

Weekly Pile for Week of July 15 2012

Hello Weekly Pilers,

Included is the **Weekly Pile** of Information for the Week of July 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! **I NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!**

Included in This Weeks Pile:

1. EQUINE OWNERS ALERT NOTIFICATION

2. Twinning in Mares

3. Use Caution When Driving or Following Livestock Trailers

4. You Asked

5. NC's General Assembly Passes Farm-Friendly Legislation

6. Plant Propagation Basics Class

7. Piedmont Horseman's Association

8. Open Fun/Game Show" July 21st

9. Leadership and Cattle Handling for Women Producers

10. Flurry's Hope fundraiser Fun Run - September 29th.

11. HAY DIRECTORY

12. Cemetery Watchman

13. SWAP SHOP

14. Take A Load Off

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1. EQUINE OWNERS ALERT NOTIFICATION

Extension has been notified to send out the following information.

Animal Health Network (AHN) Alert - July 16, 2012

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's Veterinary Division alerts all equine owners that a case of Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE) in a horse in Robeson County has been confirmed on July 13, 2012. This unvaccinated horse exhibited signs of generalized weakness, stumbling, depression, and finally, the

inability to stand or eat. The horse was subsequently euthanized.

EEE causes inflammation or swelling of the brain and spinal cord. The virus is transmitted to horses via an infected mosquito. Once a horse has been bitten by an infected mosquito, it may take 3 to 10 days for signs of the disease to appear. If you see any of the following signs in your horse, contact your veterinarian immediately, as other serious diseases such as Equine Herpes virus (EHV-1) and rabies can mimic EEE and should be ruled out by a veterinarian.

- Stumbling or tripping
- Muscle weakness or twitching
- Partial paralysis
- Loss of appetite
- Depression or lethargy
- Head pressing or tilt
- Impaired vision
- Wandering or circling
- Inability to swallow
- Inability to stand up
- Fever
- Convulsions
- Coma
- Death

There is no specific treatment for EEE and most cases are fatal, but your veterinarian may be able to provide supportive therapy that could save your horse's life. There are commercially available vaccines that can aid in the prevention of disease caused by EEE.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services urges all horse owners to consult with their local veterinarian regarding proactive EEE vaccination for their horses and to take active steps for mosquito control.

Further questions can be referred to Dr. Tom Ray with the NCDA&CS Veterinary Division at [919-733-7601](tel:919-733-7601).

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2. Twinning in Mares

Twinning in mares is very undesirable because of low survival rates, usually very weak foals, and numerous conformational problems. Of all twin pregnancies, 60% will birth a live single foal, 31% will abort both foals, and 9% will carry both twins to term. Of the 9% carried to term, 64.5% will birth two stillborn foals, 21% will birth one live foal and one stillborn foal and 14.5% will birth two live foals.

Origination-Dizygotic

Two separate ovulations occurring a day apart (Stop checking after 1st ovulation, mare ovulates a second time). These foals have low survival due to competition for space and nutrients.

Management

The biological reduction mechanism fails if ovulations occurred >2 days apart.

Ultrasound at 16 days and then recheck at 18-20 days.

Prior to the 20th day of pregnancy one of the embryos can be manually removed by separating the embryos into 2 horns and crushing one of them. Give the mare anti-PGF compound + progesterone for approximately 5 days after. There is no loss of time and if both are lost, it is still possible to recycle and breed.

Prior to the 35th day of pregnancy administer PGF to abort all PG's and the mare should recycle normally.

After the 35th day of pregnancy = PROBLEMS! The mare will not cycle back for 2-3 months (endometrial cups).

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3. Use Caution When Driving or Following Livestock Trailers

Recently, a tragic mid-Michigan automobile accident resulted in the loss of the best Christmas present a little girl could receive: her horse. This accident was allegedly caused by an incident of road rage when an impatient driver, frustrated with the slow speed of the truck and horse trailer, cut the truck off sharply. The driver of the trailer was forced to brake suddenly; the horse scrambled, lost its footing and ultimately had to be euthanized.

Karen Waite, Michigan State University (MSU) Extension equine specialist, said this incident demonstrates that many drivers do not realize how challenging it is to drive a truck hauling horses or other livestock, large motorhomes, other recreational vehicles or farming equipment.

