



DOWN ON THE FARM

Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance Newsletter

July, August, September, 2006

COOL AID: KEEPING A HORSE COMFORTABLE IN HOT WEATHER

by Mary Page

The extreme heat and humidity this summer, along with prolonged dryness, has many horse owners worrying about how to keep their horse comfortable and safe from the effects of harsh heat. Fortunately, although most equines do adjust to these weather extremes, there are a few common sense strategies that you can do for your horse:

After exercising your horse, cool him off as soon as possible. Spray cool water over his body, starting with legs first, and work your way up. Hose legs completely, then move to neck and chest, and then finish the rest of the body. Too much cold water too quickly can cause muscle tie-up and cramps, so cool him off slowly.

Sponge cold water mixed with rubbing alcohol over the horse's large muscle areas to aid evaporation.

Let your horse drink "free choice" water—as much as he wants. Drinking large amounts of water will not cause a horse to colic or founder, but can cause muscle cramps in the abdominal area so let him drink about 10 sips at a time with small breaks in between drinks.

If you're going to ride, schedule your rides for early morning or late evening.

Make sure your horse has a sun-free place to rest—a stall or a shade tree. You may want to keep your horse in the stall during the day and outside in the pasture at night.

Apply zinc oxide to horses that are susceptible to sunburn—especially those with pink noses.

A bucket full of ice and chilled towels can provide a refreshing break. Place them over your horse's neck. Provide your horse with a fan in his stall—make sure cords are safely tucked away.

Give your horse buckets of clean, fresh water. Check regularly for anything that might contaminate the water.

If you have a performance horse, slow your pace down and plan to take longer than normal during regular workouts and training sessions.

WORKING ON TRAILS

You like to come out and ride at Shelby Farms. The great trails along the river and the wonderful north side allow you to exercise your horse in the middle of a major city. All those trails have to be maintained and new ones built. Every month on the second weekend of the month alternating Saturday and Sunday the Shelby Farms Trail Crew meets to work on trail projects in Shelby Farms. We meet with other horse people, bike riders, hikers and other park users for a few hours on approved projects then break and go have lunch where we sit and enjoy each others company. This year alone the Trail Crew has:

February: trail sign inventory in the snow.

March: worked on the trails along the river to get them ready for the 11th City Slickers endurance ride.

April: What a month. With the help of Americorp Volunteers we started or finished 4 trail projects including two French drains in muddy areas, moved and repositioned a bridge and put in a low water crossing

May: Dressed out the low water crossing and put in another French drain near the bridge for horses to use.

June: Moved a portion of the Tour de Wolf bike trail to better sites to stop erosion.

July: Developed a plan for new and better signs throughout the park. Working with the Wolf River Conservancy and SWEEPS, an inner city youth group, the Pine Forest Trail was worked on. Graffiti was removed from the trees and the illegal bike ramp was removed. Some repair work was done on the low water crossing.

Aug: We will use herbicide to kill poison ivy along the Pine Forest Trail.

Come join us the 2nd weekend of the month. Its fun and you get to show off to your friends what you have done for the park the next time you ride there. Contact Peggy Hart at 662-851-7122 or call the Park at 901-382-0239 for information about the month's Trail Crew plans.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Please Welcome Our **NEW MEMBERS** for 5/20/06...8/12/06

FAMILY

Mac Washburn

SUPPORTER

Susie Moore

The following folks renewed their SFEA membership:

INDIVIDUAL

Jim Banks
John and Ryland Bruhwiler
Jennifer Drabowicz
Pauline Garner
Mark and Catherine Harris
Janice Holder
Susie Logan
Michele Lombardo
Mike Mays
Jerry C. Rogers
Vicki Rogers
Carol Williams

Jenny Lawrence
Brynda & Ron Read
Shade Robinson
Jerene Sykes
Glycerin Gardens, Ellen Ingram
Germantown Downs Stables,
Frances Kamp

GROUP

Oak Grove Hunt
Nashoba Carriage Assoc.

