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Press Release: Dr. Mundschenk announced as new State Veterinarian

By The VHN Writing Team



(SPARKS, Nev.) – The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) welcomes Dr. Peter Mundschenk, DVM, as the new State Veterinarian. Dr. Mundschenk will be joining the NDA from the Pima Medical Institute, and previously served as State Veterinarian for the Arizona Department of Agriculture.

“Dr. Mundschenk has a thorough background in veterinary medicine, disease management and regulatory enforcement,” said NDA Director J.J. Goicoechea. “We look forward to having someone with his skillset joining us at the NDA.”

Dr. Mundschenk received his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Washington State University. He has been a member of and served on various veterinary medical associations and committees.

His background includes serving as a Medical Director for a veterinary hospital, Director of Regulatory Affairs for the California Veterinary Medical Association, Assistant State Veterinarian and State Veterinarian for the Arizona Department of Agriculture, and Lead DVM and Veterinary Technician Instructor for the Pima Media Institute.

About the Nevada Department of Agriculture

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) mission is to preserve, protect and promote Nevada's agriculture. The department has 225 dedicated employees providing services in its five divisions, Administrative Services, Animal Industry, Measurement Standards, Food and Nutrition, and Plant Health and Compliance.

The department's \$288 million budget facilitates regulatory and administrative work in agriculture and food manufacturing industries, protecting public and environmental health and worker safety, and providing food distribution and oversight for the United States Department of Agriculture's school and community nutrition programs.





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Codi A. Kern
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*See you next time! - **Codi Kern***

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Press Release: New entry requirements for livestock to prevent spread of animal disease - Vesicular Stomatitis Virus has been confirmed in animals in California

(SPARKS, Nev.) – The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) has issued new health certificate requirements for horses, cattle, swine, sheep and goats entering Nevada.

Any livestock animal from a state where Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) has been diagnosed or visiting an infected state and then returning to Nevada, must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) noting them to be free of signs of VSV.

“Protecting our animal industry is our top priority,” said NDA Director J.J. Goicoechea, DVM. “It’s important that we monitor for these animal diseases and take action, including issuing new entry requirements, to prevent impacts to animals and our agriculture industry.”

VSV is a viral disease that can cause blisters on horses, cattle, swine, sheep and goats. While it can be spread to humans and it’s important to use personal protective equipment and practice good sanitation when handling infected animals, there are currently no active cases in Nevada.

Animal owners should work with their CVI-issuing veterinarian to ensure these new entry requirements are being met. The full requirements are available on the NDA website and read:

NEW ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR STATES WITH VSV DIAGNOSIS 5/19/2023

Currently, all horses, cattle, swine, sheep, and goats from a state where Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) has been diagnosed, or visiting an infected state and then returning to Nevada, except those moving directly to slaughter, must be accompanied by a CVI that includes the statement:

“I have examined all the animals identified on this certificate within seven (7) days of shipment date and have found them to be free from signs of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV).”

During the last fourteen (14) days, these animals have not been exposed to VSV nor located on a VSV confirmed or a VSV suspected premises.”

Learn more at agri.nv.gov.

Press Release: Horse travel made easier with 6-month health certificate - Extended Equine Certificates of Veterinary Inspections available for interstate movement

(SPARKS, Nev.) – The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) is now accepting Extended Equine Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (EECVIs) available through GlobalVetLink. EECVIs allow for interstate travel for up to six months.

“In recent disease events, we have had difficulty tracing exposure in our equine population due to noncompliance with requirements for interstate movements,” said NDA Director J.J. Goicoechea, DVM.

“With this more convenient option, we’re hoping more horse owners can stay in compliance, which, in turn, will protect the health and wellness of the horse industry throughout the state.”

Movement permits and certificates of veterinary inspections are required for all animal interstate travel to help prevent and track possible transmission of disease.

Previously horses were required to get health certificates every 30 days. This new option for 6-month EECVIs will keep frequent travelers in compliance and allow for better animal disease traceability.

Horse owners should work with their veterinarians to create an EECVI to submit to the NDA. Horse owners have online access to create their travel permits through GlobalVetLink.

About the Nevada Department of Agriculture:

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Created by Chef Sharon Hauht

“Basil Burgers with Sun-Dried Tomato Mayonnaise”

Prep Time: 25 min Cook Time: 10 min Difficulty: Medium Servings: 6 servings

Ingredients:

1/4 cup sun-dried tomatoes (not packed in oil)
 1 cup boiling water
 1 cup fat-free mayonnaise
 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
 1/4 cup fresh basil leaves, coarsely chopped
 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
 2 garlic cloves, minced
 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1-1/2 pounds lean ground beef (90% lean)
 3/4 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese
 6 whole wheat hamburger buns, split
 Additional fresh basil leaves, optional

Directions:

In a small bowl, combine tomatoes and water. Let stand for 5 minutes; drain. In a food processor, combine mayonnaise and tomatoes; cover and process until blended. Chill until serving.

