

# Grazing News



Iowa State University

Department of Animal Science

Equine Science Newsletter & Updates

August 2011

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Below is new and updated information from Iowa State

University Equine Science. If you have questions or comments about this message or the content listed herein, please contact me.

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Iowa State University  
Extension & Outreach Horse Specialist  
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## Upcoming Events

- [Iowa State Fair 4-H Horse Show](#) - Aug. 8th-11th
- [Equine Nutrition and Feeding](#) - Starts Aug. 23rd
- [Management of the Equine Environment](#) - Oct. 1st
- [Master Equine Manager 1](#) - Starts Oct. 6th
- [Equine Business Management](#) - Oct. 29th
- [Iowa Horse Judges Certification Clinic](#) - Nov. 5th
- [Iowa 4-H Horse Judging Contest](#) - Nov. 5th
- [Ring Steward's Workshop](#) - Nov. 6th
- [Western Pleasure Clinic](#) - Nov. 6th



## IOWA STATE FAIR 4-H HORSE SHOW

### Schedule

#### Monday, August 8

3:00 pm Horses May Arrive

#### Tuesday, August 9

8:00 - 11:00 am Horses May Check-In

11:00 am Horses Must Be In

1:00 pm Jacobson Exhibition Center - Exhibitor's Meeting

2:00 pm Jacobson Exhibition Center - Ranch Horse Pleasure, Poles, Barrels  
Livestock Pavilion - Pony Showmanship, Pony Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Saddleseat Pleasure, Saddleseat Equitation



#### Wednesday, August 10

8:00 am Jacobson Exhibition Center - 5-8 Showmanship, 5-8 Horsemanship, Trail  
Outdoor Arena - 9-12 Showmanship, 9-12 Horsemanship, Reining

#### Thursday, August 11

8:00 am Jacobson Exhibition Center - 2 & 3 yr old Western Pleasure, Western Pleasure starting with 5th grade

## THANK YOU CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS SPONSORS

- Pony Showmanship and Barrel Racing - Horseman's Protection Benevolent Association
- Pony Pleasure - Apples n' Oats
- Light Horse Junior and Senior Showmanship - Rob and Suzy Bohncask
- Hunter Under Saddle - Dr. Dixon Appel from Pheasant Ridge Equine Clinic
- Hunt Seat Equitation - Susan Knapp
- Saddle Seat Pleasure - The O'Rourke Family
- Saddle Seat Equitation - The O'Rourke Family
- Light Horse Junior and Senior Western Pleasure - Marv and Judy Perry



- Light Horse Junior Horsemanship - My Horse Vetlink
- Light Horse Senior Horsemanship - Missy Merwald
- Ranch Horse Pleasure - Vernon and Corrine Bancroft
- Pole Bending - Working Horse Magazine
- Trail - Junior Exhibitor - Glen and Bev Rowe
- Trail - Intermediate and Senior Exhibitor - Becky Merrill

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## [Iowa State Fair Horse Show Schedule](#)

### Hot Weather Care

by Peggy Miller-Auwerda

Iowa Extension and Outreach Horse Specialist

Take care of your horse(s) in the hot weather. Below are some tips for hot weather care. . You can assess how the heat will effect your horse by measuring the Heat Stress Index (HSI). The HSI is measured by adding temperature (oF) plus humidity (%). If the HSI totals less than 120, all systems are "go." If the sum = 140 caution. especially for working horses. If the sum is greater than 150, your horse's natural cooling mechanisms will be compromised. If the HSI is greater than 180, a horse cannot regulate his core body temperature naturally,

#### Water

- Extremely important for the horse in hot weather. A horse drinks 8-10 gallons of water/day. When the HSI is high, the horse has been exercised or shown in the hot weather, water intake may increase to 20+ gallons/day. Therefore frequently offer fresh, cool water. Keep water troughs and stock tanks clean and free from insects to promote consumption.



Shade = Offer an escape from the sun by providing a run-in shed. Shade from trees also works. If you have stalls you could keep a horse in during the day and turn out at night. If the horse is kept in a hot barn help cool the horse with the use of fans. Try to leave barn windows and doors open.

Baths - If you work your horse in a high HSI you can help the heat transfer by sponging your horse with cold water, especially down the large blood vessels under the belly and neck and inside the legs. If you use a water hose, be certain to cool the large muscle groups sufficiently. Do not use a sweat scraper but allow the water to stay on the coat. In extreme heat, sponge a 50/50 mixture of rubbing alcohol and cold water over his body to aid sweating.