SUPPORTER

Suzanne and Toof Brown
Kathy & Catherine Hughes
Kay Whittington
Sheffield Worboys

FAMILY

Bill & Nancy Fay
Carol and Chris Frame
Darlene Jordan
Jo & Kevin Kirchoff
William Lackey

PATRON

Delta Dressage

Down On The Farm, the official publication of the Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance (SFEA), is published quarterly and sent to all current SFEA members. Ads and articles are due by the 15th of the third month of each quarter.

SFEA is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization dedicated to improving and promoting Shelby Farms and the Mid-South for all disciplines of equestrian sports.

To contact SFEA, (662) 851-7122 or write to SFEA, 141 Eastly St, Suite 107, Collierville, TN 38017

<i>President</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
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<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>
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AGRICENTER CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AND THE SHOWPLACE ARENA WELCOMES SPRING SHOWS



You may have noticed that the last 3 issues of "Down On The Farm" have had advertisements in them. These advertisers have many places to spend their advertising dollars, yet they chose to support the Alliance and advertise in our newsletter. Let's thank them for their support by patronizing them. If you are looking for a product, try one of our advertisers first.

This month's advertisers are:

- Grady W. Jones Co p3
- Eli, Inc p4
- Hall's Feed p5
- Akin Equine Veterinary Services p5
- Norman & Jennings p5

Agricenter International celebrated its 25th anniversary with a gala event on June 10th. Members of the Alliance dressed in western attire joined other guests for an evening of food, fun and dancing. Mayor A.C. Wharton cited Agricenters importance to the community and former Mayor Bill Morris gave a speech highlighting Agricenter's long history in the community.

The Show Place Arena welcomed a full spring schedule with events including dog shows, music concerts and equine events including the first Team Penning ever to be held in Memphis. A drawing for a pickup truck was one of the highlights of the Team Penning and the winner was a very excited young man. To young in fact, he had to call home to get someone to come drive it home. Team Penning will return in November with their Eastern Finals. Showplace also hosted the Tennessee High School Rodeo Finals. Be sure and check out upcoming events on the www.agricenter.org web site..

ANIMAL EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM

By Brynda Read

On July 19, with the temperature almost 100, thirty animal workers and/or owners met at the Agricenter. We were ready to experience a 2-day training program taught by the American Humane Association.

The first day was classroom instruction, including incident command structure with interagency co-operation and our role in that structure. We also had lessons in animal first aid and personal safety while doing animal rescue. The second day the group spent time outside getting instruction in both large and small animal handling.

One of the most interesting events was a mock disaster in our area. The group set up a shelter to house animals displaced by the disaster. All participants were given a job from signing in volunteers off the street to caring for injured animals. Many were given the role of evacuees looking for their pets or bringing in an injured pet and seeking vet care.

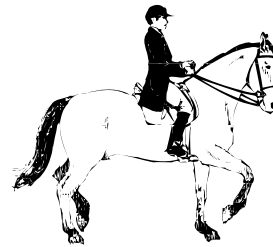
We went from individuals doing a job to team members working together for the good of the animals. We all agreed that more mock disaster training was needed.



Kerri Burns, Brynda Read, Ginger Adams and Grey Mare

IN MEMORY OF JEAN ANDERSON HOLMES

The horse community lost one of its biggest supporters this month. Jean was involved with the Hunter Jumper Community, the Hunting Community, Delta Dressage and the Nashoba Carriage Association. She was instrumental in getting some of them started and keeping some of them going. It was at her home that Ranger Mike Tate first approached Delta Dressage about trying to find a way to allow horses to use more of Shelby Farms. From that start two years later Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance was formed. Many of our first meetings took place around the big table in her kitchen. Jean helped the Alliance become a 501 (c) 3 and provided assistance during the 11 years the Alliance has existed. We shall miss her greatly. The family asks that any memorials be given to animals or children per Jean's request.