In a large bowl, combine the Worcestershire sauce, basil, Italian seasoning, garlic, pepper and salt. Crumble beef over mixture and mix well. Shape into 12 thin patties. Place 2 tablespoons cheese on six patties; top with remaining patties and press edges firmly to seal.

On a greased grill, cook burgers, covered, over medium heat or broil 4 in. from the heat for 5-7 minutes on each side or until a thermometer reads 160° and juices run clear. Serve on buns with mayonnaise mixture and, if desired, additional basil.



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About Happy Trails Kitchen



Sharon Hauht is the owner of Happy Trails Kitchen that specializes in baking and artfully decorated custom celebration cakes, cupcakes, cookies and sugar art for your special occasion. Sharon is an award winning cake decorator who has more than 40 years experience. Sharon competed with her team, Gouly Goblins, on Season 10 of Food Network's Halloween Wars and was featured on the Road to Halloween Wars, which aired on September 13, 2020.

Happy Trails Kitchen (HTK) is registered by the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) as a cottage food operation, which means HTK's food labels have been approved by SNHD, applicable recipes have been lab-tested for shelf stability (pH and water activity), and Sharon Hauht has been approved to bake and decorate cakes out of her home. She can print edible images (logos and Photographs) on your confections. She has her food handler's card for food safety.

You can see pictures of some of her recent projects on her website: www.happytrailskitchen.com. You can contact Sharon through her website or by emailing her at happytrailskitchen@gmail.com or call (702) 277-8000. HTK is also on Facebook and Instagram under HappyTrailsKitchen.



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Understanding the Distinction: Horse Trainer vs. Horse Behaviorist

By The VHN Writing Team



In the realm of equine professionals, two distinct roles often come to mind: horse trainers and horse behaviorists. While both professionals work with horses, there are notable differences in their approaches, areas of expertise, and objectives. In this article, we will explore the contrasting roles of horse trainers and horse behaviorists, shedding light on their unique contributions to the well-being and training of our equine companions.

Horse Trainer: A horse trainer is a professional who specializes in teaching horses specific skills, behaviors, and responses. Their primary focus is on training horses for specific disciplines or tasks, such as riding, driving, or performance sports.

Horse trainers possess extensive knowledge of equine behavior, training techniques, and the ability to shape a horse's responses to cues and commands. Their aim is to enhance a horse's performance, refine their movements, and develop the desired skills required for a particular discipline.

Horse trainers employ various methods and training tools to achieve their goals. They utilize positive reinforcement, negative reinforcement, or a combination of both, depending on the horse's temperament, learning style, and the desired outcome.

Trainers often work with horses of different ages, backgrounds, and skill levels, customizing their training programs to suit individual needs. Their expertise lies in developing a horse's physical abilities, responsiveness, and understanding of the rider or handler's cues.

Horse Behaviorist: On the other hand, a horse behaviorist focuses on the study and understanding of equine behavior, psychology, and welfare. Their primary objective is to assess, analyze, and modify a horse's behavior to address underlying issues or challenges.

Horse behaviorists possess in-depth knowledge of equine behavior patterns, communication signals, and the factors that influence a horse's emotions and responses.

Horse behaviorists work with horses exhibiting behavioral problems, such as fear, aggression, anxiety, or phobias. They delve into the root causes of these issues, considering factors such as past experiences, social dynamics, health conditions, or environmental stressors.

By conducting thorough assessments and employing behavior modification techniques, they strive to alleviate the problematic behaviors and enhance the horse's overall well-being.

Behaviorists often utilize positive reinforcement techniques, desensitization exercises, or counterconditioning methods to modify a horse's behavior. Their expertise lies in understanding the motivations behind a horse's actions and implementing strategies to foster positive changes.

Horse behaviorists also play a significant role in providing guidance to horse owners, trainers, and handlers in managing and preventing behavioral problems.

Collaboration and Complementary Roles: While horse trainers and horse behaviorists have distinct roles, their work often intersects and can complement each other.

In many cases, a horse trainer may consult or collaborate with a behaviorist to address specific behavioral challenges that may arise during training. The behaviorist's insights and recommendations can help trainers develop effective strategies for modifying behaviors or resolving underlying issues.

Moreover, a horse behaviorist may work in tandem with a trainer to develop behavior management plans, implement environmental modifications, or provide guidance in handling horses with complex behavioral histories. The collaboration between these professionals can greatly benefit horses, improving their overall training experience, mental well-being, and performance.

In the world of equine professionals, horse trainers and horse behaviorists play distinct but equally important roles. While trainers focus on teaching specific skills and behaviors for performance purposes, behaviorists delve into the intricacies of equine behavior to address problematic behaviors and promote overall well-being.

Both professionals contribute to the enhancement of horse-human relationships, the welfare of the horse, and the achievement of training goals.

By understanding the unique roles and expertise of trainers and behaviorists, horse owners, trainers, and handlers can make informed decisions and seek appropriate assistance to meet the needs of their equine partners.



