



# Northwoods News

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NORTHWOODS NEWS

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Check These Out!

NC Horse Referendum

<http://www.nchorsecouncil.com/>

## Events

**March 29<sup>th</sup> Saturday "So You Want to Learn How to Drive!"** Paradox Farm Start time 10:00 am BYOL Fee: \$15.00

[www.whipsandwheelsdrivingclub.org](http://www.whipsandwheelsdrivingclub.org)

## Parelli Tours

Fletcher NC

March 29-30, 2008

Western NC Ag Center  
McGough Arena

1301 Fanning Bridge Rd. Fletcher, NC 28732

Parking Fee: \$ 0.00

ph: 828-687-1414 fax: 828-687-9272

## Greetings



It seems like the Christmas season was just yesterday and now..Spring is coming, my second favorite time of year when everything is new and blossoming. I always take pause for contemplation this time of year and plan for what I would like to get done when there are longer days, not so hot with breezes to cool the brow. Northwoods, being a work in progress, always has projects going on. Just ask our project manager, Scottie, on any given day what he has planned, but be prepared for a list!

As most of you can see by now, the grass we had seed drilled is coming up nicely. There were actually two different kinds of grass planted, rye for the cooler months and fescue. We are watching closely to see if the fescue will come in as well as the rye did so be patient with us if you see your horses in the dry lots as we are trying to give nature a chance.

Spring is also the time of year when we seem to gain and loose clients. In 2007 we said goodbye to Kaitlyn and Troi and wished them well as we did Thais and Randy. Boarding Stables seem to continually cycle clientele and yet have a base of core people that may stay for years. As we consider all of our clients extended family it is sometimes difficult to say goodbye but we always want what is best for the horse and of course their human counterparts. We have also welcomed new friends into our fold, Carl with her human Marquita and Dee and Bob being the most recent and hope to see more new faces in the near future.

*Happy Easter from the Northwoods Family!*

NCSU Short Courses

**Equine Hoof Care and Shoeing**

March 14-15, Equine Education Unit  
Raleigh, NC

**Horse Protection Officer's Short Course**

May 5-7 Orange County

**Horse Feeding Short Course**

May 15  
Ramada Inn Blue Ridge

**Horse Field Day**

May 17  
Equine Education

**REINS**

**Courses**

**Union County**

**NUTRITION  
MARCH 8**

Scott Pitts (Nutrena)

**Trace Minerals, Colic & Laminitis**

**HOOF CARE  
MARCH 15**

Mike Stine (Equine Dynamics)

**Drought Related Hoof Problems**

3230 Presson Road  
Monroe, NC 28112  
ph: (704) 283-3801  
[info@reinsunioncounty.org](mailto:info@reinsunioncounty.org)

**North Carolina Equine Extravaganza**

July 11-13, 2008  
North Carolina State Fair Grounds  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Check These Out**

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**Applied Equine Podiatry Site**

<http://www.equinepodiatry.net/eclipse.html>

**Parasites in the Equine**

A must read for any horse owner!

<http://www.diagnosteq.com/intestine.html#bots>

**There are a couple of Senate Bills to be aware of:**

S.311 has a flaw the way it is written! Please go to the link and read entire bill. Our opinion at Northwoods is to petition to have the bill re-written because the way it is written now would prevent private citizens from transporting their horses anywhere! Initially the Bill was to be directed at trying to stop the slaughter of horses and place them in a companion animal category. The companion animal category would lead to stable owners to not qualify for many livestock benefits and may shut down many horse farms. We advocate more thought be put into the writing of this Bill before a vote is called.

**S. 311** would amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption and other purposes.

**Introduced:** January 17, 2007

**Status:** Introduced

**Next step:** Voted on by Senate

**Latest action:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 488.

**Sponsor:** Sen. Mary Landrieu [D, LA]

**S. 2283** would preserve the use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on public land administered by the National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service on which there is a historical tradition of the use of pack and saddle stock animals.

- **Introduced:** November 01, 2007
- **Status:** Introduced
- **Next step:** Voted on by Senate
- **Latest action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on
- Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Sponsor:** Sen. Michael Crapo [R, ID]

I would hope that we would preserve what land we have to ride on! In North Carolina alone we are losing approximately 400 acres per day to land developers. (Statistics from NC Horse Council)

[http://www.opencongress.org/tools/bill\\_status?bill\\_id=110-s2283](http://www.opencongress.org/tools/bill_status?bill_id=110-s2283)

[http://www.washingtonwatch.com/bills/show/110\\_SN\\_311.html](http://www.washingtonwatch.com/bills/show/110_SN_311.html)