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DISASTERS HAPPEN EVERY DAY

Scenario: Shelby Forest is burning and word has gone out that they are evacuating everyone around the park. You have 5 horses and a 2 horse trailer.

Scenario: The "big one" earthquake has hit. Horses are alright in their wooden barns but many owners have no way to reach them because they live in the city.

Scenario: A tornado blew through Shelby Farms and there are injured people including the people at the rental stables. 25 horses are dead or dying throughout the pastures.

You can help... by being a part of the Disaster Animal Rescue Team (equine division).

Interested? Take a moment to read on. The Memphis/Shelby County Emergency Management Agency and the Shelby County Agricultural Extension Service have asked the Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance if they will help put together a Disaster Animal Rescue Team for Shelby County for horses. Shelby County is in District 11 along with Tipton, Fayette, Lauderdale and Dyer Counties.

Volunteers are needed in the following categories. Ultimately these volunteers will be certified under the Incident Command System for work within the state. Volunteers willing to be called on to serve out of state will need to be certified under the National Incident Management certification program. Both of these certifications can be done on line and the Alliance is in the process of setting up a certification training date for the near future where volunteers can come together to be certified. If you would like to volunteer for any of the following categories please contact Peggy Hart at 662-851-7122 or talliho22@aol.com.

It should be noted that after the first 48 hours at a disaster non-certified volunteers will not be allowed into the affected area and can be subject to arrest if they are found in the disaster area. This must be done to prevent untrained personnel from entering a dangerous area and getting themselves into trouble through their lack of training. When this happens trained volunteers must be pulled off of their assignments to go rescue the person who has gotten into trouble. If you feel that you want to help in a disaster take the time to become certified and trained.

- Equine Leader – Coordinates the following positions working with county and state emergency management leaders.
- Evacuation – Makes the decision as to whether evacuation is necessary and has a team to get it started. This team will be getting in touch with volunteers to pro-

vide transportation and letting the hosting sites know that animals will be arriving.

- Transportation – Coordinates finding the people with the trailers needed to perform the evacuation.
- Routing – Decides safe routes to host sites and alternate routing if the initial route is blocked. They will be working closely with Memphis/Shelby County EMA.
- Host sites- hosts horses until owners can retrieve. Generally these sites need to be large centrally located facilities that can handle incoming animals and where horses without coggins can be quarantined until tested. While many would offer their own barns it would not be safe for your horses to bring in horses without knowing their health records.
- Assistance – finds the extra people needed to arrange for the needs of the horses. These needs include housing at the host sites, paper work to identify each animal, and any other needs. Works to utilize untrained volunteers offering to help.
- Special Equipment- finds items such as "corral panels", hay, water tanks, etc. needed to support horses being hosted. Coordinates pickup, storage, and dispersion of donated items.
- Veterinarians – Coordinates finding Veterinarians willing to assist injured horses.
- Grief Counselor – Works with owners who have lost their animals to disaster.
- ID & Recovery Contact Information– Helps find the owners and returns their horses to them.
- Disposal – helps to find locations for mass disposal of carcasses if needed i.e. people with back hoes, dozers etc. While this sounds grotesque an outbreak of disease similar to what happened in England with Hoof & Mouth may require euthanasia. Hopefully this scenario will never happen in our area.



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- Public information – talk to media regarding what is being done to help the horses, where horses are being hosted and how people can locate and identify their horses.

The Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance working with the County, State and Federal Government (Homeland Security) have been asked to put together the names of people willing to help in these areas. We need team leaders, assistants and a list of people who could help but do not want to lead. This will be kept on file in case of a disaster in our area. If you would be interested in supporting this endeavor for the benefit of our horses please let me know. You may call me at 662-851-7122 for more information or if you are sure you want to do something just email me at this address.