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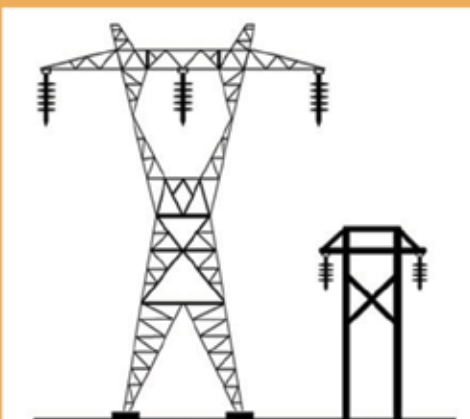
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Advice on Caring for an Orphaned Foal

By The VHN Writing Team



Welcoming a new foal into the world is a joyous occasion, but when circumstances leave a foal without its mother, it requires special care and attention. Raising an orphan foal can be a challenging yet rewarding experience. Read on for the essential considerations and guidelines for providing the best possible care for an orphan foal, ensuring its growth, well-being, and successful integration into the equine world.

1. Immediate Veterinary Care: Upon discovering an orphaned foal, it is crucial to seek immediate veterinary assistance. The veterinarian will conduct a thorough examination to assess the foal's health, provide necessary vaccinations, and address any underlying medical concerns. Establishing a relationship with a knowledgeable equine veterinarian early on will ensure ongoing care and guidance throughout the foal's development.

2. Colostrum Replacement: Colostrum, the mare's first milk, is vital for the foal's immune system development. If the orphan foal did not receive colostrum from its mother, it is essential to provide a colostrum replacement product within the first few hours of birth. Consult with your veterinarian for guidance on appropriate colostrum substitutes and administration methods.

Many owners that are faced with an orphaned foal situation, whether through the loss of the mother, or because the mother has refused her baby, will take to facebook and their horse community to see if by chance they can find a recent mother that has lost a foal.



This method of research has yielded many new bonds between mares and foals that have lost the other and given the chance for mother mares to heal and new babies to thrive. If you manage to find a suitable match for your orphaned foal, it is extra important to monitor the care and bonding process. With success, the new mother and especially baby should be watched closely by your vet so they reach all of the important health milestones.

3. Bottle Feeding and Milk Replacers: Orphan foals must receive proper nutrition to support their growth and development. Bottle feeding is the primary method of providing nourishment in the absence of a mare. Consult with your veterinarian or an equine nutritionist to determine the appropriate milk replacer for the foal's specific nutritional needs. Establish a consistent feeding schedule, ensuring the foal receives adequate amounts of milk replacer and monitoring its growth and overall condition.

4. Socialization and Companionship: Foals naturally seek social interaction, and without a mare, they may experience loneliness and emotional distress. It is crucial to provide companionship to the orphan foal by introducing a suitable equine companion. This can be a gentle and experienced nanny mare, another orphan foal, or a calm and accepting adult horse. The companion should exhibit nurturing behaviors and help the foal learn appropriate social and behavioral cues.

5. Environmental Enrichment: Creating a nurturing and stimulating environment is essential for the foal's mental and physical development. Ensure the foal has access to safe and spacious surroundings, ideally with access to pasture, where it can explore, graze, and engage in natural behaviors. Providing toys, safe objects to investigate, and opportunities for socialization with other horses or foals can help stimulate the orphan foal's curiosity and development.

6. Veterinary Monitoring and Health Care: Regular veterinary check-ups are crucial for monitoring the orphan foal's health, growth, and overall well-being. Vaccinations, deworming, and dental care should be performed according to the veterinarian's recommendations.

Regular weight checks, hoof care, and assessment of body condition will help ensure the foal is thriving and any potential health issues are promptly addressed.

7. Introducing Solid Food: As the orphan foal grows, gradually introduce solid food to its diet. Consult with your veterinarian or an equine nutritionist to develop an appropriate feeding plan that includes high-quality hay, specialized foal feed, and balanced nutrition. Monitor the foal's digestive health during the transition and adjust the diet as needed to support optimal growth and development.

8. Professional Guidance and Support: Raising an orphan foal can be complex, requiring specialized knowledge and expertise. Seek guidance from experienced equine professionals, including veterinarians, equine nutritionists, and experienced horse breeders or trainers. They can provide valuable insights, advice, and support throughout the orphan foal's care and development.

A lot of owners can find that their orphaned foals that have been hand reared rather than placed with a surrogate mare end up developing bad behaviors. It's not exactly known why this seems to occur, perhaps it has to do with the natural tendencies of mares to guide their babies and teach them before they are weaned.

To combat this potential problem early on, consider employing a horse trainer that specializes in foals and yearlings, and you can also look to horse behaviorists as well for a deeper look into why a foal or yearling may display certain behaviors.

With time and dedication, any behaviors that may result from the difference in upbringing should improve and you can rest assured that you are doing the best for your little addition to the barn family.

