

Weekly Pile for Week of September 12 2011

Hello All (Horse E-mailers),

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of September 12, 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.

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. CAUTION – Feeding Locally Raised Corn for Animal Feed
2. Grains for Horses and Their Characteristics
3. Feeding Round Bales to Horses
4. You Asked

5. Equine Eyes

6. Posting Land - New legislation in North Carolina

7. Cooler Horsemanship Activities

8. Buck Brannaman Horsemanship & Cow Working Clinic - September 30 – October 3

9. December 3-4 Holiday Classic Open Horse Show

10. Forest Management Program - September 12 - Rockingham Co Agricultural Center

11. Making Medicine Workshop: Teas, Tinctures and Salves - September 16 - Rockingham Co Agricultural Center

12. HAY DIRECTORY

13. Take A Load Off

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1. CAUTION – Feeding Locally Raised Corn for Animal Feed

If you are growing or purchasing corn locally and feeding to livestock or horses it is highly recommended that you get the corn tested for mycotoxins. Mycotoxins are products of molds, and in corn & many grains, it is a natural process but they are highly toxic to livestock. (Can also be found in hay) Corn grown in our area is known to frequently be high in mycotoxins.

Mycotoxins are not something you can see; they are mostly invisible, tasteless, chemically stable & resistant to temperature and storage. Even during the normal feed manufacturing process mycotoxins can not be destroyed, that is why all commercial feed distributors test grains prior to mixing feed. Commercial feeds are also checked by the Department of Agriculture.

Not as much research has been done on effects of mycotoxins on horses as with other livestock species. In field situations with horses it has been seen that a variety of health problems such as colics, hypersensitivity, neurological disorders, brain lesions & paralysis. It appears top have a cumulative effect if feeding low levels of mycotoxins leading to loss of organ functions. Mycotoxin-related horse deaths are consistently reported throughout the southeastern United States

With horses, the best practice is not to feed moldy hay or grain, ever. Since the horse does not have the same type of digestive system as a cow, what a cow may be able to eat without problem may make a horse colic.

I am not saying it isn't safe to feed local corn, I am saying that you should have the grain tested so to prevent any harmful effects to animals eating it.

To have the grain tested in North Carolina go to the web address listed below for directions or give me a call.

: <http://www.ncagr.gov/fooddrug/forms/documents/ForageForm.pdf>

More information about Mycotoxins:

Mycotoxins in Corn

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/pp/notes/Corn/corn001.htm>

Molds, Mycotoxins and their Effect on Horses

http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/facts/info_mycotoxin.htm

Understanding Fungal (Mold) Toxins (Mycotoxins)

<http://www.extension.org/pages/11815/understanding-fungal-mold-toxins-mycotoxins>

Mycotoxins

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-47.html>

Do not feed moldy hay to horses

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/livestocksystems/M1307.html>

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2. Grains for Horses and Their Characteristics

http://www.cceequine.org/fact_sheets/Grains%20for%20Horses%20and%20Their%20Characteristics.pdf

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3. Feeding Round Bales to Horses - Robert Mowrey, PhD
Extension Horse Commodity Coordinator, North Carolina
Cooperative Extension Service North Carolina State University

[http://www.extension.org/mediawiki/files/5/5f/Selecting, Storing and Feeding Round Hay Bales to Horses.pdf](http://www.extension.org/mediawiki/files/5/5f/Selecting,_Storing_and_Feeding_Round_Hay_Bales_to_Horses.pdf)

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4. You Asked: – Will horses founder on freshly-fertilized pasture?

I was going to fertilize and lime our 6-acre horse pasture, but was advised by a friend not to, as there have been cases of founder linked to over-fertilization and nitrogen left in the soil. I lost a horse last summer to a mysterious case of founder a few months after my pastures were treated. Are the two events related?

Fertilizing and liming pastures is a very important component of pasture management. There is no risk to horses as long as the correct steps are followed as list below:

Soil Testing Pastures - It is always advisable to conduct a soil test on pastures before applying fertilizer so that you are only applying nutrients that are necessary for the forage in your pastures. This should be done every 3 years. A soil test kit can be obtained from here at the Ag Center.

Liming Pastures - Pastures can be limed with ordinary limestone without removing the horses from the pasture. It may be advisable to remove horses from limed pastures until rain has removed the limestone "dust" from the forage leaves, but agricultural lime has no toxic properties.

