

Goals and Objectives of the Minnesota Horse Council

- ♦ Promote and/or support equine educational activities
- ♦ Improve communication in all horse related activities with the general public
- ♦ Gather information of value to equine related activities
- ♦ Distribute gathered information as appropriate
- ♦ Provide expertise, consult and advise
- ♦ Establish, develop and enhance equine trails and other infrastructure and encourage their prudent use

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Expo Board Presents \$225,000 Check to Minnesota Horse Council



Left to right (front): Brenda Miller, Jenny Buskey, Jan Schatzlein
Left to right (back): Missie Schwartz, Angela McNally, Darrell Mead,
Expo President Glen Eaton, Del Bauernfeind, Kathy Juhl
Absent: Charlyn Cadwell, Tracy Turner, Laura Lyseng, Linda Dahl and Allison Eklund

On September 27, the Minnesota Horse Exposition Inc. presented a check to the Minnesota Horse Council representing the profits from the 2011 Minnesota Horse Expo. Vice President Darrell Mead is receiving the check in the amount of \$225,000 from Expo President Glen Eaton. Since Horse Expo 1991, the Minnesota Horse Exposition has presented the Minnesota Horse Council over \$3,400,000. All of these funds have gone into the equine industry in one way or another. The Expo Board of Directors and staff meet once a month to put the Expo together. At the event, over 200

volunteers add their efforts. The Minnesota Horse Expo is one of the largest Horse Council sponsored expos in the country. I think that speaks well for the equine industry of Minnesota. I want to thank all the Minnesota Horse Expo directors, staff, volunteers and MN State Fair staff for putting this together.

See you on April 27, 28 and 29 at the 2012 Minnesota Horse Expo featuring a brand new Judging Arena on the Fairgrounds.

Glen G. Eaton President

EXPO MEMORIES WANTED

As we go forward with our planning for the 2012 Minnesota Horse Expo, which happens to be the 30th anniversary of the Horse Expo, we'd like to get input from past Expo-goers. If you have a story/anecdote about an Expo experience--maybe a fond remembrance of those childhood trips to the Expo with your mom--or how the Expo helped launch your love of horses into full blown ownership--or how you saw/met a clinician that influenced you....we'd love to hear it. Send your memories and photos to Kathy@mnhorseexpo.org.

Selecting a Round Bale Feeder For Use During Horse Feeding

By Krishona Martinson, Julia Wilson, Kristen Cleary, Will Thomas, Bill Lazarus, and Marcia Hathaway

Round bales are used throughout the horse industry as a means of providing forage to horses housed in poor pastures, dry lots, or during winter months. Many horse owners find round bales convenient, less labor intensive, and more affordable than other hay types, but report an inability to control horse weight gain and excessive hay waste. Several types of round bale feeders exist, however, little research has been done to characterize hay waste resulting from different round bale feeders when fed to horses. Researchers at the University of Minnesota set out to compare hay waste, hay intake and economics of nine round bale feeders and a no-feeder control when used during horse feeding. Nine round bale feeders were tested: Cinch Net, Cone, Covered Cradle, Hayhut, Hay Sleigh, Ring, Tombstone, Tombstone Saver and Waste Less.

In June of 2010, 50 round bales were baled from a pure stand of orchardgrass. Round bales were stored until fed, and prior to storage, each round bale was individually weighed and analyzed. Each feeder was placed on the ground in a dirt paddock. Each feeder was evaluated for 20 consecutive days by a total of 25 horses. Groups of five adult horses, Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred geldings and open mares, were fed hay in each feeder over a four-day period. Every fourth day, groups of horses were rotated among paddocks, weighed, and a new round bale was placed in each feeder. Hay on the ground surrounding the feeder was collected daily, dried and weighed. The total amount of hay removed around each feeder for a four-day period was considered waste. Dry matter intake was estimated as the difference between hay disappearance and waste. Number of months for the reduction in waste to repay feeder cost (payback) was calculated using hay valued at \$100 per ton, and improved feeder efficiency over the control. The Covered Cradle had collapsible side feeding panels that rested on the bale and compressed down as the bale was eaten. The Waste Less feeder also had collapsible side feeding panels, but panels were lowered by hand every day at 9:00 am and 9:00 pm to ensure horses had constant access to hay in the feeder.