Caring for an orphan foal is a significant responsibility that requires dedication, knowledge, and compassion. By providing appropriate nutrition, veterinary care, socialization, and a nurturing environment, you can give the foal the best possible chance for a healthy and happy life.

Remember to seek professional guidance, monitor the foal's progress closely, and celebrate the unique bond that forms as you nurture and raise this vulnerable and resilient life.



The Long-Term Effects of Stress on Horses: Understanding the Equine Burden

By The VHN Writing Team



Stress is a common experience for horses, arising from various sources such as transportation, training, social interactions, or changes in their environment. While short-term stress responses are normal and necessary for survival, prolonged or chronic stress can have detrimental effects on the overall well-being and health of horses.

In this article, we will take a look at the long-term effects of stress on horses, shedding light on the importance of recognizing and managing equine stress for their welfare.

Horses can experience stress due to various factors, including:

1. Environmental Changes: Any significant changes in their environment, such as relocation to a new stable, alterations in turnout routines, or exposure to unfamiliar surroundings, can cause stress in horses. They are creatures of habit and thrive on consistency. Having a new horse next to them or another type of animal close by can even cause an impact in the environment they're used to.

2. Social Dynamics: Horses are herd animals and rely on social interactions for their well-being. Isolation, separation from companions, or frequent changes in herd dynamics can lead to stress. Aggressive interactions with other horses or bullying within a herd can also be stress-inducing. If a horse suddenly loses a long time companion or they are forced to be separated, it can begin to show in negative ways. Even moving from one barn to another can be stressing socially for horses.

3. Training and Handling: Incorrect or harsh training methods, excessive demands, and inconsistent cues from handlers can create stress in horses. They need clear and consistent communication during training to feel secure and understand their tasks. This is especially important to remember if you use a horse for lessons or training multiple people as they will be exposed to a variety of different cues frequently from different sources.

4. Transportation: Traveling in trailers or long-distance transportation can be stressful for horses. The confinement, noise, vibration, and unfamiliar surroundings during transportation can trigger anxiety and stress responses. Don't be surprised if your horse's eating, drinking, and bowel habits take a hit during sudden travels or longer travel times.

5. Performance Expectations: Horses involved in competitions, racing, or high-pressure performance events may experience stress due to the demands placed on them. Intense training schedules, performance anxiety, and the presence of large crowds can contribute to their stress levels, particularly if they do not receive any time for rest and healing.

6. Health Issues: Physical discomfort or underlying health problems can induce stress in horses. Pain from injuries, illnesses, dental issues, or digestive disorders can elevate stress levels and impact their overall well-being. And added stress can worsen health problems, creating a cycle.

7. Unfamiliar or Startling Situations: Horses are highly sensitive animals, and sudden exposure to loud noises, unusual objects, or unexpected events can startle and stress them. Fireworks, loud machinery, or even predators in the vicinity can trigger fear and anxiety.

8. Insufficient Turnout or Exercise: Horses require regular turnout and exercise to maintain their physical and mental well-being. Limited access to pasture or lack of physical activity can result in frustration, restlessness, and increased stress levels. A bored horse will find ways to occupy themselves, many times in unhealthy ways.

It is important for horse owners, trainers, and handlers to be aware of these potential stressors and take proactive measures to minimize their impact. Providing a consistent and supportive environment, using positive reinforcement techniques, and implementing stress reduction strategies can help promote the overall welfare and happiness of horses.

Physiological Impact: Prolonged stress triggers a cascade of physiological responses in horses, leading to the release of stress hormones such as cortisol and adrenaline. These hormones, when constantly elevated, can disrupt the immune system, hinder digestive processes, and weaken the cardiovascular system.

Consequently, stressed horses are more prone to developing illnesses, experiencing weight loss, gastrointestinal issues, and reduced fertility. Chronic stress can also contribute to the development of conditions like ulcers and laminitis, compromising the overall health of the animal.

Behavioral and Emotional Consequences: Stress not only affects a horse's physical health but also has profound consequences on their behavior and emotional well-being. Horses experiencing chronic stress may exhibit undesirable behaviors such as aggression, cribbing, weaving, or stall walking.

These repetitive behaviors are often seen as coping mechanisms and can lead to physical injuries, hoof problems, and muscle fatigue. Additionally, stress can cause anxiety, depression, and reduced social interactions among horses, ultimately impacting their overall quality of life.

Performance and Learning: Stressed horses often demonstrate impaired performance and learning abilities. The release of stress hormones can hinder cognitive processes, making it difficult for horses to focus, retain information, or respond appropriately to training cues.

Consequently, horses may struggle with tasks they previously excelled at, leading to frustration for both the animal and the rider or trainer. Furthermore, chronic stress can undermine the bond between horse and human, affecting trust and communication, thereby impeding progress in training and competition.

Management and Mitigation: Recognizing and managing equine stress is crucial for ensuring the well-being of horses. Implementing appropriate management practices, such as providing consistent routines, access to forage, social interactions, and ample turnout time, can help alleviate stress. Regular exercise and mental stimulation through varied training activities can also aid in stress reduction.