Fertilizing Pastures

Horses should be removed from pastures when fertilizer is being applied to the pastures. Nitrogen (N) fertilizer is toxic and horses should not be allowed to graze pastures until rain has completely removed all of the fertilizer from the leaf surfaces and carried it into the soil. Ammonium-based nitrogen fertilizers bind to

soil particles but are quickly (within 2-3 days) converted to nitrate nitrogen when the soil is warmer than 50 degrees. Nitrate nitrogen is quickly leached from soil. Generally it takes about ½ inch of rainfall to dissolve the fertilizer. Therefore, as a general rule of thumb, horses should be removed from fertilized pastures and not returned until at least ½ inch of rainfall has occurred and the fertilizer is no longer visible on the soil surface. *Best management practices dictate that after fertilizing pastures, horses should not be returned to the pastures for 2-3 weeks in order to provide ample time for the pasture grasses to grow and recover from grazing.

Sources of nitrogen fertilizer - There are many different chemical and physical forms of nitrogen fertilizer. The nitrogen in urea (46-0-0) is completely water soluble and is readily available to plants upon application to the soil. If ½ inch of rain does not fall after application, significant loss of nitrogen will occur from volatilization. Therefore, urea should be used only if rainfall is imminent. Other sources of nitrogen, including ammonium nitrate and ammonium sulfate as well as complete fertilizers such as 10-10-10 or triple 15 are not subject to volatilization and will remain on the soil surface until rainfall leaches the fertilizer into the ground.

A note of caution: Turf -type fertilizers should not be used for horse pastures since the nitrogen is specially formulated so that it is released very slowly. Slow release fertilizers can exist on the soil surface for several weeks.

Laminitis - As far as laminitis being caused by fertilizers, there is no evidence that pasture grasses that are fertilized correctly cause laminitis. It is important to introduce horses to new pasture slowly since any abrupt change in diet can trigger digestive problems that can result in laminitis. If your horse has foundered in the past, you may want to restrict access to pastures.

Two periods of time to be especially careful in grazing laminitis-prone horses are in spring and fall. If you think back to your biology classes, you will recall that grasses produce sugar through photosynthesis during the day. At night plants use up some of the sugar through respiration. It has long been known that the sugar content of pasture grasses is higher in the afternoon than in the morning. If nighttime temperatures in spring and fall drop below 45 degrees, respiration slows or stops and the sugar remains in the grasses. Fairly high sugar contents can occur in cool season grasses if several cold nights occur in succession and are followed by bright sunny days. This is a normal process that does not affect most horses. However, there is some discussion and research occurring at present to determine whether the high sugar concentration in pasture grasses caused under specific environmental conditions can contribute to laminitis in horses that are predisposed to metabolic problems.

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5. Equine Eyes

Equine Vision and Its Effect on Behavior

http://extension.usu.edu/files/publications/publication/AG_Equine_2005-03.pdf

Horse Vision

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

Practical Horse Psychology

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/G2862>

Horse Handling And Riding Guidelines Part I: Equine Senses

<http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/ag/other/fs9829.pdf>

Equine Vision Poster

http://www.cceequine.org/fact_sheets/Equine%20Vision%20Poster.pdf

Horse Senses

http://www.cceequine.org/fact_sheets/Horse%20Senses.pdf

Equine recurrent uveitis (ERU)

<http://www.extension.org/faq/400>

Glaucoma in Horses

<http://www.horseadvice.com/horse/messages/4/7213.html>

Equine Recurrent Uveitis (glaucoma)

http://www.veterinaryvision.com/dvm_forum/dvm-equine.htm

Equine Recurrent Uveitis

(Chronic Intraocular Inflammation)

http://www.animaleyecare.net/diseases/equine_uveitis.htm

Glaucoma - Merck Vet Manual

<http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/index.jsp?cfile=htm/bc/30300.htm&word=Equine%2cglaucoma>

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6. Posting Land

New legislation enacted this past June pertaining to posting of land to prevent trespass - HB 762 - An Act to Protect Landowner Rights. The entire law can be read at <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2011/Bills/House/PDF/H762v6.pdf>

Please read the entire law, but posting is now easier by using PURPLE PAINT (I've been told you can't find purple spray paint in the stores right now). You can put up signs or spray trees or posts on the boundary with the paint based on specific heights and distances referenced in the law.

If you have friends or neighbors that work for law enforcement, please share this information with them.

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7. Cooler Horsemanship Events

September 25 - One Day Horsemanship Clinic at 4T Stables

3000 Williams Road Lewisville, NC 27023 www.4tstables.com

Sunday Clinic - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Clinic Participants - \$150, Auditor- \$10

Clinic will be split into 2 sessions with 5 participants/session (10 total).