No injuries were observed from any feeder types during the data collection period. However, cosmetic rub marks along the sides of faces were observed on many horses feeding out of the Waste Less. Experiments utilizing different age groups of horses, and for longer durations, would help to further examine the safety of each feeder. After two days of feeding off the Cinch Net, the round bale collapsed down and horses were able to stand and defecate on the remaining hay. Thus, we recommend that the Cinch Net be used in combination with another feeder to eliminate horse access as the round bale collapses during feeding. The manufacturer also recommends that horses should not be shod when feeding from the Cinch Net.

The orchardgrass hay met or exceeded the horses' nutritional requirements for digestible energy (DE), crude protein (CP), calcium (Ca) and phosphorous (P) for non-working mature horses. Feeder design did not affect hay intake; all feeders resulted in an

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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estimated hay intake of 2.0 to 2.4% body weight (BW). However, the no-feeder control resulted in a reduced intake of 1.3% BW. Pen weight change was not different among feeder types.

However, when compared to the no-feeder control, six of the nine feeders resulted in small pen weight gains including the Cinch Net, Cone, Covered Cradle, Hay Sleigh, Tombstone, and Waste Less feeders. The no-feeder control resulted in greater pen weight loss than six of the feeders, but was not different from the Hayhut, Ring or Tombstone Saver. At 1.3% BW of estimated hay intake, DE requirements were not met with the no-feeder control, accounting for the pen weight loss, although, CP, Ca and P requirements were still met.

Mean percent hay waste differed among feeders: Waste Less, 5%; Cinch Net, 6%; Hayhut, 9%; Covered Cradle, 11%; Tombstone Saver, 13%; Tombstone, Cone, and Ring, 19%; Hay Sleigh, 33%; and no feeder control, 57%. Feeder design also affected payback. The Cinch Net paid for itself in less than 1 month; Tombstone and Ring, 2 months; Hayhut and Tombstone Saver, 4 months; Hay Sleigh, 5 months; Waste Less, 8 months; Cone, 9 months; and Covered Cradle, 20 months. As hay increases to \$200 per ton, months to payback the feeder costs are cut in half. Although the Cinch Net paid for itself in the shortest amount of time, the net material is guaranteed to last for three years, while all other feeders claim to last indefinitely. However, feeder longevity was not measured in this study nor accounted for in the payback.

Round bale feeder design affected hay waste and economics, but not safety, hay intake or herd weight change during horse feeding. The use of a round bale feeder, regardless of design, is necessary to avoid 57% hay waste, reduced hay intake, and horse weight loss observed when not utilizing a feeder. The excessive hay waste observed with the no-feeder control will also likely contribute to insect breeding areas, mud, and additional manure removal costs. Economics were impacted by both waste efficiency and feeder purchase price, however, all feeders repaid their cost within 20 months with hay valued at \$100/ton. This information is useful when purchasing round bale feeders and estimating hay needs.

This project was funded by a grant from the Minnesota Horse Council, manufacturer fees, and with cooperation from the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Mention of trade names is solely to provide specific information and does not imply recommendation or endorsement by the University of Minnesota. Prices quoted at time of research; July 2010.

The research was recently published in the Journal of Animal Science <http://jas.fass.org/cgi/content/abstract/jas.2011-4087v1>

ROUND BALE FEEDER DESIGNS



Cinch Net



Cone



Covered Cradle



Hayhut



Hay Sleigh



Ring



Tombstone



Tombstone Saver



Waste Less

MANUFACTURERS AND WEBSITES FOR FEEDERS

Cinch Net (Cinch Chix LLC, North Branch, MN) www.cinchchix.com/the-cinch-products.html

Cone (Weldy Enterprises, Wakarusa, IN; model R7C) <http://weldyenterprises.com/wm.html>

Covered Cradle (SM Iron Inc., Sanborn, MN) www.smironsales.com/page/page/870741.htm