Additionally, creating a calm and quiet environment, minimizing exposure to potential stressors, and using positive reinforcement techniques can contribute to a more relaxed and contented equine companion.

The long-term effects of stress on horses can have far-reaching implications for their physical health, behavior, emotional well-being, and performance. Recognizing the signs of stress, understanding its impact, and implementing effective management strategies are vital for promoting the overall welfare of these magnificent animals.

By prioritizing stress reduction and providing a supportive environment, we can enhance the quality of life for our equine partners and ensure their long-term health and happiness.



Safe Sweeteners for Horses

By The VHN Writing Team



Sweetening feeds and supplements is a common practice in equine nutrition to enhance palatability and encourage horses to consume their meals.

However, it is crucial to choose sweeteners that are safe for horses, as certain artificial or natural sweeteners can have negative health effects. Read on for some safe sweeteners for horses, focusing on options that provide taste appeal without compromising their overall well-being.

1. Molasses: Molasses, a byproduct of sugar production, is a popular and widely accepted sweetener for horses. Most feed rooms will smell like molasses because it is so regularly found in horse feed products. It is not only highly palatable but also offers nutritional benefits. Molasses is rich in minerals such as iron, calcium, and potassium, providing additional dietary supplementation.

However, it is important to use molasses in moderation due to its high sugar content. Excessive intake can contribute to weight gain, metabolic disorders, and dental problems. Opting for unsulfured molasses is recommended to avoid potential health issues associated with sulfur additives.

2. Stevia: Stevia is a natural sweetener derived from the leaves of the *Stevia rebaudiana* plant. It is an excellent alternative for horse owners looking to reduce sugar intake in their horse's diet. Stevia is significantly sweeter than sugar, so only small amounts are needed.

It has a negligible impact on blood sugar levels and is low in calories. Stevia is generally well-tolerated by horses and provides a sweet taste without the negative health effects associated with excessive sugar consumption.

3. Apple Cider Vinegar: Apple cider vinegar (ACV) is a popular natural sweetener for horses that offers several health benefits. While not as sweet as other options, ACV can help improve digestion and regulate blood sugar levels.

Apple Cider Vinegar works to acidify the horse's stomach for better digestion, cleansing the digestive tract. It can also aid in the absorption of minerals and helps balance the acid/alkaline ratio which is essential for good health.

It also aids in maintaining a healthy microbial balance in the gut and supports the immune system. When using ACV as a sweetener, it is important to choose raw, unfiltered, and organic varieties to ensure maximum benefits.

4. Carrots and Apples: Fresh fruits and vegetables like carrots and apples can be used as natural sweeteners for horses. Even softened forms, such as applesauce or other mashed varieties are great for horses that can't chew very well.

These treats are not only sweet and palatable but also provide additional nutrients and fiber. Carrots are particularly popular among horses and can be safely used in moderation. However, it is essential to consider the overall sugar content in these treats and limit the quantity to prevent excess sugar intake, especially in horses prone to metabolic issues.

5. Artificial Sweeteners: Artificial sweeteners such as saccharin, aspartame, and sucralose are commonly used in human foods and beverages. However, it is generally advised to avoid artificial sweeteners in equine diets.

Horses may have different metabolic processes than humans and can react differently to these substances. Additionally, some artificial sweeteners may have potential health risks or adverse effects on digestion and gut health.

It is best to prioritize natural sweeteners that align with the horse's natural diet and physiology.

If you wish to utilize any artificial sweetener, always consult your veterinarian first to see if it is safe and how much you can use.

6. Maple Syrup and Honey: Maple syrup and honey are also sweeteners that can be used to give medicine and other things to horses, particularly picky eaters or elder equines that are struggling to maintain weight or take medications effectively.

7. Melted peppermints (sugar free if possible): Melted peppermints can be another possibility to help your horse to eat his feed or take his medication. There are sugar free varieties that you can melt down, dissolve in water, or crush up to place in feed. While not as sweet as some other things, it could be enough of a flavor to help.

When using any kind of candied item sold to people, first check the nutrition label to see what is being used. Just because an item says "sugar free" or "no sugar added" does not mean that there isn't a synthetic form of a sweetener that's been added. It's not sugar, so they can claim to be sugar free on the product.

8. Crushed horse treats: Sometimes you have to work smarter, not harder. And the simpler things can be better. If your horse already has a favorite treat, consider crushing up his treat and using it to sweeten or give flavor to his feed or medicine. This way, you know it's safe, and he likes it, making it a safe and easy alternative to buying an added sweetener.

Whenever possible, strive to select natural forms of sweeteners without additives and always consult a vet when in doubt about a particular sweetener.

If you have a horse that struggles with a metabolic disorder, such as insulin intolerance, be very careful about turning to sweeteners even for giving medication.

While the sweetener can make it much easier to administer supplements and medication to horses, it could have a much greater impact on their health than you might guess, resulting in a much bigger problem that could require a vet call.