Feed - Warm weather slows grass growth so many horses will require additional hay and/or grain. Feed quality hay and a balanced grain-mix. Rations should contain salt. Commercial grain mixes contain at least 0.5% salt which is fine for a idle mature horse. However, working horses should have 1.0% salt in the ration. Salt blocks or loose salt in a feeder should be provided,

Electrolytes - Serious electrolyte loss causes fatigue, muscle cramps, colic, and more.

Consider using electrolytes if your horse is sweating hard, Electrolytes replace salts lost in sweating. You can put electrolytes in the horse's feed, or use a large-ended syringe to squirt into the mouth. Use electrolytes made for horses.

Coat Care - For horses that have pink skin such as on the muzzle, you can provide zinc oxide sunscreen.

Flies - Flies and other pesky summer insects are a never ending battle. Try minimizing their irritating attack on your horse. Flies are most active in bright light so therefore providing a shady area will help. Pick up manure on a regular basis. There are a lot of excellent insect repellents available including some that only need to be applied weekly.

## References

Help the Horse Beat the Heat This Summer. eXtension.

<http://www.extension.org/pages/28767/help-your-horse-beat-the-heat-this-summer>

Responsible Horse Care for Winter and Summer. eXtension.

<http://www.extension.org/pages/25671/responsible-horse-care-for-winter-and-summer>

## Heat Stroke

by Peggy Miller-Auwerda

Iowa Extension and Outreach Horse Specialist

Extreme heat can quickly take its toll on any horse. In fact, heatstroke can occur whether your horse is on pasture, standing in a stall, traveling in a trailer, on a trail ride or being shown or raced, Excessive sweating under any condition causes loss of fluids and electrolytes, and the results can be disastrous.

One easy way to check for dehydration is the pinch test. Pinch the skin in the middle of the horse's neck and pull it gently outwards, then release. If your horse isn't dehydrated, the skin will snap back into place straight away. Skin that takes 2-5 seconds to return to normal indicates mild dehydration, while skin that takes 10-15 seconds shows severe dehydration. Signs of heatstroke include:



- Elevated Respiratory Rate - between 40 to 50 breaths per minute, shallow breathing, and breathing that remains elevated after two minutes of rest
- Elevated Heart Rate - a pulse of more than 80 beats per minute that doesn't slow down after two minutes of rest
- Increased or Absence of Sweating - full-body sweating or, worse, if your horse stops sweating entirely
- Elevated Temperature - a rectal temperature of 103°F or higher
- Lethargy - signs of depression, disinterest in food, stumbling or collapsing

Heatstroke is a serious condition. Severe cases of heatstroke lead to collapse, seizures, or loss of your horse. If you suspect your horse is suffering from heatstroke, immediately take measures to help cool him. Contact your veterinarian if symptoms persist or his condition worsens.

## Management of the Equine Environment

Saturday, October 1st

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

On-line or you are welcome to attend at Iowa State University (Brenton Center for Agricultural Instruction and Technology Transfer, Curtiss Hall) . This course is open to all individuals. The program is targeted toward horse owners, trainers, breeders, veterinary technicians, and individuals with an interest in horses.

Management of the Equine Environment provides an opportunity to investigate the requirements of operating a successful horse establishment. Exploring barn set-up, barn hygiene, air quality, fencing and pasture maintenance and improvement will ensure the health and safety of the horses housed at any facility. This course provides practical and current information needed to ensure a safe and healthy environment for horses, through effective and responsible management techniques.



#### Schedule

- 8:30 Stable Design-Stalls, Arenas, Shelters, Bedding, Air Quality
- 9:15 The Horse - Pasture Grazing Basics - Benefits of grazing, Fencing, Rotational Grazing, Sacrifice Areas
- 10:45 Nutrient Management - Living with manure, Storage, Composting
- 11:30 Water Quality
- 1:15 Pasture Plans and Pasture Renovation. Soil Fertility Management - How to improve soil test results, Soil acidity, Macro and Micro Nutrients, Types of Fertilizers
- 3:30 Weed Management - What is a Weed, Common weeds in horse pastures, Weed biology & management