Hayhut (Hayhuts LLS, Deleon Spring, FL) www.hayhuts.com/hh/index.htm

Hay Sleigh (Smith Iron Works Inc., St. Francis, MN) <http://smithironworksmn.com/feeders.html>

Ring (R & C Livestock, Bethany, MO) (no website available)

Tombstone (Dura-Built, Eagan, MN) (no website available)

Tombstone Saver (HiQual, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada) www.gateway-ranch-ponies.com/gatewayr_files/hiqualfeeders.htm

Waste Less (JSI Innovations LLC, St. Croix Falls, WI) www.teamjsi.com/578.html

Seasonal Pasture Myopathy Research Study

By Stephanie Valberg DVM PhD, DACVIM
 DACVSMR
 Professor, Director
 University of Minnesota Equine Center
 University of Minnesota, St Paul

The University of Minnesota Equine Center has received funding for a research study on seasonal pasture myopathy. Seasonal pasture myopathy (SPM) develops in the fall in pastured horses and one suspected case has been seen in Minnesota. The goal is to provide diagnostic testing to confirm SPM free of charge and to collect (via an online survey) and disseminate (via the website) information on risk factors that may contribute to this disease.

Help Study a Growing U.S. Disease Problem

The University of Minnesota is asking horse owners for their help in studying a growing disease in the United States--seasonal pasture myopathy.

In Europe a disease known as equine atypical myopathy has been on the rise, with large outbreaks reported since the 1980s. In the United States, seasonal pasture myopathy is thought to be a similar (or possibly the same) disease, and it seems to be growing in frequency.

A horse with seasonal pasture myopathy will be found on pasture with profuse sweating, muscle fasciculation (twitching), weakness, discolored urine, and reluctance to move. This can progress to difficulty breathing, recumbency, and ultimately death after 12-72 hours in about 90% of cases. No one knows yet what causes the disease.

Most cases occur in the fall, and environmental factors such as access to pasture for more than six hours a day and certain weather conditions seem to be associated with the onset of the disease.

"We have already seen suspected cases of seasonal pasture myopathy this fall in Minnesota and feel it is an under-diagnosed condition in North America," said lead researcher Dr. Stephanie Valberg of the University of Minnesota. "Our goal is to work with horse owners to identify which horses are at risk and find the best diagnostic test for this condition."

Horse owners can find information about seasonal pasture myopathy and can take a risk assessment survey if they suspect their horse might currently have, or could have been ill or died from, this disease at www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/SPM/home.html. Participants with high-risk horses will be asked by the researchers to provide urine or serum samples in order to develop an accurate diagnostic test for this disease.

For questions concerning seasonal pasture myopathy or the survey email the university researchers at nmdl@umn.edu or call to leave a message at 612-624-3611.

Fatal Disease of Pastured Horses Identified in the Midwestern USA--Is Your Horse at Risk?

Midwestern horses are susceptible to a highly fatal disease called seasonal pasture myopathy (SPM). The University of Minnesota Equine Center, teaming up with Iowa State University, is on track to fight this disease. Your help is essential to bring possible cases to our attention and allow us to study your pastures to identify and potentially eliminate its cause. We are offering free analysis of diagnostic samples, with the only cost to owners being shipment of samples to the laboratory.

Please see our website www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/SPM/home.html seasonal pasture myopathy (SPM). A synopsis of information about the disease is provided below.

What is seasonal pasture myopathy?

- ♦ A toxic, highly fatal condition in pastured horses in the spring and fall that causes break down of postural, breathing, and heart muscle.
- ♦ It can affect one or several horses on the pasture, and often resembles colic.
- ♦ The condition resembles "atypical myoglobinuria" observed in northern Europe.

Which horses are at risk?

- ♦ Horses on pasture for a large proportion of the day, during the following circumstances:
 - cold, wet windy fall prior to snow cover or during spring immediately after snow melt
 - Pastures with many leaves on the ground
 - Pastures where manure that has been spread
- ♦ To see if your horse that is ill or has died is at risk, please fill in the short risk assessment survey.
www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/SPM/Risk/home.html

What are the signs?