Choosing safe sweeteners for horses is essential to maintain their overall health and well-being. While there are several options available, it is important to consider their sugar content, nutritional value, and potential health benefits. Molasses, when used in moderation, can be a suitable option, providing palatability and additional minerals.

Natural alternatives like stevia, apple cider vinegar, and fresh fruits and vegetables offer sweetness while minimizing sugar intake and providing additional nutritional benefits. Avoiding artificial sweeteners is recommended, as their effects on horses may not be well understood.

By selecting safe sweeteners, horse owners can promote healthy eating habits and ensure the long-term well-being of their equine companions.



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One month will feature YOUR logo with the Before photos alongside the amazing After photo and a summary of their story (like Jack's below).

Your \$250 donation helps offset our printing costs so we don't use any feed money. To claim your spot, simply donate \$250 at <https://www.leanhorses.org/donate/>, and email us your choice of month to allvegashorses@gmail.com.

Easy! Thank you for continuing to support our herd and mission.

The Stages of Healing in Horse Wounds

By The VHN Writing Team



Wound healing in horses progresses through several distinct stages, each serving a specific purpose in the healing process. Understanding these stages can help horse owners and caretakers monitor the healing progress and provide appropriate care. Here are the four main stages of wound healing in horses:

1. Hemostasis: The first stage of wound healing is hemostasis, which occurs immediately after an injury. During this stage, the horse's body initiates clotting mechanisms to stop bleeding and minimize blood loss. Platelets aggregate at the site of the wound, forming a temporary plug to control bleeding.

Additionally, blood vessels constrict to reduce blood flow to the injured area. Hemostasis sets the foundation for the subsequent stages of wound healing.

2. Inflammation: In the inflammation stage, the body's immune response is activated to clean the wound and initiate tissue repair. Inflammatory cells, such as neutrophils and macrophages, migrate to the wound site to remove debris, bacteria, and dead tissue.

This phase typically lasts a few days and is characterized by redness, swelling, heat, and pain. It is essential to monitor the wound during this stage for signs of infection and provide appropriate wound care to prevent complications.

3. Proliferation: During the proliferation stage, new tissue formation takes place. Fibroblasts, specialized cells responsible for collagen production, migrate to the wound site and begin to lay down a network of collagen fibers, creating a framework for tissue repair.

Blood vessels also start to grow, ensuring adequate blood supply to support healing. Granulation tissue, a pink, fleshy substance, develops and gradually fills the wound space. As the wound contracts, the edges begin to come together.

4. Maturation and Remodeling: The final stage of wound healing is maturation and remodeling, which can take several weeks to months. During this stage, the newly formed collagen fibers continue to strengthen and reorganize, increasing the wound's tensile strength.

The wound contracts further, reducing its size. As the wound matures, it undergoes changes in appearance, texture, and color. Initially, the scar tissue may be raised and red, but over time it becomes flatter, paler, and more closely matches the surrounding skin.

It is important to note that the duration and progression of wound healing can vary depending on the size, location, and severity of the wound, as well as the overall health of the horse. Providing proper wound care, including regular cleaning, bandaging if necessary, and adhering to any veterinary recommendations, can support each stage of healing and promote optimal wound closure.

Monitoring the wound closely, watching for signs of infection, and seeking veterinary attention if any complications arise are essential to ensure successful healing. Prompt and appropriate wound care can minimize scarring and help restore the affected area to its optimal function, allowing the horse to resume its normal activities as quickly as possible.



January						2023
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Equine Event Management at Horseman's Park would like to wish everyone a Happy Fourth of July!

There are currently no events at the park in July. Have a fun and safe summer. We look forward to seeing you all back at the park for the upcoming show season!

Are you interested in having an event at Horseman's Park in 2023? We are currently accepting reservations. Please email info@equineeventlv.com if you would like more information about the park, or are interested in making a reservation.

Thank you sponsors for your continued support!



Broken

By Anna Dunstone

He, so softly, slipped away
Unseen, unloved, unheard
In the bedroom corner, lay
To listen to their words.
These words, in angry prattle
Hate-filled, harsh, and heated
Were all dressed up for battle
Against his parents, seated.
They, the throwers of those words,
Tore their bonds to rips
Sliced the family into thirds
Drew blood with just their lips.
And he, in the corner, cried
Longing to get sicker
Something in that boy died
Listening to them bicker.



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How to Use Electrolytes to Help Reduce Heat Stress in Your Horses

By Brad Kloss

As temperatures rise this summer, it's crucial to pay special attention to the hydration and well-being of your horse. Similar to humans, horses control body temperature by sweating. This sweat has an abundance of calcium, potassium, chlorides, and magnesium. When the body sweats faster than it can replenish fluids, dehydration can occur. As the summer heat intensifies, ensuring proper hydration for your horse becomes even more critical. While providing clean, fresh water should always be the primary focus, overall nutrition is also very important.