“When an accident involves a horse or livestock trailer, both human and animal lives can be lost,” Waite said. “Most drivers don’t realize that the combined weight of the truck, trailer, livestock, horses or equipment makes it extremely difficult for the driver to stop quickly or slow down substantially.”

Livestock producers thinking about the health and safety of their animals while driving tend to drive slightly slower than posted speeds and leave a great deal of stopping distance between their vehicles and the vehicles in front of them.

Waite suggests that drivers passing a vehicle hauling a trailer should merge back into the lane allowing double the usual amount of space between their vehicles and the vehicle they’re passing.

Although an impatient driver caused this particular incident, several other issues may result in horse trailer accidents. Regular trailer maintenance is a key responsibility of owning and hauling animals, as is using an appropriately sized vehicle to haul the trailer and making certain that those responsible for driving have experience driving such rigs (without animals) before setting out. To learn how to appropriately respond in an emergency while hauling a trailer, view this article on trailer safety.

“None of this information can reverse the loss of this little girl or bring back her horse, but it serves as a reminder to those with or without horses to use the utmost care when traveling,” Waite said.

Take steps to travel safely with your equines

As responsible animal caretakers you can make many decisions that ease and hopefully eliminate stress on animals during the transportation process.

Many of you are loading horses into trailers and heading to practices, shows, trail rides and more. Traveling, even to the most seasoned show horse, can be a stressful event. As responsible animal caretakers, we can make many decisions that ease and eliminate stress on our animals during the transportation process. Below are just a few tips to keep in mind as you head to your next event:

Keep safety first

Each time you hook up your truck and trailer to head to a show, go through a safety checklist. Are truck and trailer lights working? Did you secure the hitch properly? Are all tire pressures appropriate? Make sure that you have the proper-sized truck to haul your trailer. Do not overload your trailer’s weight capacity. While driving, you must allow extra distance for stopping. Make speed changes and turns more gradually than you would when driving without a loaded trailer. Ignoring these basic guidelines can seriously impact you and your horse’s safety.

Keep it cool

Heat can build up quickly in a horse trailer. If the weather is warm, be sure to open vents and windows to encourage airflow to the horses. Avoid unloading horses before you reach your destination since rest areas and fuel stations are not safe areas to unload. If traveling long distances, stop at least every two to three hours to offer water and check horses.

Keep it quick

No, this doesn't mean you can ignore speed limits signs and other traffic laws. It just means to make your best attempt at limiting the amount of time your horse stays in the trailer. Load all tack, equipment and feed first. Animals should be on the trailer for the minimal amount of time possible to avoid injury and stress, especially due to heat.

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4. You Asked: When is the best time to cut hay?

When To Cut Hay -

*Tall Fescue -

Harvest at boot to early flowering stage for first cutting. If subsequent cuts are to be made, they should be at about 6 week intervals as growth permits

Late Boot ~17%CP 71% Digestibility

Early Flowering 15% CP 61% Digestibility

Seed Dough 10%CP 56% Digestibility

Tall fescue hay harvested at seed dough stage is just barely adequate for maintenance but for an animal with higher nutrient requirements, the earlier cut hay is needed to avoid substantial supplement feeding. Harvesting at earlier maturity will reduce yield but result in much higher quality hay.

Hay made late is not only low quality, but also may contain higher levels of toxins (endophyte), which reduce animal performance. Cut fescue when it starts to show a few heads. Delaying haying to get a seed crop results in very poor quality forage

Start animals grazing when the plants reach an 8- to 10-inch height and remove the livestock when they have grazed most of the stand to 3 - 4 inch stubble.

Orchardgrass –

Highest Yield of good quality forage is to cut between head emergence & early bloom. PREFER BOOT STAGE generally late-boot to early-head stage (orchardgrass matures about one week earlier than tall fescue)

For highest quality and high yielding hay, orchardgrass should be harvested in spring during boot stage. Beyond this stage, there is little increase in yield and the digestibility decreases at the rate of about 1/2% per day. Aftermath growth can be harvested at 4-6 week intervals. Production and cutting frequency are greatly affected by soil moisture, temperature, fertility and disease.

Harvesting at a height of four inches will help maintain strong root reserves, leading to fast recovery of re-growth and better stand persistence.

