horse.

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5. You Asked: Do Parasitoids (parasitic wasp/flies) work?

To answer this one must talk about Fly control and understand parasitoids.

One of the biggest problems I encounter on most farms is the method in which surface-applied insecticides are used to control house flies. There are two mistakes that are usually made: 1) placing the spray where it is not effective; and 2) using the least effective formulation. These mistakes may result in the failure of the treatment to control flies. Inappropriate surface treatments can even make the fly problem worse. There are numerous benefits to correcting these kinds of application mistakes. Application of the correct kind of surface spray to the correct target can reduce labor, reduce the costs applying pesticides, and minimize risks to the environment.
Regarding insecticide formulations, most of us don't think much about the formulation we apply to a surface for fly control. It does make a difference, depending on how porous the treated surface might be. Where surfaces are porous (unpainted cement block and wood for example), a wettable powder formulation is generally the best choice. Once dry, wettable powders leave a more uniform residue on these rough, porous surfaces. Emulsifiable concentrates, on the other hand, are absorbed into porous materials and may not be as well distributed over the surface of porous building materials. Emulsifiable concentrates are equally effective on less porous surfaces such as painted blocks, metal and vinyl. Even though wettable powders are as effective in this case, they may be less desirable because they are harder to mix and require constant agitation.

There is one other point to be made about formulations and the type of surface treated. Remember that no matter which formulation is used, rough, porous surfaces will need significantly more spray for thorough coverage than smooth, impervious surfaces. For example, cyfluthrin formulations used for fly and beetle control call for 1 gallon of spray (water) for each thousand square feet of painted plywood surface. Compare that with the recommendation of 2.7 gallons for a thousand square feet of unpainted plywood. Where painted cement block is to be treated, cyfluthrin labels still call for 3.2 gallons of spray per thousand square feet. Treatment of unpainted cement block calls for 36 gallons of spray for each thousand square feet!

Fly sprays also need to be targeted where they'll do the most good. All too often I see surface sprays for fly control applied to every available surface in poultry houses and other livestock buildings. This practice is wasteful and can be dangerous to non-target organisms. Surface sprays in broiler breeder or layer houses, for example, are most successful when treatments aimed at adult flies are kept away from the manure under slats or cages. Indiscriminate treatment of slats and other surfaces where spray drift and runoff covers large areas of manure surface with insecticide should be avoided. Failure to do so makes it certain that the parasites and predators that destroy fly eggs, larvae and pupae will also be killed. A more selective approach to the application of fly sprays significantly reduces this risk and saves both labor and insecticide.

The house fly is the biggest pest around most animal operations, and fortunately, they exhibit a behavior that makes it a relatively simple task to apply surface sprays for control. House flies tend to migrate upward at night. A large percentage will spend the evening resting on rafters and other overhead surfaces. That is the place to direct surface sprays. It is not necessary to spray the entire building from top to bottom, and inside and out. Similarly, treatment under eaves and on the southern or eastern exposures of exterior walls will often yield good results. Southern and
eastern-facing walls are particularly good treatment areas when evening temperatures are cool. Large numbers of flies gravitate to these exposures to warm themselves in the morning.

Using Parasitoids for house and stable flies does work if it is part of a IPM program.

There needs to be
1) sanitation, regular clean up of spilled feed, manure and soiled bedding.
2) Trapping, using fly baits when possible, pheromone traps, sticky ribbons etc.
3) biological control, releasing parasitoids at a rate that will effectively clean up the fly pupae missed in the sanitation effort, Muscidifurax raptor or M. raptorellus work well, also Spalangia nigorenea for Stable flies
4) chemical control is used when absolutely necessary. (Extreme care if method #3 is used)

Parasitoids do not work in pastures very well and are not very good for horn fly or face fly.