Because signs can resemble severe colic, a careful examination is necessary in order accurately diagnose SPM.

- ♦ Horses appear weak, stiff, may tremble and will lay down frequently for long periods of time.
- ♦ If the heart and breathing muscles are affected the gums become dark and the horses will have difficulty breathing.
- ♦ Horses often have dark colored urine.
- ♦ The disease progresses quickly and most affected horses die within 24 hours of the first signs.

What should I do if I suspect my horse is affected?

- ♦ Call your veterinarian immediately, the earlier the diagnosis is made the better the chance of horse's recovery.
- ♦ If needed, share information on the website with your veterinarian. Complete the risk survey on our website and submit it. Please see the following website for risk survey:
www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/SPM/Risk/home.html
- ♦ If your veterinarian believes your horse has seasonal pasture myopathy, the best chance of horse's recovery is hospitalization and intensive care.
- ♦ The University of Minnesota (612 625- 6700) and Iowa State University (515-294-1500) are clinics experienced with this condition and provide intensive care.

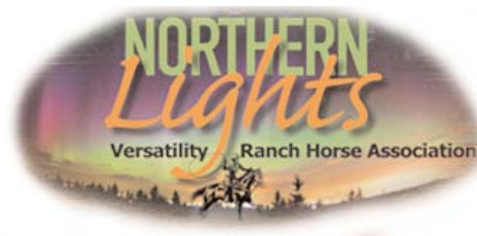
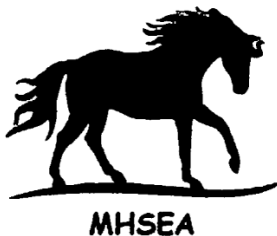
Seasonal Pasture Myopathy--continued on page 6

MHC Grant Allows Improvements to the Crow Wing County Fair Horse Facilities

With the help of the Minnesota Horse Council, the Crow Wing County Fair was able to improve the horse facilities at the fairgrounds. In the horse barn, tie stalls were taken out and box stalls were put in. Also, new gravel was put in all the stalls to make them level. The improvements in the barn helped make the exhibitors and their horses more comfortable and also provide better viewing for fairgoers.

Outside, safety concerns were addressed by putting in a warm up ring. Panels were paid for with the grant money, along with the sand that was put in it. Exhibitors now have a safe place to exercise their horses instead of out in the parking lot.

Without a great organization, like the Minnesota Horse Council, projects like this would have been unlikely. The Crow Wing County Fair would like to thank the Minnesota Horse Council for their kindness and generosity.



Thank you so much again for your generosity for the MHSEA website development. We truly appreciate all that you and other members of the council have done for the MHSEA.

The MHSEA Board
Laura, Kay, Brigid, Kristi and Laura

Sept. 12, 2011

Jennifer Willey, Minnesota Horse Council Promotions

Dear Jennifer and the MHC Board,

Northern Lights Versatility Ranch Horse Association would like to thank you for your continued sponsorship of our 2011 events, including the \$50 donation for our Nevis weekend. Thanks to you and our other sponsors, we had a great event with enthusiastic participants, judges and spectators.

Sincerely,

Greg Booth, Board Member, NLVRHA

MHC BOARD ELECTIONS

Each year a number of positions on the Minnesota Horse Council Board are up for election. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on January 21, 2012.

If you are interested in running for a Board position, you are encouraged to attend the the Council meeting to familiarize yourself with activities of the board.

For more information, please contact
Darrell Mead ♦ 952-356-2078 ♦ darrellmead@comcast.net

Purpura Hemorrhagica: A Dangerous Sequel to Strangles

Reprinted from the U of M
Extension Horse Newsletter
October 2011

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EXTENSION

Purpura hemorrhagica is due to a vasculitis (inflammation of the blood vessels) that results from an inappropriate response of the body's immune system. Traditionally, cases of purpura hemorrhagica are associated with previous bouts of strangles. Unlike strangles, purpura is not infective; horses cannot catch purpura from other horses. Cases of purpura have been reported to be associated with other upper respiratory tract bacterial and viral infections.