Forage researchers have seen less damage to plants from summer heat and drought when the first harvest is made early and plants have time to re-grow before the stress. Some have reported almost 100 percent loss of stands when harvest was delayed to the late bloom stage. This can be more of a concern when late harvest is followed by high temperatures and low moisture supply.

- Anytime a cool-season plant matures, forage quality drops rapidly. Crude protein will drop 0.5% per day from boot stage to mature seed stage.

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5. NC's General Assembly Passes Farm-Friendly Legislation

<http://www.sfntoday.com/audio/default.aspx?programID=8&audioID=8517>

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6. Plant Propagation Basics Class

Thursday July 26, 2012 6:00 pm

Cost: \$10 adults, youth free

Rockingham County Agricultural Center,

525 Hwy 65 Reidsville, NC 27326

Come learn about how to start your own plants!!!!

This will be a class for beginners wanting to learn some of the easier plant propagation methods.

Kathryn Holmes, Rockingham County Horticulture Agent will be explaining how to grow more plants with seeds, cuttings, layering, runners and rhizomes. She will be giving basic tips on how to improve success in propagating plants. Demonstrations will involve plants with high percentage rates of successful propagation.

Contact Kathryn Holmes, Horticulture Agent at email kathryn_holmes@ncsu.edu or [336-342-8230](tel:336-342-8230) for more information and to register. Class size is limited.

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7. Piedmont Horseman's Association

Are you looking for a local open horse show association that is friendly and offers a variety of classes for all ages? Look no further...Piedmont Horseman's Association has been around for 41 years and still going strong! Whether you show halter, showmanship, English, Western Pleasure or Working Western; PHA has classes for you! Piedmont Horseman's Association (PHA) helps create a wholesome, family atmosphere in the great sport of Horse Showing; and for each member to exhibit his or her horse or pony in a sportsmanlike manner. There are many benefits of being a member of PHA; reduced entry fee at sanctioned shows, accumulate points for year end awards, recently APHA PAC approved and much more! Horse Show season is upon us and currently PHA has eight shows scheduled.

Our next show is August 4 at Jerome Davis's Ranch in Archdale, NC. This is a night show that starts at 4pm. Great high point awards will be handed out!! You can find all the details such as membership forms, class lists, calendar, etc on the PHA website at: <http://www.phasince1971.com/> PHA is also looking for class/show sponsors to make this the best year ever! Feel free to contact one of the officers from the website if you have any questions. We hope to see some new people at the Piedmont Horseman's Association shows!

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8. "Open Fun / Game Show" @ Piedmont Saddle Club in Colfax, July 21st @ 5:00pm. \$2 per class or \$10 per horse & rider combo for all classes all day. No admission fee onto grounds. Concessions and overnight camping available. See www.piedmontsaddleclub.org for class list and more information. Coggins required.

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9. Leadership and Cattle Handling for Women Producers
April D. Shaeffer and Jeannette A. Moore, N.C. State University Department of Animal Science

North Carolina Cooperative Extension and the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association are working together to offer a third workshop for women who would like more information and hands-on experience with cattle. The first two workshops were very successful, and we have had multiple requests to offer the workshop again. This time we will be in the Southeastern part of the state:

Saturday, September 29, 2012
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS)
201 Steven's Mill Rd. Goldsboro, NC
<http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/aboutcefs/directionsmain.html>

What will participants be learning? We will start the day with a presentation from Bryan Blinson, Executive Director of the N.C. Cattlemen's Association, who will talk about "Becoming a Leader in the Cattle Industry." This will be followed by Dr. Mark Alley's presentation and demonstration of "Low Stress Cattle Handling." The 20 participants will be divided into four small groups for hands-on activities: (1) Low stress cattle handling (April Shaeffer, NCSU Animal Science); (2) Proper techniques for vaccinating, deworming, eartagging (Lisa Shelton, certified Beef Quality Assurance trainer and farm manager at John Queen Farms); (3) Nutrition and Pasture management (Dr. Matt Poore and Dr. Sharon Freeman, NCSU Animal Science); and (4) Calving: normal presentation, difficulties (Dr. Mark Alley, NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine). There is no cost to the participants for the workshop or the lunch, thanks to a grant from the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association.