#### Speakers

- Dr. Peggy Auwerda - Department of Animal Science, Iowa State University
- Dr. Thomas Bass - Montana State University Extension
- Dr. Steve Ensley - Veterinary Diagnostic & Production Animal Medicine, Iowa State University
- Dr. Stephen Barnhart - Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University
- Dr. Robert Hartzler - Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University

Sponsored in Part by [Advanced Management Systems](#)

Cost \$100 (MEM 10% discount)

[www.extension.iastate.edu/masterequine/registration](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/masterequine/registration)

For More Information: Dr. Peggy M. Auwerda, 119 Kildee, ISU, Ames, IA 50011. 515-294-5260

Email: [peggy@iastate.edu](mailto:peggy@iastate.edu)

### **Equine Nutrition and Feeding**

August 23rd - December 6th

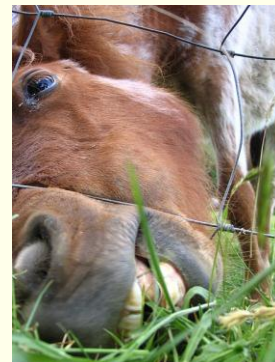
Tuesday Evenings 6:00-8:00 pm

The 14-week program is an undergraduate course that is offered on a noncredit basis to horse owners, trainers, feed sales representatives or anyone interested in the topic.

The course is designed to assist students and equine owners in the feeding management of their horses. Course material will include digestive physiology, factors affecting digestion, determining your horse's nutrient requirements, nutritional diseases, selecting feeds, water quality and evaluating commercial feed labels. The course will assist producers in utilizing forages to meet a horse's requirements, pasture management, weed control and identification, and poisonous plants. Also included will be managing a feeding program for mature horses, performance horses, broodmares, foals, weanlings, yearlings and stallions. Participants will develop the skills for nutritional assessment using the computer program REINS

This course will take place every Tuesday evening, 6-8:00 pm, starting August 23rd and ending December 6th. Students will need to be able to utilize their

computer for this time period since the lectures will be delivered in real time via Adobe Connect.



Students will need a high-speed Internet connection to participate in the course. Lectures will be recorded.

#### Registration Forms for Non-Credit

Course Fee for non-credit - \$350 which includes a copy of REINS  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/masterequine](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/masterequine)

For non-ISU students who wish to obtain college credits for the course you would simply fill out an online registration form found here: <https://accessplus.iastate.edu/NonAuth/R404/R4048.jsp>

For More Information: Dr. Peggy M. Auwerda, 119 Kildee, ISU, Ames, IA 50011. 515-294-5260

Email: [peggy@iastate.edu](mailto:peggy@iastate.edu)

### Master Equine Manager 1 Certificate Program Starts October 6th

The Iowa State University Extension (ISUE) Master Equine Manager Program is designed to provide applicable information to the horse owner on horse care and management. The program consists of six 2-hour internet sessions which includes behavior, nutrition, pasture management, facilities, equipment, selection and evaluation, diseases, parasites and hoof care. A two-day hands-on skill development session coincides with the on-line program. The hand-on sessions covers forages, feeds, health care, hoof care, facilities, selection and behavior. For the total program you will receive 24 hours of equine science and management.

The on-line portion of the program will be held Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 pm starting October 6th. The two-day hands-on activities will be held November 11th & 12th.

Benefits and Opportunities for the Certified Master Equine Manager

- Receive 24 hours quality instruction from ISU professors and instructors
- Promote quality horse care and responsible horse ownership.
- Conduct training clinics and workshops for youth and adults.
- Manage or assist with horse events, shows, trail rides or judging activities.
- Participate in horse organizations with public education programs.
- Develop new skills to enhance employment opportunities within the industry.
- Secure web access on Moodle to numerous equine references pertaining to each subject matter.
- Receive instruction and certification from Iowa State University.

Permanent Master Equine Manager name badge

For more information go to <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/masterequine>



Looking for Parasites

**Equine Business Management Seminar**  
October 29th  
8:30 - 3:30

The ISU Equine Business Management Short Course is designed to assist producers in the starting and running of an equine enterprise. The program will cover a variety of items that should be considered before you launch your equine enterprise as well as guidelines for those already running an equine business. Also, key marketing points will be discussed that will allow for success in targeting your business among a diverse group of audiences



