IN THIS ISSUE

Know Your Horse Health
Full-Circle-Responsibility
Impact of Impact - Joint Health
90% Preparation Saves the Day

Upcoming Courses

Quick Links
Course Registration
News
More About Us
Our Sponsors

Upcoming Events
EquiMania! at Brooklin Fair
June 4 - 7, 2015

EquiMania! at Toronto Horse Day
June 6, 2015

Equine Guelph next offering Online Courses
Sept, 14, 2015

Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue program
Oct 3 - 5, 2015

Equine Guelph E-News

Care about YOUR horse? - Care about ALL horses. Help spread the message of Equine Welfare by forwarding this email to a friend.

June 2015

Dear Horse Enthusiast,

Welcome to this month's edition of Equine Guelph E-News.

KNOW YOUR HORSE HEALTH

With Dr. Frost and Dr. Henderson

No one spends more time with your horse than you. Naturally, the role of primary caretaker and advocate for horse health falls on the person in closest contact with said equine. The well-rounded horse person is more than a good rider. They are educated in normal parameters of horse health and keen observers, on the look-out for anything that is abnormal, for that individual horse.

In this article Dr. Laura Frost and Dr. Brianne Henderson will discuss the important role the horse owner plays in maintaining and optimizing their horse’s health. Covering topics of knowing what is normal for your horse, how to use your powers of observation and when to spring into action, this article is a must read for all horse care givers.

Read more...
**FULL-CIRCLE-RESPONSIBILITY - 2015**

**Code Section 4: Health Management**

The health status of the horse plays a major role in its welfare. Every owner should take steps to become knowledgeable about key management practices that support health.

Important aspects of health management include pest and insect control, vaccinations, parasite control, care of sick, injured or compromised horses, dental care, lameness, and monitoring of Body Condition Score on a regular basis. Read the full story...

Visit Equine Guelph's Code Decoder tool: the fast and easy way to learn the National Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines.

In partnership with Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Equine Guelph is developing a "Full-Circle-Responsibility" equine welfare educational initiative which stands to benefit the welfare of horses in both the racing and non-racing industries.

**THE IMPACT OF IMPACT ON JOINT HEALTH**

After pursuing an education in biology, Ontario Veterinary College, graduate student, Cristin McCarty was very excited to be given the opportunity to work with Dr. Jeff Thomason and Dr. Mark Hurtig at the University of Guelph, where ground-breaking research is looking at joint loading of horses travelling at high speed using finite-element (FE) modeling of skeletal mechanics. Using FE researchers can also study how distribution of stress in a healthy, spongy less dense bone differs from that of an osteoarthritic joint. Read on...

**Promote Healthy Joints:**

- Daily pasture turn out allows horses to load joints as nature intended
- Gradual, progressive warm up and cool down periods in training sessions
- Avoid excessive fast work and training on hard ground
- Exposing horses to different surfaces while training and hill work can be beneficial
- Contact your vet if you see swelling, lameness, shortened stride or signs of pain

Learn more about osteoarthritis by visiting Equine Guelph's healthcare tool.
"Journey through the Joints" and test your ability to spot lameness with "Lameness Lab." Equine Guelph thanks Zoetis for sponsoring these valuable tools.

90% PREPARATION SAVES THE DAY
Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue

"A successful emergency rescue is about 90 percent preparation and 10% action," reiterated Ontario SPCA officer Bonnie Bishop. Bishop can't say enough about how the Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue program, presented by Equine Guelph last fall, has helped her on the job. On March 17, 2015 preparation was put into action when a bull trapped down a well, just north of Napanee, was successfully rescued with Bonnie helping triage the situation on the end of a phone line with agent Tex Ridder on the scene.

Read full story...

Teamwork and planning are key ingredients to successful emergency rescues. The next 2-day Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue awareness hands-on seminar will be offered Oct 3 - 4 at Grand River Raceway in Elora, Ontario.

It is appropriate for a very broad audience - horse owners, first responders, law enforcement, animal control officers, veterinarians, veterinary technicians, emergency animal response teams, livestock producers and associations. This program is applicable to obtain continuing education credits for coaches (from Equine Canada) and for veterinarians, veterinary technicians and emergency responders (from their respective organizations).

Registration is limited. Early bird special $179 until July 15, 2015.
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three times a year, through the University of Guelph.

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Equine Guelph also offers two-week online courses:

- Behaviour & Safety
- Colic Prevention
- Equine Biosecurity

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