The workshop will be limited to 20 participants, and the selection will be made on August 27, 2012. Anyone who is interested in applying needs to be sure the application is sent to Jeannette.Moore@ncsu.edu and is received by 5 pm on August 24th. An application may also be faxed ([919-515-8753](tel:919-515-8753)) or mailed: Dr. Jeannette Moore, NCSU Box 7621, Raleigh, NC 27695-7621 (must be received by Aug 24).

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10. Flurry's Hope fundraiser 5k and 1 mile Fun Run - September 29th.

Flurry's Hope is having a Blind Horse Rescue Run at Bur-Mil Park in Greensboro on Saturday, September 29th starting at 8:30 am. Registration and information is available

at www.OnTheMarkSports.com. Come meet Eeyore, the donkey and other equine friends. Horse rides on site and Handmade Pottery available. Run Proceeds to benefit Flurry's Hope. Visit www.FlurrysHope.com. **336-420-1105**

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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!

Please let me know if you have hay to sell!

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12. Cemetery Watchman

I was sent this email this week that reminded me once again how Blessed we are to live in this country, even with our many short comings, challenges and problems we are still blessed to live in the Greatest Country in the world. Most of all, I am so Thankful to all those who have served our Country in the past & who are currently serving in our military. Because of these Brave Americans, we have the freedoms we love & enjoy.

(I do not know the Author of the following Email)

My friend Kevin and I are volunteers at a National cemetery in Oklahoma and put in a few days a month in a 'slightly larger' uniform.

Today had been a long, long day and I just wanted to get the day over with and go down to Smokey's and have a cold one. Sneaking a look at my watch, I saw the time, 16:55. Five minutes to go before the cemetery gates are closed for the day. Full dress was hot in the August sun Oklahoma summertime was as bad as ever--the heat and humidity at the same level--both too high.

I saw the car pull into the drive, '69 or '70 model Cadillac Deville, looked factory-new. It pulled into the parking lot at a snail's pace.. An old woman got out so slow I thought she was paralyzed; she had a cane and a sheaf of flowers--about four or five bunches as best I could tell.

I couldn't help myself. The thought came unwanted, and left a slightly bitter taste: 'She's going to spend an hour, and for this old soldier, my hip hurts like hell and I'm ready to get out of here right now!' But for this day, my duty was to assist anyone coming in.

Kevin would lock the 'In' gate and if I could hurry the old biddy along, we might make it to Smokey's in time.

I broke post attention. My hip made gritty noises when I took the first step and the pain went up a notch. I must have made a real military sight: middle-aged man with a small pot gut and half a limp, in marine full-dress uniform, which had lost its razor crease about thirty minutes after I began the watch at the cemetery.

I stopped in front of her, halfway up the walk. She looked up at me with an old woman's squint.

'Ma'am, may I assist you in any way?'

She took long enough to answer.

'Yes, son. Can you carry these flowers? I seem to be moving a tad slow these days.'

'My pleasure, ma'am..' (Well, it wasn't too much of a lie.)

She looked again 'Marine, where were you stationed?'

'Vietnam, ma'am.. Ground-pounder. '69 to '71. '

She looked at me closer. 'Wounded in action, I see. Well done, Marine. I'll be as quick as I can.'

I lied a little bigger: 'No hurry, ma'am. '

She smiled and winked at me. 'Son, I'm 85-years-old and I can tell a lie from a long way off.. Let's get this done. Might be the last time I can do this. My name's Joanne Wieserman, and I've a few Marines I'd like to see one more time..'

' Yes, ma 'am. At your service.'

She headed for the World War I section, stopping at a stone. She picked one of the flower bunches out of my arm and laid it on top of the stone. She murmured something I couldn't quite make out. The name on the marble was Donald S. Davidson, USMC: France 1918.

She turned away and made a straight line for the World War II section, stopping at one stone. I saw a tear slowly tracking its way down her cheek. She put a bunch on a stone; the name was Stephen X. Davidson, USMC, 1943.

She went up the row a ways and laid another bunch on a stone, Stanley J. Wieserman, USMC, 1944..

She paused for a second and more tears flowed. 'Two more, son, and we'll be done'

I almost didn't say anything, but, 'Yes, ma'am. Take your time.'

She looked confused.. 'Where's the Vietnam section, son? I seem to have lost my way.'