Control of many of these type pest require a THOROUGH clean up of the barn area (source removal), followed by THOROUGH application of any type of insecticide that is effective and safe to use around animals (e. g., Tempo [cyfluthrin], Annihilator [deltamethrin], or permethrin; malathion may also be used to good effect). A spray applied at 75 - 100 psi will do a much better job of application than a hand pump sprayer that provides, at best, around 20 psi. The high pressure will do a better job of forcing material into cracks and crevices in and along walls and overhead areas. Equip the sprayer with one or more coarse spray flat fan nozzles. The pressure spray will also knock down the spider webs. If there is any attic space or overhead hay storage in the barn it should be treated as well. A second application of material may be necessary 7-14 days following cleanup and the first treatment. This will help insure that insects in the egg stage during the first treatment will have hatched and be killed by the second treatment before they have a chance to reproduce.

The same treatment approach should be used for the hay storage area when practical. Clean out hay/straw debris first. Treat with MALATHION in this case. There's a 7 day withdrawal period for fodder treated with malathion, but it's perfectly safe for the animals after that interval.

Cyfluthrin (Tempo) is a good broad spectrum material for general pest control around barns. It also has an excellent residual life on interior surfaces. Mix it at the label rate (8 ml of Tempo SC Ultra or 8 g of Tempo WP per 11 qts of water per 1,000 sq. ft. of treated surface). Horses and other animals should be removed from the treatment area before spraying. Animals can be returned as soon as surfaces have dried. Cover all surfaces thoroughly, making sure the material penetrates into as many cracks and crevices as possible. Apply at 30-40 psi. I would say use higher
pressure to push it into cracks and crevices, but the label now pretty much prohibits application as a high-pressure spray. Tempo at the same rate may also be used as a wall void treatment. Just spray the studs and facing wall before the void is closed up.

Tempo treatments have only kill some insects on treated surfaces when first applied. This provides some control for a few days, but insects may emerge from hiding. Many may not be killed immediately upon contact with the Tempo.

STABLE FLIES

FLY CONTROL FOR HORSES
http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/alamance/staff/pwalker/Horse%20News.html

Horn Fly and Face Fly Control
http://buncombe.ces.ncsu.edu/content/HornFlyandFaceFlyControl&source=buncombe

INSECTS FOUND IN FORAGE AND PASTURE- Pests on Livestock -

Parasitoids
http://www.dairydaily.com/Articles/Article.cfm?ID=30729

6. Keys to Successful Fire Ant Baiting

* Buy fresh bait and only what you will use up within a short time.

* Do not store bait near other pesticides, fuels or products from which it will absorb odors.

* Do not apply it to wet grass or when rain is expected within 24 hours.

* Do not apply directly on top of a mound. Ants do not forage there.

* Do not disturb the mound. Ants that are rebuilding or defending a nest are not
busy foraging.

* Do not apply bait when the temperatures are too hot or too cold. Perform the "potato chip test" before baiting. That is, in mid-morning before baiting, drop one or two potato chips near a mound. If ants are consuming the potato chips within 20 minutes, it is a good time to apply bait.

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7. A Word from Farm Services -
Due to recent budget cuts in the Federal Government, the Farm Service Agency has indefinitely suspended mailings of County Office newsletters. If you would like to receive Farm Service Agency newsletters/updates by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to
Those in Rockingham County - Neil.Burnette@nc.usda.gov
Those in Guilford County - rodney.speas@nc.usda.gov

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8. Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Advisory Golf Tournament
Date: July 20, 2011
Location: Wolf Creek Golf Club
722 Wolf Island Road, Reidsville

Purpose: To establish an endowment fund for the support of our Rockingham County Extension Agents with program cost as they play a vital role in many ways such as Food Safety, Youth Development and Leadership skills, Crop/Livestock Production, Home Beautification, and Recreational Opportunities – just to name a few benefits given!

Hosted By: NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. In conjunction with Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Service.

Entry Information:
- $200 per team or $50 per player
(Includes green & cart fees, player gift, lunch, closest to the pins & Prizes.)

- Payment MUST accompany completed registration form to reserve your entry.

Event Format:
- Four Person Captain’s Choice

Schedule of Events:
- 7:15 – 8:00 Registration
- 8:00 a.m. Morning Shotgun Start
- 12:00 – 1:00 Afternoon Registration
- 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Shotgun Start
- 5:15 p.m. Prizes & Awards

Tournament Prizes:
- 1st Place $800 team
- 2nd Place $600 team
- 3rd Place $400 team
- 4th Place $200 team

Registration Deadline
Monday, July 18th
SPACE IS LIMITED
Limited to the first 36 teams!!
We will start alternate list after tournament is full.

