

UNL C&H News

Companion Animal and Horse

December 2013

Events to look forward to:

Companion Animal & Wildlife Career Day

- December 4th, 2013

Horsin' Around

- February 8th-9th, 2014

4-H Stampede

- March 1st, 2014

Canine Companions for Life Nebraska 4-H Dog Expo

- April 25th-26th, 2014

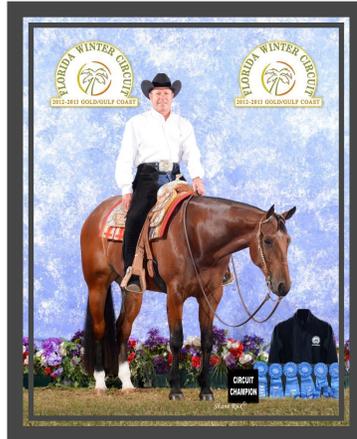
4-H District Horse Shows

- June 9th-14th, 2014

4-H State Horse Show

- July 14-17, 2014

Horsin' Around 2014



In its 22nd year, UNL's Horsin' Around continues to treat the Midwest horse industry with some of the country's elite trainers that are rarely available in the area. The 2014 edition of Horsin' Around will be another rare opportunity to learn from one of the best coaches of youth and amateurs as Tommy Sheets will be the feature trainer.

Tommy is a professional All-Around Horseman from New Albany, Indiana. Tommy has been in the horse business most of his life. With a multitude of World Champions, Reserve World Champions, and 40 Congress wins to his resume. Tommy was the 1996 AQHA - GMC Sr All-Around Champion with Zippos LTD and 2007 AQHA -Sooner Jr All-Around Champion with Good For the Ladys. He has 15 total AQHA National Honor Roll Champions. Titles in Western Pleasure, Reining, Western Riding, Trail and Performance Halter. Tommy has earned over 7,000 AQHA points and has been a 6 time AQHA Team Wrangler Member. Tommy resides with his wife Leslie, who owns a commercial and residential interior design company, and their son Murphy.

To learn more about Tommy Sheets his accomplishments and methods, visit his website at: <http://www.tommysheetsshowhorses.com/index.html>

For more information or to preregister, call (402) 472-6414 or e-mail kander-sonl@unl.edu. Information is also can be found at horse.unl.edu and go to producer information. Horsin' Around 2014 is sponsored by UNL Extension in the university's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

<http://animalscience.unl.edu/web/anisci/anscextensionequinehorsinaround>

2014 4-H Horse Stampede

Mark your calendars!

The 2014 4-H Horse Stampede has been scheduled for Saturday-March 1, 2014.

Entries are due by Friday-January 31, 2014.

Visit www.horse.unl.edu for more information



Visit the link below to sign up for the

C & H Newsletter:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/15fcoHLKzG_RL43MrDiO8I_o23GeTwyiVnjt36Y4gKcUI/viewform



Choosing a Dog Boarding Facility

By: Lisa Karr-Lilienthal, PhD Companion Animal Extension

When dog owners plan to be away from home for an extended period of time, the question always arises: what to do with the dog? Many owners turn to boarding kennels to overcome this obstacle. Kennels are secure, dependable, and provide proper care for your dog. Choosing the correct kennel can ease the mind of dog owners while they are away.

Kennel Staff

When choosing a kennel, you want to choose a kennel whose staff is not only knowledgeable about dogs, but provides excellent customer service. An experienced kennel staff will be able to notice signs of stress or illness and evaluate the situation in case veterinary assistance may be needed. You may want to ask the following questions when evaluating the kennel staff:

- What type of experience do you have working at a kennel?
- How long have you been working at the kennel?
- Do you own a dog?
- What type of experience do you have with dogs?

Tour the Kennel

Touring a kennel will give an owner a better sense of what the kennel is like and how it functions. Several styles of boarding kennels exist and all have their pros and cons. Most kennels will house your dog individually, unless instructed otherwise. Choose the kennel that best fits the needs of you and your dog. While touring, check to see that each dog has plenty of room and the kennels are clean.

Can my dog receive extra exercise opportunities?

A lot of kennels have additional exercise programs for your dog when it is being boarded. Options can range from taking your dog on walks to letting them spend more time in the exercise yards. Also, this is a great way for dogs to interact with the staff. Often, these extra opportunities will cost extra, in addition to the standard boarding fee.

Should I bring my own dog food?