In cases of purpura, the immune system damages vessel walls, causing them to become leaky. Blood components leak into the tissues, resulting in swelling. The head, legs and underbelly of the horse are most often affected. Hemorrhage into the tissues may occur and may be visible as areas of red spotting on the gums and other mucous membranes. Serum may begin to seep from the skin and, in severe cases, the skin may die and slough off, exposing the tissues beneath. Purpura is not limited to the skin. The effects extend to wherever blood vessels run, including the lungs, muscles and the kidneys. This body wide involvement can lead to other clinical signs such as lameness, laminitis, colic, weight loss, and neurologic signs.

If a horse has recently had a respiratory tract infection or been recently vaccinated for strangles and signs of purpura are observed, contact a veterinarian. A veterinarian may be able to make a diagnosis based on the history and examination findings. Blood can be checked for high levels of antibodies to *Streptococcus equi* (the strangles bacteria) while the skin, via a biopsy, can be checked for signs of vasculitis.

Treatment involves dampening the immune response and removing the inciting cause. Horses are usually started on dexamethasone, a corticosteroid, which works to suppress the immune reaction. In addition, the horses are often put on antibiotics to eliminate any underlying respiratory infections and to prevent further infections while they are undergoing immunosuppressive treatment.

Purpura hemorrhagica is difficult to predict and prevent. If a horse has experienced a reaction to the strangles vaccine, a veterinarian may recommend the horse not be administered that vaccine again, at least without further testing. Research has found that horses that have high serum levels of antibodies to *Streptococcus equi* may be at increased risk of developing purpura hemorrhagica. High levels of antibodies are particularly likely when horses have been exposed to strangles and have been vaccinated.

Outcomes of purpura hemorrhagic vary wildly. Many times the disease is mild and horses recover well. Other times, horses are severely affected and may die or are euthanized. Early recognition and treatment of purpura is crucial for a positive outcome.

Author: Phil Kieffer, Univ. of Minn. Veterinary Student

U OF M EXTENSION UPCOMING EVENTS

Horse Owner Education Program

November 12, 2011

UM—Crookston

To register (\$25):

www.regonline.com/FallRegionalHorse

Draft Horse Owner Education Program

February 18, 2012

St. Paul Campus

To register (\$25):

www.regonline.com/DraftHorse

Four State Equine Business Conference

February 25, 2012

St. Paul Campus

U OF M EXTENSION WEBCASTS

All MHU Webcasts are recorded and archived for FREE viewing from anywhere at any time! Go to <http://myhorse-university.com/resources/webcasts/archived>

Seasonal Pasture Myopathy--continued from page 4

How do I know if my horse is affected?

- ♦ A quick diagnosis of muscle damage can be made by your veterinarian from a urine sample (urine tests highly positive for hemoglobin/myoglobin or urine sticks tests).
- ♦ A blood sample submitted by your veterinarians will show very high serum creatine kinase (CK) activity.
- ♦ Confirmation of the disease can be made from fresh muscle biopsies (not fixed in formalin) and serum/urine samples sent to the University of Minnesota Neuromuscular Diagnostic Laboratory. See Diagnostic sample submission section on the website.

What causes seasonal pasture myopathy?

- ♦ The cause of seasonal pasture myopathy and atypical myopathy are unknown.
- ♦ Suspected causes include ingestion of toxins from fallen leaves or soil during wet cold weather.

How can I help?

If you have affected horses, please fill in the questionnaire for owners on our <http://www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/SPM/home.html>

Every time you ride,
you're either teaching or
unteaching your horse.

~ Gordon Wright ~

30TH Minnesota Horse Expo 2012

Sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council

APRIL 27-29

Attend Minnesota's largest equine trade show and breed exhibition plus PRCA Rodeo.
April 27-29, 2012 at the MN State Fairgrounds
Featuring the newly remodeled Judging Arena.
Well over 3 million dollars raised by the MN Horse Expo has been giving to the MN Horse Council over the last 29 years to support the horse industry.

