May 2019

Welcome to the new look of Oklahoma Horse Health Newsletter, a joint effort between Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service and the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences.

We are starting a news series on tips for new horse owners, the latest research on horse health, as well as updates on current events and workshops for horse owners.

Tips for New Horse Owners

Basic Health Care

Dr. Candace Lyman provides some tips for new horse owners on basic health care for horses.

Understanding Body Condition Scores

Dr. Kris Hiney provides examples on identifying your horse's body condition score.
Obese horses are at risk for diseases and unsoundnesses which may shorten their life, let alone decreasing their performance ability. But just like humans, the quest to lose weight may be difficult. Researchers at North Carolina University set out to compare which approach may be the best for horses, just diet restriction or exercise. Horses of similar adiposity or “fatness” were placed on diet restriction to limit their intake to only 85% of their caloric requirement, or were exercised to account for 15% of their calories used during exercise. Both groups lost weight and improved in their body measurements, but exercised horses tended to improve their hormonal profile. This may be important for owners of obese horses that are at risk of developing metabolic syndrome and insulin resistance.

*Effects of Diet versus Exercise on Morphometric Measurements, Blood Hormone*
Bits and Pieces

Russell Dilday

Russell Dilday, three time World's Greatest Horseman, discusses his favorite bit at the Oklahoma 4-H/NRCHA Cowhorse clinic.

Upcoming Events and Industry Updates

Continuing Education:

June 21-22: OSU/OVMA Summer Seminar. Our continuing education programs provide veterinarians, veterinary technicians and hospital staff an opportunity to stay apprised of the latest diagnostic and therapeutic techniques and management recommendations available to the
Adult/volunteers
June 22 - 4-H Parent-Volunteer Conference, 4-H volunteers travel to Stillwater to learn the latest in incorporating STEAM into 4-H projects. http://4h.okstate.edu/parents-volunteers/conferences/

Youth Events
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