Thank you goes out to the people who have already agreed to be listed some of whom have already finished their certification programs. We have just begun our lists.

Veterinarians: Dr. Cindy Wiess, Akin Equine, Dr. Jeetendra Eswaraka

Disposal: Nathan Lubin

Grief Counselor: Rhonda Payne

Animal Transport: Brynda Read, Deborah Yoakum, Jan Reed, Sue Lynn Perry

Press Information Officer: Sue Lynn Perry, Dana Shaw

Assistance: Dana Shaw, Chris Norris

Special Equipment: Caryn Finefrock



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SELECTING A DEWORMER

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Tim Mays

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You're standing at the feed store looking at the shelves full of dewormers. There are boxes of paste dewormers — small packages that you simply feed your horse every two months — and large, five-gallon buckets of daily dewormer. Which is best? Should you buy the most expensive dewormer or look for the cheapest, thinking there can't be a whole lot of difference? Let's take more in-depth look at some of the dewormers available today.

Basically every dewormer has one of these four active ingredients: fenbendazole/oxibendazole (found in Safe-guard or Anthelcide), pyrantel pamoate (ex. Strongid C), ivermectin (ex. Zimectrin or Unimectrin) or moxidectin (Quest gel).

Knowing this, let's touch on a few parasites that your horse may encounter. Ascarids, or round worms, are internal parasites that are more common in young horses. Without proper deworming, round worms can be very abundant, leading to such signs as slow growth, loss of body condition, a dull coat, and often a potbelly. They can also cause pulmonary damage. An early deworming program is crucial. At 4 to 6 weeks of age, deworm your foal with a fenbendazole/oxibendazole or a pyrantel pamoate. At three months of age deworm again with an ivermectin, making sure to dose the foal correctly, according to his/her weight. If you don't have access to scales, use a weight tape. After five months, start the foal on a regular deworming program.

Pinworms, or *Oxyuris equi*, are parasites that cause problems in all ages of horses. You sometimes notice pinworms when your nice, well-groomed show horse rubs his tail raw on a fence, barn, vehicle, or other available object. Any of the four classifications of dewormers mentioned earlier are effective on pinworms.

Another irritating parasite is the bot, or *Gasterophilus spp.* Most everyone has seen those small yellow eggs on the legs of their horses. Those eggs were laid by bot flies. The horse licks these eggs and ingests them. This causes the eggs to hatch, and they work their way back to the stomach where they attach themselves by oral hooks to the lining. In most cases, horses are infected by the end of the summer. Moxidectin and ivermectin products are boticides that will correct this problem.

In past years, large strongyles, or bloodworms, were major problems with horses. However, the dewormers on the market today have done an exceptional job of eliminating most strongyles. *Strongylus vulgaris* are referred to as plug feeders. They actually ingest plugs out of the lining of the intestine, thus making it weak. They may cause anemia, weakness, and diarrhea in horses. All of our four classes of dewormers are effective against large strongyles.

Today, more emphasis is placed on small strongyles. They actually account for 95 percent of all deaths due to parasites. There are several different stages of this parasite. A majority of the dewormers are effective against most stages. However, there is an encysted stage of this parasite, where it actually lives in a cyst for up to three years. Included in this cyst, along with the parasite, is its waste. This stage of parasite may not be determined by a fecal exam. The cyst embeds in the lining of the intestine. When the parasite emerges from this stage, the waste is released, causing the horse to be sick. There are only two products on the market that control this stage. Moxidectin may be administered in a single dose, or fenbendazole may be used at a multiple dose for several days. You should consult with your veterinarian on multiple dosing.

Tapeworms seem to be the latest buzz. Tapeworms are generally not as much concern as some of the other parasites. However, Veterinarians have been seeing more of a tapeworm infestation of late, which can cause problems such as dull hair coat and the inability to maintain body weight and condition. Use a product that has praziquantel, such as Zimectrin Gold to control this.