Check out whether you or your horse club or association can benefit from a Minnesota Horse Council grant or scholarship funded by the revenue generated by the MN Horse Expo.

See you next April at the 30th MN Horse Expo!



Photo by: Gaylen Eiding



Photo by: Gaylen Eiding



Photo by: Brian Zieg



Photo by: Brian Zieg



By ADawn Melbye, UMC
U of M Horse Newsletter, August 2011

Divide the horse into three parts; first from point of chest to just behind heart girth (chest), second from behind the heart girth to point of hip (back), and third from point of hip to point of buttock (croup) (see figure 1).

The shape of the horse's chest is an important part of its stamina and endurance. Chest conformation also determines lung capacity. Many horses have 18 pairs of ribs, but may range from 19 to 17 with the exceptions being Thoroughbreds and Arabians. Extra ribs allow for a shorter lumbar vertebrae area which results in stronger "coupling" of the loin area. The loin is the muscle portion of the back behind the saddle, typically from the last rib, to the point of the croup.

The underline of the horse should rise gradually to the hindquarters. Horses that have "spring of rib" have ribs that project outward, have large spaces between the ribs, are shorter backed and have a strong loin. A wide chest shape is favored by most horsepersons. From the front, a wide chest allows for lung expansion, which allows for greater endurance and more room for muscle attachment. The better combination of ribs and chest, the stronger the attachment of legs, shoulders and neck with the rest of the body which creates a powerful athletic performer.

The horse's back must be functional and withstand the stress of work. The back transmits the force and driving power from the hind legs. A horse should have well formed withers that allow for attachment of the shoulder to the rest of the horse's body. The length of the horse's back can be measured from the middle of the withers to the point of hip. This should be one third the length of the horse. A horse's back should be longer than their underline.

A horse with a long neck and short back provides the best maneuverability of head and neck, while the short back allows strength for carrying the weight of the rider.

Towards the rear of the horse's back is the croup. This is the highest point of the rump. The croup helps with the transmission of energy for thrust and power in the hind end of the horse. Croup height should not be too high, but rounded with muscle to provide a smooth contoured shape. The croup should be at the same height when compared to the withers to maintain balance in the horse's overall conformation. The quarters are positioned below the croup. When viewing the quarters, they should not be too sloped or too flat. The length of the quarter can be measured from the point of the horse's hip to point of buttock. This length should be about 1/3 of the horse's body length using the proportions as described above.

A properly formed front leg will move in straight lines and have less stress on bones, tendons, ligaments and muscle mass. Deviations or crooked front legs can produce stresses and lead to possible lameness. Conformation of the horse's front legs can affect their athletic ability, soundness, stride, speed and agility.

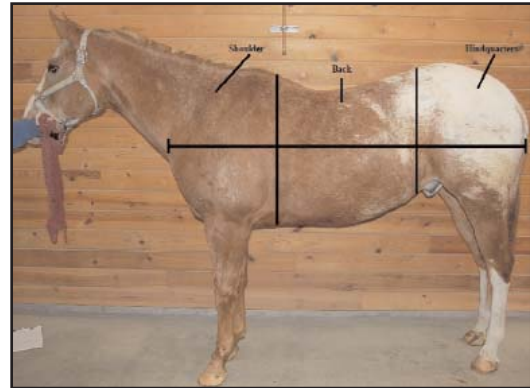


FIGURE 1

When a horse stands square, the angle of the shoulder blade and upper arm should measure between 40 and 55 degrees. One way to measure this angle is to measure down the center of the shoulder blade to the point of the shoulder, then draw a line across the body (see figure 2). With this angle you should notice the horse's elbow is directly below the front of the withers.

The elbow of the horse should be parallel to the horse's body and not be turned in or out. From the front of the horse, there should be a straight line from the point of the shoulder down the center of leg, bisecting the forearm, knee, cannon, fetlock joint, pastern and hoof. The cannon bone in the foreleg should be shorter than that of the rear leg. From the side of the front leg, a straight line should be formed in front of the withers to down the center of the front leg and touch at the heel.