I pointed with my chin. 'That way, ma'am.'

'Oh!' she chuckled quietly. 'Son, me and old age ain't too friendly.'

She headed down the walk I'd pointed at. She stopped at a couple of stones before she found the ones she wanted. She placed a bunch on Larry Wieserman, USMC, 1968 , and the last on Darrel Wieserman, USMC, 1970. She stood there and murmured a few words I still couldn't make out and more tears flowed.

'OK, son, I'm finished. Get me back to my car and you can go home. '

Yes, ma'am. If I may ask, were those your kinfolk?'

She paused. 'Yes, Donald Davidson was my father, Stephen was my uncle, Stanley was my husband, Larry and Darrel were our sons. All killed in action, all Marines.'

She stopped talking. Whether she had finished, or couldn't finish, I don't know. She made her way to her car, slowly and painfully.

I waited for a polite distance to come between us and then double-timed it over to Kevin, waiting by the car.

'Get to the 'Out' gate quick.. I have something I've got to do. '

Kevin started to say something, but saw the look I gave him. He broke the rules to get us there down the service road fast. We beat her She hadn't made it around the rotunda yet.

'Kevin, stand at attention next to the gatepost. Follow my lead.' I humped it across the drive to the other post.

When the Cadillac came putter ing around from the hedges and began the short straight traverse to the gate, I called in my best gunny's voice: 'TeheHut! Present Haaaarms!'

I have to hand it to Kevin; he never blinked an eye--full dress attention and a salute that would make his DI proud.

She drove through that gate with two old worn-out soldiers giving her a send-off she deserved, for service rendered to her country, and for knowing duty, honor and sacrifice far beyond the realm of most.

I am not sure, but I think I saw a salute returned from that Cadillac.

Instead of 'The End ,' just think of 'Taps.'

As a final thought on my part, let me share a favorite prayer: 'Lord, keep our servicemen and women safe, whether they serve at home or overseas. Hold them in your loving hands and protect them as they protect us. '

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13. SWAP SHOP

- For Sale- 2002 Horse Trailer, bumper pull, step up, with stabilizer attachment, steel frame, galvalume shell, two horses slanted, step up, tack/changing room, saddle area. Drop down windows w/bars and screens. Lights. Lightly used. Excellent shape. Email Ms.White @ fwhite2@triad.rr.com or call [\(336\)817 2144](tel:3368172144)

- For Sale - four 275 gallons plastic Totes, used only once. features: large opening on top, spigot with valve at bottom, a galvanized protective cage with lift fork set up. Excellent shape. Great for water storage. Email Ms.White @ fwhite2@triad.rr.com or call [\(336\)817 2144](tel:3368172144)

- Pine Shavings, 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](mailto:3366980207shoponys@gmail.com)

- Equine Sports Massage Therapy – Certified since 1994 from Equissage. Appointments on site at your farm. Contact Terri C. Aprile @ [\(336\) 698-0207 shoponys@gmail.com](mailto:3366980207shoponys@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](mailto:3366980207shoponys@gmail.com)

- Pasture Board - NE Guilford \$150/mo. Good pasture, cross-fenced, run-in sheds, dressage arena. Brought into 8-stall barn once daily to feed your grain. Tack room, hot & cold wash, trails in area. Call Sandy [336-584-5617](tel:3365845617) or larknspursandy@bellsouth.net.

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14. Take A Load Off -

I need your clean Jokes, so please send em to me!

Retired People

Working people frequently ask retired people what they do to make their days interesting.

Well, for example, the other day, my wife and I went into town and went into a shop.

We were only in there for about 5 minutes. When we came out, there was a cop writing out a parking ticket.

We went up to him and I said, 'Come on man, how about giving a senior citizen a break?'

He ignored us and continued writing the ticket.. I called him an idiot.

He glared at me and started writing another ticket for having worn tires.

So Mary called him a moron. He finished the second ticket and put it on the windshield with the first.

Then he started writing a third ticket. This went on for about 20 minutes.

The more we abused him, the more tickets he wrote. Just then our bus arrived and we got on it and went home.

We try to have a little fun each day now that we're retired. It's important at our age.

(As You Can Tell - I need you to send me some clean jokes)

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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!**

Have a Great SAFE Weekend!

Thank You!

Ben

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