It is recommended that a dog is fed the same product it receives at home so you are not switching the diet on your dog. Switching your dog's diet may cause your dog to become stressed or cause gastrointestinal problems. By feeding your dog its normal food, the staff will be able to monitor the dog's intake and won't have to worry about how your dog may act with the new diet. Make sure you provide more than

enough food for the time you will be gone.

Are dogs let out individually or in a group?

This depends on the particular kennel. Many kennels will let dogs out individually or only with dogs belonging to the same family. This prevents fights between dogs that don't know each other. Other boarding facilities may let dogs out based on their size — first, a group of smaller dogs, then medium-sized dogs, and finally large dogs. You should let the staff know if you do not want your dog socializing with other dogs, if your dog has any aggression issues, or if your dog doesn't interact well with new dogs.



Does my dog require specific shots to board?

Boarding kennels usually require specific vaccinations to allow your dog to be boarded. These vaccines may include rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and Bordetella. Kennels may also require other vaccinations. Most kennels require a vaccination record from your veterinarian stating that your dog is up to date on its shots and has had all the required vaccinations. Because diseases are more readily spread between dogs in close quarters, it is important to discuss your dog's vaccination needs with your veterinarian well in advance of the proposed kennel stay.

TRIVIA!

Test your knowledge with the following trivia questions! (Answers on page 4)

- What are baby ferrets called?
- Which parasite eggs are common found on the horse's legs and look like small yellow drops of paint?

Animal Identification for the Large and the Small- By: Kathy Potthoff, Extension Educator

Identifying your companion animal or large animal will greatly increase the chances that your animal will be returned to you should you become separated for any reason. There are many different types of identification and strategies that work better for small or large animals. No one expects their animals to get lost but by providing your animal with proper identification you can maximize your chances of being reunited with a lost animal.

- **ID Tag** – Be sure the information easy to read and not worn. This visible method helps those who find your animal know it has an owner.
- **License tag** - from your local animal control
- **Rabies tag** – may also have vet clinic information
- **Microchip** – many more of the chip readers are ‘universal’ and can read multiple brands of microchips but it may be a good idea to check with your local veterinarian, humane society, animal control to see what brands of chips their readers can scan. After you put a chip in your animal be sure to save the contact information and the ID number. Share that information with breed registry, veterinarians, and others. Be sure to keep your contact information current – it won’t do any good to have a microchip and then have a disconnected phone or an address that is not current.
- **Collar or Halter** - with phone number woven into it. Several companies offer this type of product.
- **Permanent Tattoo** – phone number on animal
- **Pet ID Card or Laminated Card** – small and flexible (the size of a luggage tag) can be attached to halter, tack, or braided into a mane.
- **Permanent marker**- put phone number on inside and outside of nylon collar or halter. You can also put phone number on animal inside thigh or other location if light colored (temporary – use as a secondary method so if a collar, halter, or tags are lost).
- **Stall Card** – list contact information.



Determine the information that you need to include. This can be cell phone numbers, name, home address, vet clinic, kennel, etc... If you are traveling, you can also add your destination and numbers where you are staying, or event dates and locations. Multiple forms of ID drastically increase the likelihood that you will be reunited with your animal.

By using these ideas as a starting point this can be a club or group brainstorming activity to discuss additional ideas or to determine what methods might work the best in your home location, while travelling to a show or fair, or to an educational clinic. It is important to take some simple precautions help with the quick return of your animal.



PHOTO WINNER

Meet Rufus:
The Guinea Pig,
and our
photo contest
winner for this
issue.



Enter our photo contest!

Send in the cutest, funniest, fluffiest, or craziest picture you have of your beloved companion animal or equine friend. The winner will be feature in the next issue! All entries must be sent to lkarr-lilienthal2@unl.edu or lcottle2@unl.edu by March 15th, 2014

Fall Marks the Annual Cycle of Parasite Control in Horses

By: Kathy Anderson, PhD, Equine Extension Specialist

Parasite resistance to anthelmintics (dewormers) is widespread and traditional frequent deworming is no longer a viable option in parasite control. Deworming schedules should be based on seasonal patterns of parasite transmission and an individual horse's susceptibility to parasites. Small strangles pose the greatest threat to adult horses and the risk of transmission is highest from September through March in Nebraska and throughout the southeast. To minimize parasite resistance, an individual horse's susceptibility to parasite infection should be identified through performing fecal egg counts (FEC) of the manure.