The angle of the pastern to the toe should also be measured at 40 to 55 degrees. An adequately sloped hoof will transfer weight from the tendons to the upper leg of the horse, decreasing pressure and maintaining soundness.

Horses with straighter shoulder and pastern angles tend to have shorter strides. However, some disciplines tend to prefer horses with a shorter stride.



FIGURE 2

The approved September MHC meeting minutes will be included in the December issue of "For Horse's Sake."

The Minnesota State Fair Breaks Ground on the AgStar Arena

Construction on AgStar Arena will begin after the 2011 State Fair - replacing the current Judging Arena



MINNESOTA STATE FAIR
FOUNDATION

The Minnesota Horse
Council has pledged
\$1,000,000 over four years
towards this project.

The Minnesota State Fair Foundation along with AgStar Financial Services, a value-added financial services company owned by its client-stockholders, held a groundbreaking ceremony, Saturday, August 27 for the AgStar Arena at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. The new facility is a livestock and equine arena that replaces the current Judging Arena, a wooden structure that withstood decades of storm damage and use.

The ceremony featured comments from Ag Commissioner, Dave Frederickson, AgStar President and CEO, Paul DeBriyn and Chair of the Minnesota State Fair Foundation Development Committee, Mitch Davis. They, along with many other influential leaders in this project, were on-site to break ground on the new arena with a ceremonial straw toss.

The AgStar Arena, a 27,000 square foot agricultural education facility, will be used during the State Fair by 4-H, FFA and State Fair open class exhibitors and seasonally for livestock and equine shows. It will give the Fair's 1.8 million annual visitors an opportunity to learn about agriculture and the hard working people who feed, clothe and fuel the world. Construction on AgStar Arena begins after the 2011 State Fair and is expected to be substantially completed by April 2012.

"This project really fits with what we're about at AgStar and we're really proud to be a part of this project," said DeBriyn at the ceremony.

"To us, this project isn't just about our clients and our stockholders. It's really an opportunity to provide education to people who are removed from the family farm," said DeBriyn. "This partnership, along with other agricultural attractions at the fair, gives us the opportunity to provide ag education to the consumer; something all of us in the ag community need to do."



About AgStar:

AgStar Financial Services, ACA, headquartered in Mankato, MN, employs more than 600 full-time team members. The company is part of the national Farm Credit System and has a public mission to serve 69 counties in Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin. AgStar's industry specialization, client segments and market delivery systems result in diversification nationwide. The company has expertise in the corn, soybean, swine, dairy and bio-energy industries. AgStar has developed successful programs in loans, leases, crop insurance, tax services, accounting, consulting and rural home mortgages. As a value-added financial services cooperative, AgStar allocates patronage dividends to its more than 14,000 stockholders. Visit www.AgStar.com for more information.



Minnesota Horse
Expo 2012
APRIL 27-28-29

AAEP Emphasizes Importance of Vaccines as World Rabies Day Approaches



The American Association of Equine Practitioners stresses the importance of vaccinating horses to protect against rabies, a deadly but preventable neurological disease, as it recognized the World Rabies Day on Sept. 28.

The AAEP strongly recommends an annual rabies vaccine as a "core" vaccination for horses. Core vaccinations, as identified by the American Veterinary Medical Association, are vaccines "that protect from diseases that are endemic to a region, those with potential public health significance, required by law, virulent/highly infectious, and/or those posing a risk of severe disease."

Rabies is caused by a lyssavirus affecting the neurological system and salivary glands. Exposure to horses most commonly occurs through the bite of another infected (rabid) animal, typically a raccoon, skunk, bat or fox. Clinical signs of rabies are variable and may take up to 12 weeks to appear after the initial infection. Although sometimes no symptoms appear, an infected horse can show behavioral changes, such as becoming drowsy, depressed, fearful or aggressive. Once clinical signs appear, there are no treatment options.

Veterinary professionals and industry organizations in 135 countries are hosting rabies vaccinations clinics and client education events which led up to the Sept. 28 event. Founded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Alliance for Rabies Control, a United Kingdom-based charity, the World Rabies Day initiative brought together relevant partners in an effort to address rabies prevention and control. Through these events, an estimated 5 million animals around the world will receive rabies vaccinations.