#### Schedule

8:30	Registration	
8:45	Introduction	
9:00	The IRS and Horse Businesses	Richard B. Dicks Equinomics <a href="http://www.equinomics101.com">www.equinomics101.com</a>
10:00	Starting a Business & Horse Entities	Richard B. Dicks Equinomics
11:00	Insurance for the farm and the horse	Wade Ellerbroek Ellerbroek and Associates <a href="http://www.ellerbroekandassoc.com">www.ellerbroekandassoc.com</a>
12:00	Lunch	
1:00	Managing Equine Liability	Rachel Kosmal McCart Equine Legal Solutions, Inc <a href="http://www.equinelegalsolutions.com/index.html">www.equinelegalsolutions.com/index.html</a>
2:15	Promotion, Marketing and Advertising - A key to a successful business	

Approved for Master Equine Manager Level 2 Certification

This course is entirely online, so no travel to Iowa State is required. You can attend the "live" program at ISU. This course is open to all individuals. The program is targeted toward equine business managers, horse owners, trainers, breeders, veterinary technicians, and individuals with an interest in horses.

[Equine Business Management Registration](#)

**[Iowa Horse Judges Certification Clinic](#)**  
November 5th

#### DO YOU DESIRE TO?

- Become a Registered Iowa Horse Show Judge
- Have Your Name Sent to All County Extension Offices as a potential Horse Show Judge
- Learn the Basics of Horse Show Judging
- Improve Your Judging Skills

**THEN ATTEND THE CLINIC**



The Certification Clinic is designed to provide high quality training for judges working with 4-H youth, individuals who are, or aspire to be, horse show judges obtain practical "hands on" experience in judging horse classes.

- Participating judges will have an opportunity to judge 8-10 conformation and performance classes.
- Adult individuals successfully completing the clinic & a written examination will be included in the Horse Show Judges list that is distributed to county extension offices and open horse show organizations.
- The clinic will be held at Ellsworth Community College Equestrian Center, Iowa Falls.
- For information on becoming an Iowa approved 4-H/open horse show judge go to [Iowa Horse Judges and Ring Steward Homepage](#) or contact Dr. Peggy Auwerda, 119 Kildee Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011, Tel 515-294-5260, Fax 515-294-0018, E-mail [peggy@iastate.edu](mailto:peggy@iastate.edu)

### **Ring Steward Workshop**

November 6th

The best way to learn what is required of a horse show judge is to serve as a ring steward. The Ring Steward is an important individual in running a successful horse show. The Ring Steward works very closely with show management and the judge of the day to run the show in an efficient, timely manner that encourages exhibitor participation and spectator interest. This course will provide training for you to be an informed and competent Ring Steward. You will learn how to scribe scored classes including reining, western riding, trail, etc..



For information on becoming a certified Ring Steward go to [Iowa Horse Judges and Ring Steward Workshop](#) or contact Dr. Peggy Auwerda, 119 Kildee Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011, Tel 515-294-5260, Fax 515-294-0018, E-mail [peggy@iastate.edu](mailto:peggy@iastate.edu)

Sponsored in part by Iowa Quarter Horse Association

### **Western Pleasure Clinic**

Clinician - Mitch Adkins

November 6th

In partnership with ISU Equine Extension, Ellsworth Equestrian Center, and Purina Mills, we invite you to join us for a western pleasure clinic featuring Mitch Adkins and learn tips and techniques for training, preparing, and showing your western pleasure horse.

For information on the clinic go to [Western Pleasure Clinic](#)

Mitch Adkins is an accomplished western pleasure trainer that trains out of his facility outside of Boone, Iowa. Mitch has worked with everything from yearlings training for longe line futurity classes to starting and finishing 2-3 year old western pleasure futurity horses. He has worked with customers of all ages and also crossed over into buckskin, palomino and paint shows. Mitch has won multiple champion and reserve champions at futurities and shows such as the Reichert Pleasure Celebration, NSBA World Show, Palomino World Show, Buckskin World Show, Southern Belle, The Silver Classic (Nebraska) and Iowa Futurity. Mitch enjoys the challenges of starting colts and celebrating their success as they go on to become great show horses



If you want to learn the basics of western pleasure, this clinic is for you. The clinic will improve our horse's riding relationship with you. Learn how to encourage your horse to stay focused and thinking during a riding session. And most of all you will learn techniques for showing in western pleasure. The one-on-one training participants receive is tailored to each individuals needs. Limited enrollment for riders.

Auditors are free.