Morning Session: 9am-1pm Afternoon Session: 2pm-6pm

October 7 and 8 - Horsemanship Clinic at Fiore Farms

Friday evening overview/demo - 5:00 - 7:00 pm (October 7th)

Saturday Clinic - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Clinic Participants - \$150 Auditors welcome - Friday Free, \$10/Saturday

Clinic will be split into 2 sessions with 5 participants/session (10 total).

Morning Session: 9am-1pm Afternoon Session: 2pm-6pm

October 15 - Trail Clinic at Fiore Farms

9:00am-1:00pm

Cost is \$100/rider, limited to 7 participants

Colt Starter Challenge 2011

Saturday, November 12, 8 am – 4 pm
Mars Arena, Chatham Hall, Chatham, Virginia
www.sefha.net

www.CoolerHorsemanship.com
kate@coolerhorsemanship.com
[843-304-3407](tel:843-304-3407)

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8. Buck Brannaman Horsemanship & Cow Working Clinic -
September 30 – October 3 – To Be Held at FlintRock Farm – "Horses
and life, it's all the same to me." For more information, or if you are
interested in attending please contact Dottie Davis at [828-891-4372](tel:828-891-4372) and
visit their website at www.brannaman.com This is an Excellent
Opportunity – FlintRock Farm is located off Highway 158 – West of
Reidsville at 221 Flintrock Trail Reidsville, NC
27320. <http://flintrockfarm.com/default.aspx>

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9. December 3-4 Holiday Classic Open Horse Show
Be sure to mark December 3-4, 2011 on your calendars for the Holiday
Classic Open Horse Show in Raleigh. This show has something for
everyone! You can enter the day of the show for an additional fee or
you can postmark your pre registration by November 18 to avoid the
\$10 late fee/horse. This show has amazing trophies and awards! There
are lots of other things happening during this show such as a social on
Friday night, vendors, give-a-ways, consignment shop and silent
auction. All proceeds benefit the Equestrian Western Club at NCSU
and the North Central District 4-H Horse Program. Be sure to check
out the web site at: <http://holidayclassicopenhorseshow.webs.com/>

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10. Forest Management Program
Monday September 12, 2011
6:30pm
Rockingham Co Agricultural Center
525 Hwy 65 Reidsville, NC 27320

Come learn about forest management from start to finish!!!! Dr. Robert Bardon from NCSU will be presenting on practicing forestry while keeping in mind fiscal considerations. This is a good presentation for those already practicing forestry and for those who may be interested in forestry in the future but are not sure about the different fiscal aspects!!!!

Call Kathryn Holmes, Rockingham County Cooperative Extension Agent at 342-8230 for more information

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**11. Making Medicine Workshop: Teas, Tinctures and Salves
Rockingham County Cooperative Extension and RCC
Friday September 16, 2011
5 - 8 pm - Rockingham County Agricultural Center**

Pre-registration required. Space limited to 30 participants. Cost \$25. Make checks payable to Rockingham County and mail or bring to Rockingham County Agricultural Center.

Come learn to create botanical medicine using plants we can grow in our own gardens. This workshop is for the beginner wishing to start stocking their own herbal apothecary with safe, effective, natural medicine. Gain hands-on experience and learn the fundamentals of making teas, tinctures, and salves.

Instructor Chip Hope from the Sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture programs at Western Piedmont Community College in Morganton, NC as well as the Department Head of Engineering.

Contact Kathryn Holmes, Horticulture Agent [336-342-8230](tel:336-342-8230) for more information or to register.

Participants will take home tincture, salve, and handouts!

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12. HAY DIRECTORY - A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at [1-800-666-3625](tel:1-800-666-3625) or 342-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.

MANAGE YOUR PASTURES!

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

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13. Take A Load Off – Rounding Up Those Chickens

The farmer's son was returning from the market with the crate of chicken's his father had entrusted to him, when all of a sudden the box fell and broke open. Chickens scurried off in different directions, but the determined boy walked all over the neighborhood scooping up the wayward birds and returning them to the repaired crate. Hoping he had found them all, the boy reluctantly returned home, expecting the worst.

"Pa, the chickens got loose," the boy confessed sadly, "but I managed to find all twelve of them."

"Well, you did real good, son," the farmer beamed. "You left with seven."

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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 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

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Ben Chase

**Rockingham and Guilford County Extension Agent
Agriculture & Livestock**

North Carolina State University

**North Carolina Cooperative Extension,
525 NC 65, Suite 200, Reidsville, NC 27320**

(336) 342-8235 800-666-3625 Fax: 336-342-8242

Email : ben_chase@ncsu.edu

<http://rockingham.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=animalagriculture>