For complete AAEP Vaccination Guidelines and instructions on properly vaccinating your horse for rabies, visit www.aaep.org/core_vaccinations.htm. For more information about World Rabies Day, visit www.worldrabiesday.org.

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2012



MARRIOTT MINNEAPOLIS WEST

9960 Wayzata Blvd, St. Louis Park, MN 55426
952-544-4400

\$79 per night Standard Room

\$99 per night Suite

Reserve by 12/31/11 - Mention MHC

2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

View www.mnhorsecouncil.org and www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.org for additional events

MINNESOTA HORSE COUNCIL BOARD MEETINGS

Leatherdale Equine Center Center ♦ 6:30 pm
1801 Dudley Ave ♦ St. Paul
Located on the U of M St. Paul Campus

February 8	June 14	October 11
March 8	July 12	November 8
April 12	August - No meeting	December 13
May 10	September 13	
January 21, 2012 - Annual Meeting - Marriott West		

MINNESOTA HORSE EXPO BOARD MEETINGS

Byerly's Community Room ♦ 6:30 pm
3777 Park Center Drive ♦ St. Louis Park, MN

January 25	May 24	September 27
February 22	June 28	October 25
March 29	July 26	November 29
April 19	August - No meeting	December 27

For Horse's Sake

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For Horse's Sake is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Horse Council (MHC). Statements appearing in *For Horse's Sake* are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the MHC. To reprint any material published in *For Horse's Sake*, please notify MHC of your intentions. Full credit needs to be given to the author. Articles of relevance to the equine industry are earnestly solicited. The Minnesota Horse Council is a non-profit member-supported volunteer organization representing all equine disciplines and breeds in Minnesota's equine livestock industry.

Please e-mail or send potential articles to:

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2011 Newsletter Deadlines

January/February	1/21/11	July/August	6/10/11
March	2/11/11	September	8/12/11
April	3/11/11	October	9/16/11
May	4/15/11	November	10/14/11
June	5/13/11	December	11/11/11

MINNESOTA HORSEMEN'S DIRECTORY

The Minnesota Horsemen's Directory is a free resource provided by the Minnesota Horse Council to help you find horse-related information and services in and near Minnesota.

- ♦ Find a farrier, trail riding stable, boarding, lessons, tack stores, and much more! Use the Events Calendar to find shows, clinics and other horse-related activities. Use the new Jobs category to find a job or skilled job seeker.
- ♦ Find what you're looking for by choosing a category, or search the directory. Once you are in a category, browse the results alphabetically or by a sub-category or region.
- ♦ Help make this site comprehensive and accurate. Submit a free listing of your Minnesota horse-related business or organization. Once listed, you can edit your listing as often as you wish.
- ♦ Whether you are looking to hire or looking for an equine-related job in or near Minnesota, submit a Help Wanted or Seeking a Job ad here.

www.minnesotahorsemensdirectory.com



www.mnhorsecouncil.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Individual - \$15
- Family - \$20
- Organization - \$25
- Corporation - \$25
- Certified Stable: First Year - \$35
- Certified Stable: Renewal - \$25

Name _____

Farm/Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Alt. Phone _____

E-mail _____

Website _____

Brief description of your stable/business/involvement with horses:

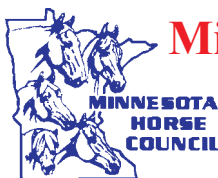
Would you like to volunteer with MHC? If so, please list any interest you have: _____

I'd like to receive the MN Horse Council newsletter, "For Horse's Sake" by:

- E-mail (saves on postage and paper)
- United States Postal Service

Please complete this form and send with your check to:

Minnesota Horse Council
 PO Box 223 ♦ Plato, MN 55370



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Thomas Tweeten ♦ 952-226-4190 ♦ thomastweeten@mnhorsecouncil.org

Minnesota Horsemen's Directory

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Minnesota Horse Council

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Return Service Requested



APRIL 27, 28, & 29