## Reducing Hay Waste [My Horse University](#)

### Reducing Hay Waste



[Register](#)

for the Webcast

**Date:** September 27, 2011

**Speaker:** Dr. Krishona Martinson | University of Minnesota

**Presentation Summary:** Reducing hay waste starts with buying quality hay and proper storage. However, waste can also be reduced through feeding management and careful selection of a feeder. New research on hay waste and economics of nine unique round bale feeders will also be discussed.

**Presenter Information:** Dr. Martinson received her BS from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and her Masters and PhD from the University of Minnesota. She has worked for the University of Minnesota since 2001, and is currently the Equine Extension Specialist in the Animal Science Department. Her specializations include pasture management, weed control, poisonous plants, and forage utilization and her research focuses on optimizing equine forage utilization.

## Smart Sales Skills for Horse Professionals [Equestrian Professional](#)

**Date:** August 15<sup>th</sup>

**Topic** Smart Sales Skills for Horse Professionals

**Speaker:** Jeff Johnson

**Time:** 5:00 pm Pacific 7:00 Central 8:00 Eastern

**Format:** Simulcast - attend via your phone or computer

**Duration:** 45 minutes

When it comes to "selling" we've all had good and not so good experiences. This webinar will unravel the mysteries of the sales process from both the sellers and customers point of view.

You'll learn how to make sales more comfortable for both yourself and the buyer. Plus, how to "close the deal" without being pushy.

Whether you could sell "ice to Eskimos" or "couldn't sell a free life preserver to a drowning man" - You'll learn key strategies for how to increase your sales success from a professional sales coach who knows the horse business.

**"Smart Sales Skills for Horse Professionals" is f.r.e.e to all horse professionals and can be attended via your phone or computer.** However, you must register to attend. Please note: Our seminars can fill quickly!

### *About Us*

*Equestrian Professional.com is an online community of professional equestrians and horse business owners. **Membership is for people who are serious about succeeding in equestrian sports and running profitable businesses.** There are tools and resources for both long time business owners and those who are just starting out. We provide you with the support you need to run a successful horse business so you can spend more time with doing what you love and less time worrying about your business. [Learn more about membership](#)*

## **Council of State Governments - Midwest passes Resolution on the Sustainability of the Horse Industry**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Government Accountability Office has found that the unintended consequences of the cessation of domestic equine processing has resulted in increased exports of more than 500 percent to Mexico and Canada, resulting in U.S. horses traveling significantly greater distances to reach processing facilities (GAO Report 11-228); and

**WHEREAS**, the GAO also reported that the ban has resulted in up to a 21 percent decrease in the price of horses in the United States, significantly impacting the entire equine industry as well as the welfare of horses; and

**WHEREAS**, the GAO report found that U.S. Department of Agriculture lacks the staff and resources at the borders and foreign processing facilities to help identify problems; and

**WHEREAS**, many Midwestern states have been struggling with ways to address rising cases of equine neglect and abandonment as well as a rising black market for horse meat, all of which are the unintended consequences of the cessation of processing; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Midwestern Legislative Conference urges the U.S. Congress to pass no legislation that would interfere with state efforts to restore and sustain the horse industry; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the MLC supports the findings of the GAO report that annual legislative prohibitions on the USDA's use of federal funds for inspecting horses impede the agency's ability to improve compliance with humane transport and processing requirements and suggests that Congress reconsider these restrictions; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted to Midwestern congressional representatives and the Secretary of the USDA.

[ Passed at the 66th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments - The Westin Indianapolis - Indianapolis, Indiana - July 17 - 20, 2011]

## Iowa Horse Trails News from Iowa Trail Riders Association

Thought this donation web link might be of interest to those in the equestrian community that frequent the State Forest trails. Please feel free to forward to others. As it turned out the Forestry Bureau budget was reduced \$178,000 for FY 2012, so any donations for trails maintenance will be helpful. Our seasonal workers have been laid off, so we will do the best we can with the people and financial resources we have available to maintain the trails.

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Destinations/StateForests/Donations.aspx>

Thanks.

Paul J. Tauke  
State Forester/Chief  
Iowa DNR Forestry Bureau  
515/242-6898  
[Paul.Tauke@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Paul.Tauke@dnr.iowa.gov)

## eXtension's HorseQuest Online Resources

[Ask the Experts](#)

[Free Horse Learning Lessons](#)

[Horse management articles](#)



## Iowa Horse Judges Directory

[2011 Iowa Horse Judges Directory](#)

[2011 Ring Stewards Directory](#)