If you would like more information please call 336-342-8230

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9. Cooler Horsemanship Upcoming Events

May, 21 1:00-3:00pm
Spring Show at Fiore Farms
Experience the Beauty, Power and Spirit of the Horse! Join us as we play with our horses to music and share why horses do what they do. Come see how learning to see things from the horse’s point of view leads to Equine Communication without Boundaries.
Intermission: Martial Arts Demonstration by Allen’s Taekwondo Centers-allensdcs.com
Admission $5.00, children under 16 Free

Weekend Horsemanship Clinic at Fiore Farms: May 27-29
Jump start the communication with your horse this spring.
Limited to 10 participants, reserve your spot now.
Friday evening overview/demo - 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday Clinic - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Auditors welcome - Friday Free. $15/Day or $25/Weekend
Visit www.CoolerHorsemanship.com or Contact us kate@coolerhorsemanship.com, 843-304-3407 for more information about our program and any upcoming events

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10. Open Community Fun Show: June 11th, @ Piedmont Saddle Club in Colfax. No class entry fees; admission $5 per horse, $5 per person (ages 10 & under free). Contact Jenny Taylor 919-323-9910 or
info@piedmontsaddleclub.org. See www.piedmontsaddleclub.org for class list, release form, sponsorship, directions, etc. Sponsorship info contact Carol Merritt 336-312-4149 or ckmerritt@bellsouth.net. Last year's attendance: over 600 people. Concessions on site. Camping with electric hook-up available. Stalls available.

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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

Diamond L Farm is a private and gated 50 acre horse farm in Stoneville, Rockingham County. We have 7 stalls available (which are separate from the main barn and attached to the covered arena) for monthly lease which are 12x12 with mats and fans with a concrete barn aisle. The lease will include full use of the facilities which include the 7 stalls, a covered arena, outside arena, trails, wash stall with hot/cold water, tack and feed room. You supply your own feed/hay and maintain your 7 stalls in your barn. Owners live on the property. Trainers are welcomed but must have references. $2000/month Please call Shelley Lilly at 336-451-3230 for more information or to schedule a visit to the farm.

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 larkspursandy@bellsouth.net.

- Gorgeous, artistic Sterling Silver Horse Head Pin/Pendant. A unique design you won't find anywhere else. This item is retiring and won't be around long... so get yours now while you can. Great price: $52 plus only $4 shipping on your entire order and add 7.75% tax. with silver prices rising you can't beat this value! To order, contact Cindy Van Gorder 336-274-6222, cindyvg@earthlink.net OR order online by visiting: www.MySilpada.com/Cindy.VanGorder. Item is on page 106D in the catalog. Also look for our smaller horse head necklace on page 102C, retiring as well. You might just find other items calling your name too! Take advantage of that $4 on your entire order, no matter how much you spend.

- For Sale - 2002 Horse Trailer, bumper pull, step up, with stabilizer attachment, steel frame, aluminum shell, two horses slanted, tack/changing room, saddle area. Drop down windows w/bars and screens. Lights. Used only few times for local events. Excellent shape. Email Mrs. White (fwhite2@triad.rr.com) and I'll send you a photo. Asking $6,900.

- For Sale - we have five totes of 275 gallons each, used only once. Large opening on top, spigot with valve at bottom. They are in excellent shape and they have the galvanized protective cage with the lift fork set up. Great for water storage. If you are interested, please contact Ms. White @ fwhite2@triad.rr.com or call 336 817 2144.

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13. Take A Load Off – Shampoo Alert

As I was washing my hair in the shower this morning, I took time to read my shampoo bottle. I am in shock. The shampoo I use that runs down my entire body says, "for extra volume and body." Seriously, why have I not noticed this before? Now I understand why I am so "full-figured."

Tomorrow I'm going to start using "Dawn" dish soap. It says right on the label, "dissolves fat that is otherwise difficult to remove."

It pays to read product labels, my friends!

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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 their 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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