**One more thing to look for as far as legislative issues in the near future that would affect horse folks are the upcoming "water Bills". It is not if these will surface, it is when these will surface. Please be sure to carefully read the Bills to see how it affects equine owners. There are currently counties in our state that are under stage 2 water restrictions which means at horse shows people are only allowed to sponge horses with bucket water. Not to say I would not support restrictions on water to help us humans but I certainly do not want the equine economics of our state to suffer either. Just wanted you to be on the lookout.**

### **Noggin Notes**

My recent attendance at the Equine Medical Symposium offered at NCSU left me with more notes for your noggin to retain. One of the subjects I wanted to share right off was an update on De-worming Strategies presented by Erin Menigo, DVM. Dr. Menigo opened with a history of de-worming strategies derived from the University of Kentucky in the 1960's. This program suggested de-worming your equine every 8 weeks. The program was targeted at controlling the large strongyles which caused the majority of colic at that time period. Today these large strongyles are a rare occurrence in managed horses. Today's parasite problems include the small strongyles or cyathostomes, tapeworms, pin worms and bots. There are others but they are less common. Foals tend to have roundworms.

So, how does this affect your horse? Cyathostomes are migrating parasites that are ingested when your horse grazes on or near the manure of other horses. The more horses you have in a pasture the more likely horses will ingest these parasites. The parasites travel and encyst, or attach, to the intestinal wall of the horse. The majority of disease seen in the horse is not caused from the adult infestation but from the migration of worms which cause intestinal or mucosal irritation. A five day dose of fenbendazole or the drug moxidectin are the only two drugs that will kill encysted cyathostomes. A fecal egg count can be done by your vet to determine the best treatment for your horse. It is important to keep in mind that parasites are seasonally transmitted and have DIFFERENT life cycles. The objective is not to just kill the worm; it is to prevent environmental contamination of parasite eggs.

Certain times of the year cyathostomes cannot survive, summer in the South and winter in the North. Therefore I have learned that larvacidal treatment is not needed for these particular times of the year. The recommended de-worming strategies are as follows:

**September:** Treat all horses with Ivermectin or Moxidectin. This will kill the bots, pin worms, migrating large strongyles, and luminal large and small strongyles. Moxidectin will kill the encysted strongyles as well. Perform a fecal egg count at this time to allow categorization of the horses into low, moderate or high worm egg shedders.

**November:** Only if used Ivermectin, use Pyrantel. If used Moxidectin wait until December.

**December:** Treat all horses with Ivermectin/Praziquantal. Praziquantal is the drug that kills the tapeworms which peak in the fall. The Ivermectin will pick up anything that may be still there.

**February:** Oxibendazole or Pyrantel. Perform a Fecal egg count on all horses that were above 150.

**March:** Ivermectin to horses with FEC above 150. If tapeworms are a known problem, treat again with the Ivermectin/Praziquantal.

**April:** FEC treat horses with FEC above 150. This is supposed to be the last treatment as eggs shed after April will die due to increased temperature.

The de-worming program will not work unless every horse is on the same type of schedule. Here at Northwoods we gave the Ivermectin/Praziquantal (Equimax), but I cannot remember whether it was in November or December. Last month I did NOT power dose the horses with Fenbendazole (Safeguard) which is recommended. I only administered one dose per animal. It was my understanding until this month that power dosing only needed to be done in infested animals. That is not what Dr. Menigo suggested. Her advice was to give the Fenbendazole for five days on a row to make sure all of the encysted strongyles were taken care of.

Here is the schedule I had proposed for the year:

## DEWORMING SCHEDULE-**ADULT HORSES**

### Months of the Year:

**January:** Fenbendazol, we use Safeguard (given Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> 2008)

**March:** Ivermectin

**May:** Pyrantel

**July:** Fenbendazole

**September:** Ivermectin/Praziquantal, we use Equimax

**November:** Pyrantel

It is clear that we do not need to de-worm in July. I would propose power dosing this month with Fenbendazole, give the Pyrantel in April, Ivermectin in May then adopt the proposed de-worming schedule. I am asking for input from you all concerning your horse. If you all vote to keep the proposed schedule and wait until December to begin we could do that too. These are your horses, speak with your veterinarians and get back to me by mid-month.

### Remarks

Looks like spring indeed will come early as well as daylight savings time. In lieu of the warm weather temptation I would like to remind everyone that we are on well water here. That means that I would ask that you all be thrifty in water usage when bathing your horses. Please be good stewards. I also want to let everyone know that it does not look good for hay and gas prices in the cutting season. Due to the enormous price increase of ammonium nitrate, the hay fertilizer currently at \$500.00 a ton, and gas prices expecting to reach \$4.00 a gallon by late spring we are looking at spending \$6.00 or more for each bale of hay purchased, plus fuel costs to haul it home. Please be good stewards of our hay as well. If you see hay scatters please try to salvage them so we can reduce waste and keep your ears open for good deals on hay.