Now, let's look at a regular deworming program. You may choose a paste to deworm your horse every two months or use a daily dewormer. The decision usually depends on your horse; his surroundings, your time and even personal preference. Many Veterinarians will tell you, that in most cases, there is no need to tubeworm horses anymore. The dewormers on the market today are very effective. However, it might be a good idea to get your veterinarian to do a fecal exam on your horse in order to determine if there is a specific parasite problem.

Those who choose the daily deworming route will probably use a Strongid C or Equi Aid CW (pyrantel tart rate) dewormer. However, you must still use a paste dewormer periodically, such as in the fall after the first frost to remove the bot eggs from your horse by administer a boticide.

SHELBY FARMS EQUESTRIAN ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail with your check to:

Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance
 141 Eastly Street, Suite 107
 Collierville, TN 38017

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number () _____

e-mail address _____

Add me to the "e list" to receive meeting notices and other important SFEA related information via e-mail



Areas of Interest: ___ Trails ___ Cross Country ___ Dressage ___ Show Place Arena ___ Polo
 ___ Other (specify) _____

I am ___ Amateur/Hobby Rider ___ Equine Professional ___ Veterinarian ___ Equine Related Business
 ___ Other (specify) _____

I ___ own horse(s) ___ do not own horse(s)

Other equine-related organizations I belong to: _____

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Supporter	50.00	Business/Group	35.00
Family	25.00	Individual	15.00

Dues \$ _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Shelby Farms Equestrian Alliance is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.

Moxidectin is a new class of dewormer found in the Quest product. It is the newest molecule in over a decade. It is in a gel form that dissolves very easily. It is safe for pregnant mares and foals that are at least 4 months of age. It also has a longer term of activation (every three months instead of every two as most pastes recommend).

I personally feel, as Veterinarians do, that the best way to affectively deworm your horse is with a systematic rotation of paste dewormers at regular intervals. This will help with resistance. With this system make sure you have a good calendar, record-keeping abilities, and read the label to see how long each dewormer will last.

While rotating, make sure that you rotate to different active ingredients not just by name brand. Additionally, they also recommend that you deworm pregnant mares six weeks prior to foaling and one week after.

I hope that this has helped you to become a more informed customer when purchasing a deworming product for your particular program. Make sure you pay special attention to the label on the dewormer. Each company goes through years of testing as well as strict FDA regulations in order to make claims on the label.

Any questions or comments, please email me at tim_mays@cargill.com



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thinking about trying something new? Want to meet other people who enjoy horses? Here is your opportunity to meet and try something new with your horse while meeting people that like to talk horses as much as you do. Take time this year to visit some of the activities of our Member Organizations. We encourage groups to send us their calendar of events for inclusion in our newsletter.

SEPTEMBER, 2006

- 9 10:00 A.M. Trail work day. Meet at the Visitor's Center.
- 19 SFEA Monthly Meeting, Contact Caryn Finefrock at 901.465.8235.

OCTOBER, 2006

- 8 10:00 A.M. Trail work day. Meet at the Visitor's Center.
- 17 SFEA Monthly Meeting Contact: Caryn Finefrock 901.465.8235

MEDICAL ADVISORY

EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS (EVA) OUTBREAK REPORTED IN NEW MEXICO

On Monday, June 26, 2006, the Office International des Epizooties (O.I.E.) Reference Laboratory for Equine Viral Arteritis at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture's Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center, confirmed an outbreak of equine arteritis virus infection involving fetal losses among mares on an American Quarter Horse breeding farm in New Mexico. This was based on the widespread prevalence of high antibody levels to the virus in both mares and stallions, plus virus isolation from the semen of two stallions. On the same day, the outbreak was reported in the New Mexico Livestock Board in Albuquerque, NM, which is not investigating the potential for spread of the infection to other premises. For more information contact Ronald B. Wilson, D.DVM, Tennessee department of Agriculture.