Key Minerals to Know About

Sodium and chloride are the primary electrolytes lost in sweat. They are important in maintaining proper fluid balance in the body. Sodium helps to retain water, while chloride works in conjunction with sodium to maintain proper osmotic pressure. Because of this, you should always offer a free choice salt block to your horse.

Potassium is another vital electrolyte that plays a role in muscle contraction and nerve function. There's what's known as the sodium potassium pump (there are four subtypes of pumps). The volume-controlling subtype pump helps maintain $Na^+ - K^+$ at the right concentrations of ions. It is important for potassium to be present to push enough sodium out of the cell to maintain osmolarity. Otherwise, excessive water retention can occur.

Support Your Horse With Electrolytes

We can find these critical minerals important for proper hydration through electrolyte hydration supplements. Electrolytes are designed to maintain a higher cation (positive electrical charge) in the body so that pH can be maintained and body fluids regulated. Cations are present in potassium and sodium — just like in the Gatorade athletes drink after sports games. Calcium is important in cells to help muscle contraction, while magnesium works with calcium to ensure healthy and efficient muscle function. Magnesium pushes the calcium through the ion channel after calcium contracts muscle fibers, and in return, helps control muscle contractions.

Long-distance bike riders often have a roll of Roloids on hand to help reduce muscle cramps when dehydration occurs. That's because Roloids are rich in calcium and magnesium and help both maintain gut pH and muscle contraction. Combine these with yeast products (postbiotics and probiotics) to maintain a healthy digestive system and you have a winning combination. Digestive aids at clinically researched levels during heat stress improve nutrient absorption and reduce inflammation, particularly when you use products such as Diamond V Yeast TruEquine™. Yeast products help gut health and nutrient assimilation, which indirectly contributes to hydration and equine well-being.

Signs Your Horse Is Dehydrated

Look out for warning signs such as:

- Concentrated, dark, strong odor urine
- Dark colored gums
- Slow recovery after workout
- Increased heart rate and respiration rate
- Lethargy
- Eyes sunken in
- Loss of skin elasticity

Heat stress can result in colic, kidney failure, laminitis, and digestive upsets.

The Bottom Line - So what does this all mean for your equine companion? If you are working your horse and they are sweating excessively, you may want to consider an electrolyte and yeast combination. Look for an electrolyte that has salt (sodium chloride), potassium, magnesium, and calcium. Electrolytes are commonly added to water — in fact, it is very



important to provide enough water when using electrolytes. Consult with a veterinarian or equine nutritionist before starting electrolyte supplementation. Electrolyte needs vary depending on many factors, such as workload, temperature and humidity, and individual health history.

Brad Kloss is an animal nutritionist with more than 38 years of experience. He's also the founder of Symphony — by A Horse of Course Nutrition.

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Gut Health

TruEquine™ yeast stabilizes the hindgut environment. Calcium helps regulate stomach acidity while naturally occurring glutamine acts as fuel for small intestinal cells, helping to promote a robust gut lining.



Craig Cowley, who owns a star Limited Open Hackamore horse named Rusty, had been struggling with white line disease until he started feeding *Symphony*. Particularly after a wet season, Craig noted that his horses who were given *Symphony* had significantly better quality hooves than those who were given other supplements.



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JULY 2023 CALENDER OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>VALLEY HORSE NEWS DEADLINE 15th of EVERY MONTH valleyhorsenews@gmail.com</p> </div>						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 APACHE LAND APPALOOSA CLUB Meeting 7:00pm, Horse-shoe Restaurant, Benson AZ; Contact Fred @ 520-384-5332	11 NSHAV GENERAL MEETING 7pm Olive Garden - 1361 S. Decatur Blvd. 702-645-2988 POSS GENERAL MEETING 7pm @ SHOWPOSS.VPWEB.COM for time and place Pahrump 775-727-9576	12 HCON MONTHLY MEETING 7pm Doc's Saddlery 6185 Elkhorn RD LV, NV 702-361-5456 BCH of UTAH WASATCH FRONT CHAPTER 7:00pm American Legion 345 Depot st Clearfield, UT Info. 801-773-9419	13	14	15
16	17	18 SSPHC MONTHLY MEETING 7pm IHop Cheyenne & Rainbow 702-373-2673 paintmee@aol.com	19	20 BCH BRISTLECONE CHAPTER Meeting @ 6:00 pm Third Thursday of Every Month BCHNVB.com for details	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 S. NV REGIONAL TRAILS 4701 N Torrey Pines Dr., LV Contact Ed @ 702-645-1791 editoredd@juno.com					