Life Cycle: Small Strongyles:

Transmission of strongyles is dependent on the climate. Adult worms lay their eggs in the large intestine and eggs are shed through the manure to the environment where they hatch into larvae if conditions are favorable (43 to 85°F). The larvae survive under extreme cold and freezing, but they die when temperatures exceed 90°F. Pastures provide the ideal environment for larvae so transmission most commonly occurs in grazing horses.



Pasture Management Tips:

- Avoid high stocking rates (2 acres per horse is minimum requirement)
- Avoid overgrazing (Larvae are found on lowest part of plants)
- Utilize rotational grazing
- Drag or harrow ONLY in the summer and restrict horses access for several weeks following
- Group horses by age (young horses housed separately from older horses)
- House new horses separately for 2 weeks and until FEC is performed

Parasite Resistance to Dewormers:

Parasite resistance to anthelmintics (dewormers) is widespread. Parasite resistance has been documented for all three major classes of anthelmintics (Craig et al. 2007; Lyons et al, 2007). More than 95% of horse herds examined in the southeast U.S. were reported to have small strongyle populations resistant to benzimidazoles, and almost 50% of these herds were also resistant to pyrimidines. Localized resistance of ascarids to macrocyclic lactones has also been identified on some farms (Craig et al., 2007; Reinemeyer, 2009). To minimize parasite resistance, an individual horse's susceptibility parasite infection should be identified through performing fecal egg counts (FEC). The effectiveness of each class of anthelmintic should be identified through fecal egg count reduction testing (FECRT).

FEC and FECRT: Evidence Based Parasite Control:

Fecal egg counts (FEC) are a measurement of the number of parasite eggs per gram (EPG) of manure and are also used to identify the type(s) of parasites affecting the horse. Individual horses differ in their susceptibility to parasites and they are classified based on their FEC as low contaminators (less than 200 EPG), moderate contaminators 9200 to 500 EPG), or high contaminators (more than 500 EPG). The classification of an individual horse usually remains the same from year to year; so fewer FECs are required after the first year. A second FEC is required after deworming to determine if the anthelmintic used was successful. Fecal Egg Count Reduction Testing (FECRT) is the process of performing FEC before and after treatment with a dewormer and the effectiveness of the dewormer is determined by the percent egg reduction. Equine veterinarians routinely perform FEC for \$10 to \$30 per test.

Help us make our newsletter better!

Answer the following questions and send your response to <http://go.unl.edu/chsurvey>

1. What would you change about this issue?
2. What is one thing you'd like to see in the next issue?
3. Do you believe there is helpful information in this issue? If so, what is helpful?
4. Any other suggestions to better our newsletter?

Trivia answers!

- What are baby ferrets called?
Kits!



- Which parasite eggs are common found on the horse's legs and look like small yellow drops of paint?

The Bot Fly!

THE 2014 CANINE COMPANIONS FOR LIFE NEBRASKA 4-H DOG EXPO IS BEING HELD IN THE SPRING! THE GOAL TO HELP YOU BETTER PREPARE FOR THE CURRENT 4-H YEAR.



Evening of Friday April 25th: Quiz bowl and fair grounds party!!!



DEMONSTRATIONS AND CINICS

Practice Show Classes:

Obedience, Showmanship, & Agility

Fun Classes: Rally Obedience, Tricks

& Costumes AND MUCH MORE!!!

**Adams County Fairgrounds
Hastings, NE
April 25-26, 2014**

For More information visit companionanimal.unl.edu or contact:

Dr. Lisa Karr-Lilienthal | lkarr-lilienthal2@unl.edu | Kathy Potthoff | kpotthoff2@unl.edu

Developing a Deworming Program:

All horses should be dewormed at least two times per year at six-month intervals, usually in the Autumn and Spring when environmental conditions favor parasite transmission. Additional treatments will depend on the horses initial FEC (Table 1). Using products that are effective against small strongyles will maintain eradication of these parasites on a farm, and the addition of praziquantel will limit the transmission of tapeworms. Ivermectin and moxidectin are the only effective dewormers against bot larvae (although bots are not a major concern in horses).

Table 1: Example of a parasite control program for horses in Nebraska.



Months of Transmission				
Fecal Egg Count (FEC) ¹	September	December	March	May/June
Low (<200 EPG)	Ivermectin or Moxidectin PLUS Praziquantel	Ivermectin	Ivermectin or Moxidectin PLUS Praziquantel	
Moderate (200-500 EPG)	Ivermectin or Moxidectin PLUS Praziquantel		Ivermectin or Moxidectin PLUS Praziquantel	Fenbendazole or Pyrantel (If effective otherwise Ivermectin) ²
High (>500 EPG)	Ivermectin or Moxidectin PLUS Praziquantel	Ivermectin	Ivermectin or Moxidectin PLUS Praziquantel	Fenbendazole or Pyrantel (If effective otherwise Ivermectin) ²

¹Initial Fecal Egg Count (FEC) in September followed by FECRT 10 to 14 days later to classify horses as low, moderate or high contaminants.