AUGUST 2023 CALENDER OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 NSHA GENERAL MEETING 7pm Olive Garden - 1361 S. Decatur Blvd. 702-645-2988 POSS GENERAL MEETING 7pm @ SHOWPOSS.VPWEB.COM for time and place Pahrump 775-727-9576	9 HCON MONTHLY MEETING 7pm Doc's Saddlery 6185 Elkhorn RD LV, NV 702-361-5456 BCH of UTAH WASATCH FRONT CHAPTER 7:00pm American Legion 345 Depot st Clearfield, UT Info. 801-773-9419	10	11	12
13	14 APACHE LAND APPALOOSA CLUB Meeting 7:00pm, Horse-shoe Restaurant, Benson AZ; Contact Fred @ 520-384-5332	15 SSPHC MONTHLY MEETING 7pm IHop Cheyenne & Rainbow 702-373-2673 paintmee@aol.com	16	17 BCH BRISTLECONE CHAPTER Meeting @ 6:00 pm Third Thursday of Every Month BCHNVB.com for details	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 S. NV REGIONAL TRAILS 4701 N Torrey Pines Dr., LV Contact Ed @ 702-645-1791 editoredd@juno.com	29	30	31		

Farm Animal Adoptions



Meet the Three Little Pigs! Mona, Lisa, and Gia.

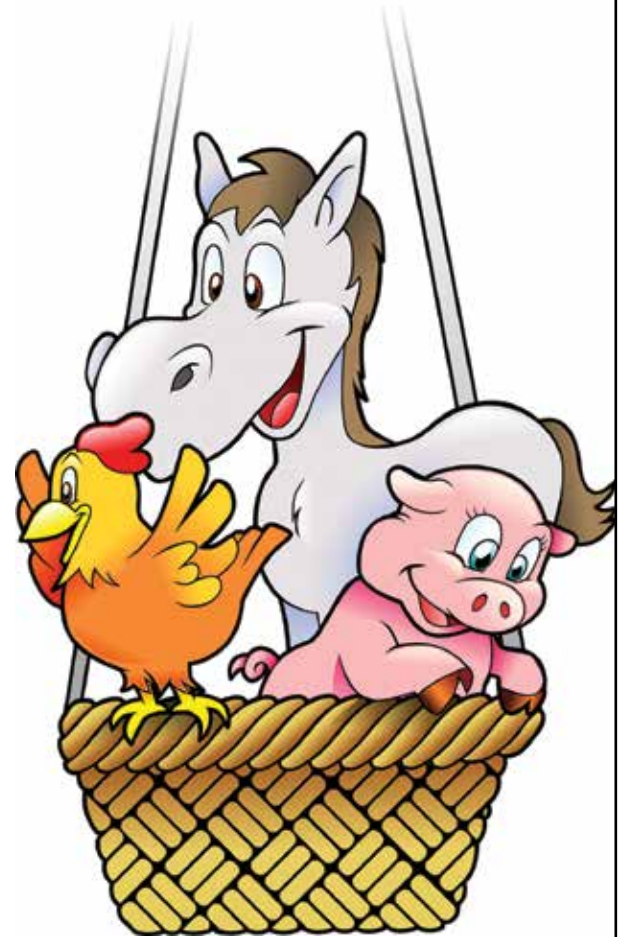
Approx 6 months old, recently spayed and fully vetted. These sisters are still very skittish, rescued from a very ugly backyard breeding situation, but with your love and patience, you'll find pot belly pigs can be the best pet you'll ever have. Please reach out to schedule a meet and greet! We are happy to help with their lifelong care.

Text Janice at 702-816-7711

or email janice@windys.org and thank you for considering adoption, we have a great need for homes.

All you have to do:
Is provide a photo of the animal/ animals. Give a short description explaining why they are such a great candidate for a new home. And lastly, provide the best contact information for those that are interested. Your photo, description, and contact will go here for everyone to see and hopefully will make it to the perfect new home.

Open to all: Horses, Donkeys, Mules, Miniature Horses, Cattle, Piggies, Goats, Sheep, Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Farm Fowl, Rabbits, Alpaca, and Llamas! Any farm animal in need has a place in this section for as long as they need it!



Welcome all rescues, sanctuaries, and non-profits!

Now is the chance to give farm animals in need of adopting and fostering an extra spotlight - **on the house.**

Valley Horse News will now have an adoptions section solely for farm animals at shelters and organizations that need to find a loving, forever home. On this page, every month, you will find photos and information about wonderful animals that could be the perfect addition to your home or farm. You will also find the organization that they come from and how you can get in contact.

This section will remain in the paper *indefinitely.*

As long as there is an animal that needs it, it will be open for listings. With COVID on the decline many animals are in need of new homes, so here will be the space to feature them.

Are you an organization or know of an organization that helps farm animals? Contact now for more information and to be featured on this page every month. Remember, this page is for **adoptions only.**

Animals for sale by owner must be advertised in other sections.

Please spread the word far and wide about this section so we can facilitate as many adoptions as possible. These precious animals need and deserve all the help we can get. It is a personal goal to make this section explode every single month! A home for every animal that comes on this page is not only a worthwhile but completely possible goal.

Just imagine what could be done by this time next year. So let's make it happen!

Have questions? Email us at valleyhorsenews@gmail.com or call 702-808-7669

We will provide all of the information you need and answer any inquiries you may have.



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