²If high contaminants must be treated with ivermectin in November (because of resistance to pyrimidines or benzimidazoles) their next treatment would be in January.

Considerations for young horses:

Parasite control programs should be customized for individual horses and herds based on FEC, seasonal patterns of parasite transmission, the climate, and pasture management schemes. While the target parasite to control in adult horses are small strongyles, ascarids (roundworms) are common in young horses. Roundworms are not affected by the seasons and foals are typically dewormed at regular intervals *bimonthly) from 2 to 16 months of age.

Is your local youth doing great things with companion animals or horses?!

Do you have updates or news on youth in your area dealing with companion animals? If so, send the information and pictures to lkarr-lilienthal2@unl.edu or lcottle2@unl.edu. Your youth may be featured in our next issue!

**Companion Animal
And
Equine**

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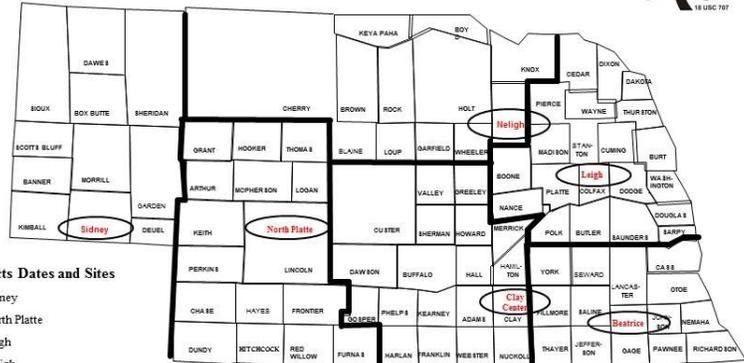
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UNIVERSITY OF
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Lincoln EXTENSION

2014 NEBRASKA DISTRICT 4-H HORSE SHOWS
all entries due to county office **May 9, 2014**

Note: **ALL** Level testing required for participation in the 2014 District
4-H Horse Shows **MUST** be completed by **MAY 9, 2014**



2014 Districts Dates and Sites

- June 9 – Sidney
- June 10 – North Platte
- June 11 – Leigh
- June 12 – Neligh
- June 13 – Clay Center
- June 14 – Beatrice

Reminder: All Entries for the State Horse must be mailed by May 9, 2014.
These include Showmanship, Halter, All Cattle Classes, Hunter Hack, Dressage,
Advanced Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Pleasure and
Horsemanship, Trail, 2 year old and 3 year old Western Pleasure and Working Ranch.
2014 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Show July 14 - 17, 2014

Changes in State Horse Contests in 2014

The Horse Advisory Committee and I put forth a vote to lower the State age requirements for all 4-H State Horse Contests including Districts, Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Show and the Stampede. The changes in age requirements will go into effect January 1, 2014.

NOTE: *The following entry rules pertain only to the Nebraska 4-H District and State Horse shows. County or local 4-H shows may or may not follow these class entry rules as it is at their discretion.*

All District and State Horse Show participants must be 10 years of age and be under 19 years of age by January 1st of the current calendar year. Where age groups are offered, a junior is 10 years of age and no older than 14 years of age as of January 1 of the competition year. A senior is 15 years of age by January 1 of the competition year and have not reached the age of 19 years on or before January 1 of the calendar year of competition. All advancement level requirements will remain the same for District and State contests. The age requirements for "State Horse Contests" such as Horse Bowl, Hippology, Horse Judging, Demonstrations, Public Speaking, and Art will follow the same age groups as above. Senior team events are designed for youth 14 years and older. Ten to 14-year-olds may compete at the state contest; however, the team is then ineligible for selection as a Nebraska representative to the corresponding national event.

In addition, entry fees will also be increasing in order to account for inflation and the rising costs of running the state horse contests. The entry fees will increase from \$5 to \$10 per class or contest. Hopefully with this increase we can provide more for our exhibitors and improve upon all these contests in order to make them better for all involved.

Thank you,

Lena Cottle, Equine Extension Specialist

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The Horse Advisory Committee

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture