

When and How to Re-Establish Horse Pastures

Every year, horse managers strive to grow lush, green pastures with minimal weeds. Quality pastures not only add to a farm's aesthetic value, but they are also an inexpensive way to provide horses with vital nutrients. Management decisions can have significant positive or negative impacts on forage quality, and when managed properly, high-quality pastures can notably reduce the need for purchased feeds.

Unfortunately, managers of small and large farms alike can become dissatisfied with their pastures for a variety of reasons. A cold winter or dry summer can leave fields in less-than-desirable conditions, or overgrazing can deplete forages, resulting in large areas of weeds and bare soil. Tall fescue can be another concern; endophyte-infected tall fescue generally increases over time and can reach dangerous levels for broodmares.

When the majority of a field becomes unsuitable, it might be time to re-establish the pasture. But before spending time and money on re-establishment, decide if it's necessary based on the following considerations.

If the following criteria cannot be met, consider options such as no-till drill seeding and herbicide applications to improve your pastures.

Considerations

If 50% or more of a pastures is considered undesirable, that field is typically a good candidate for re-establishment. Undesirable areas are usually a combination of weeds, bare soil, and endophyte-infected tall fescue. Pasture re-establishment requires a rest period for forage growth, so horses will need to be removed from the pasture for several months. If your pasture meets this criteria, you can follow these steps to a successful renovation.

Advanced Planning

A good management rule is to always plan in advance. In Kentucky and surrounding states, cool-season grasses such as bluegrass, orchardgrass, and perennial ryegrass are best established in the fall. It is important to not let the pasture go to seed the year of re-establishment. This is especially important if you have mostly weeds and/or tall fescue.

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Upcoming Events

Spray with Glyphosate

Spray first with a high rate of glyphosate (i.e., Roundup) in early summer. Optimal spraying time is climate-dependent; a farm advisor can answer questions regarding proper spraying dates. In Central Kentucky and surrounding areas, late June is typically a good time. As with any herbicide application, always follow label instructions and precautions. Also, glyphosate works best when sprayed on pastures at least 6 inches tall, rather than right after they have been closely mowed. Once the pasture dies back, mow it as close as possible to allow the dead grass and weeds to break down faster.

If excessive weeds are the main reason you're renovating your pasture, one application of glyphosate might be sufficient for most weeds. If tall fescue or nimblewill are present, a second spray



When managed properly, high-quality pastures can reduce feed costs.

Re-Establishing Pastures

at a high rate will be required. Apply the second glyphosate application six weeks after the first. Again, time will vary with location, but for Central Kentucky this is usually early August.

Seed the Pasture

Re-seed the pasture two weeks or more after the last glyphosate application (late August to mid-September for Kentucky). For optimal establishment, use the following management recommendations:

1. **Apply any needed lime and fertilizer.** Soil testing is essential to determine the amount of fertilizer required for healthy plant growth. Contact your county extension agent for more information on soil testing.
2. **Select a high-quality seed.** High-quality seed has high rates of germination and is free of contaminants. Select a variety that has been proven to be a top performer under your location's conditions. Many states have forage variety testing programs. In Kentucky, visit uky.edu/Ag/Forage/ForageVarietyTrials2.htm for a variety of test reports from the last 12 years.
3. **Use proper seeding rates.** Seeding rate is determined by the forage being sown, and can be found in Establishing Horse Pastures (uky.edu/Ag/Forage/ForagePublications).
4. **Use the best technique to seed.** For complete renovation, seed into a prepared seedbed or killed sod using a no-till drill. Broadcast seeding



Undesirable pastures are good candidates for re-establishment, but they require a several-month rest period from grazing for forage growth.

without covering the seed has proven to be ineffective and therefore is not recommended. Also, seed at the proper depth. (For most forages, the proper seeding depth is ¼-½ inches.) One of the main causes of establishment failure is seeding at the wrong depth. Check that the seeder is calibrated correctly and is actually putting the seed in at the proper depth.

5. **Control competition from other grasses and weeds.** This might require mowing or herbicide application once the stand establishes. Most herbicides have a waiting period of about two months or 5 inches of growth before applying on newly seeded stands. Always check herbicide labels before applying.
6. **Allow for an adequate rest period.** Grazing newly seeded pastures is another major cause of stand failure. Wait several months (six to eight months is ideal) for the pasture to become well-

established before turning horses back out on it. Allow enough time for the stand to mature, and then take one light hay cutting or one quick grazing before adding the pasture back into your full grazing system.

While following best management recommendations can optimize chances for successful stand establishment, remember that establishment is weather-dependent, and events such as drought or late frost can reduce stand establishment. For this reason, never re-establish the majority of a farm in one year. For more detailed information on proper establishment techniques, see *Establishing Horse Pastures, ID-147* at uky.edu/Ag/Forage/ForagePublications. **UK**

>Kelly Prince, an MS candidate; Krista Lea, MS; and Ray Smith, PhD, professor and forage extension specialist, all within the University of Kentucky Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, provided this information.

As Summer Begins, Equine Heat Stress Looms

With summer upon us, it's a good time to start thinking about protecting horses from inevitable heat stress conditions.

"The combination of hot, muggy weather conditions prompts some real concern for humans, as well as livestock and pets," said Tom Priddy, meteorologist for the University of Kentucky Col-

lege of Agriculture, Food and Environment. "The livestock heat stress index is a combination of air temperature and humidity. That one-two punch makes it hazardous for people and animals. Dew point temperatures above 65°F lead officials to declare conditions dangerous for livestock."

The Livestock Heat Stress Index helps producers know when heat stress could create a problem for their animals. Periods of heat stress call for livestock producers to be vigilant in making sure their animals are able to withstand the conditions.



Equine Heat Stress

Heat loss for all horses becomes difficult when temperatures exceed 90°F, so avoid exercising them during very hot periods. When humidity is high, even temperatures much lower than 90°F can pose problems. Horse owners can reduce heat stress by scheduling activities during the cooler parts of the day and providing horses with plenty of water. Transport horses during the cooler morning or evening hours. To reduce the risk of dehydration and heat stress when traveling in hot weather, give horses access to water before, during, and after transportation.

Reduce heat stress by scheduling activities during the cooler part of the day and giving horses plenty of water.

Offer horses frequent drinks during work in hot weather. Allowing them to drink during work helps maintain water balance and relieves the urge to guzzle water after exercise. After a hard workout, water horses out gradually.

Even nonworking horses will double their water intake during hot weather, so be sure plenty of water is available to horses in pastures, paddocks, and stalls.

Lactating mares will have especially

high water requirements because they are using water for milk production and heat loss.

Hot weather also will increase horses' need for salt, which is lost during sweating. Heavy rains can "melt" salt blocks in pastures, so check salt licks periodically.

Visit the UK Ag Weather Center website at <http://weather.uky.edu> to keep up with current weather, forecasts, heat stress indices, and more. **UK**

>Aimee Nielson is an agriculture communication specialist at the University of Kentucky.

MASTHEAD

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Protecting Horses from Ticks

Ticks have been active this spring and early summer despite a harsh winter and will be around until August. The lone star tick and the American dog tick are the most troublesome species in Kentucky. Lone star tick bites are very irritating, and tick feeding wounds can become infected. Check with your veterinarian about tick-borne disease incidence in your area.

Protecting horses from ticks can be challenging. They usually pick up ticks while grazing in overgrown pastures, next to woods, or while being ridden through tick-infested areas. There are no shortcuts or magic tricks, but it helps to use the tick's perspective when developing a management strategy.

Ticks spend most of their lives on the ground, digesting blood meals, molting to the next developmental stage, or waiting

for a host. Dry air and direct sunlight are their enemies. Ticks survive in brushy overgrowth that provides increased humidity, protection from direct sunlight, and shelter for animals that are important hosts. Small mammals and deer help to support tick populations and move them around. Horses with access to scrubby overgrowth or along woods or tree lines are very likely to pick up ticks.



COURTESY DR. MARIANNE SLOET

Pasture Management

Habitat management is the best way to manage tick-infested pastures and grazing areas. Mow and remove brush as practical to eliminate the protection ticks need to survive while they aren't on hosts. When possible, use temporary fencing to keep horses out of areas that cannot be cleared. Habitat management is the best long-term route to reducing tick problems. In addition, cleared areas discourage wildlife that can reintroduce ticks and might provide improved

Protecting From Ticks

grazing areas.

In severe cases, you might need to apply an insecticide spray to pasture margins along wooded or overgrowth areas to knock back tick numbers. Remove as much scrub vegetation as possible, and use sufficient water to treat the foliage thoroughly. Follow grazing restrictions, and keep horses out of treated areas as required by the label.

Protection and Removal

Wipe-on and spray-on products containing cypermethrin or permethrin can provide several hours of protection during rides in infested areas. Dust, dirt,

perspiration, and water shorten protection time, making reapplication a necessity. Horses pick up ticks as they move through infested areas, so treat their legs and underbellies.

Check horses regularly for ticks during your ride and thoroughly when finished. Ticks tend to move upward and find places to attach where the hair coat is thin. Chest and areas where fore and hind legs join the body are common attachment sites. Often, it is easier to feel ticks than see them. Scratch with your fingertips to find small bumps that indicate the smaller, immature stages. Use tweezers to hold the tick as close to the skin as possible and remove it with a steady straight pull. Treat the bite site with an appropriate antiseptic ointment.

Ticks are tough opponents but with these steps you can reduce pasture infestations and protect your horses. **UK**

>Lee Townsend, PhD, an entomologist within the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, provided this information.

Blue-Green Algae Poisoning

Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, poisoning is a condition caused by ingesting water that contains excessive growths of toxin-producing blue-green algae species. Of the more than 2,000 blue-green algae species identified, at least 80 are known to produce toxins poisonous to animals and humans. Many more species and toxins have yet to be identified. Heavy blue-green algae growth or blooms occur when excessive nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, contaminate water sources and weather conditions are hot and dry. On farms, stagnant ponds contaminated with fertilizer run-off or direct manure and urine contamination are prime places for blue-green algae blooms to occur.

The most common species of blue-green algae in North America associated with poisoning are *Anabaena*, *Aphanizomenon*, *Oscillatoria*, and *Microcystis*. Not all strains of these genera are capable of producing toxins, and in those that do, toxin production is sporadic. Environmental factors such as water temperature, sunlight, water pH, and nutrient concentration affect when toxins are produced. Intoxications are most common in the summer and early fall when water temperatures are warmest.

These algae can produce several major toxins. Some algae produce potent neurotoxins that cause clinical signs such as muscle tremors, respiratory distress, seizures, profuse salivation,



Blue-green algae can produce several toxins.

GRAD STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

ANTHONY CLAES

From: Belgium

Degrees: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, 2004,

University of Ghent, Belgium

Diplomate American College of Theriogenologists, 2008

One of the reasons Anthony Claes, DVM, Dipl. ACT, said he came to the University of Kentucky Gluck Equine Research Center for his doctoral degree in veterinary science is because the Gluck Center has an excellent reputation for conducting high-quality research. In addition to a large research herd, it has state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, and technology.

"The ability to work for distinguished Gluck Equine Research Center faculty such as Drs. (Barry) Ball (DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACT, Albert G Clay Endowed Chair in Equine Reproduction), (Mats) Troedsson (DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACT, director of the Gluck Center and chair of the department of veterinary science), (Ed) Squires (PhD, Dipl. ACT [hon.], executive director of the UK Gluck Equine Research Foundation) and (Karen) McDowell (PhD, EMB, associate professor) allowed me to expand my research skills in equine reproduction considerably," Claes said.

Claes' research is primarily focused on anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH), which is produced exclusively by the testes or ovaries. AMH plays an important role in both male and female reproduction.

"Over the last three years I examined variations in circulating AMH concentrations in intact stallions and mares of different ages and studied molecular and endocrine changes in the equine follicle during follicular development," Claes said. "In addition to the more advanced research techniques in the laboratory, we investigated how all our experimental findings can be translated into a clinical setting. AMH has different clinical applications in stallions and mares."

Claes said the study initially showed that AMH is a valuable diagnostic marker for cryptorchidism, a condition in which one or both testes fail to descend in the abdomen. Furthermore, AMH concentrations in intact mature stallions are influenced by season, with higher concentrations during the breeding season when spermatozoa production increases.

AMH concentrations also have some clinical utility in mares. As AMH is strongly correlated with the number of follicles in the ovary, measuring AMH can help predict ovarian reserve in older mares.

Claes graduates this summer, after which he said he hopes to obtain a job where he can combine clinical work and equine reproduction research. **UK**



>Shaila Sigsgaard is an editorial assistant for the Bluegrass Equine Digest.

Blue-Green Algae Poisoning

diarrhea, and rapid death within minutes to hours. Other algae can produce hepatotoxins (toxins affecting the liver) that can cause acute death or a more delayed death after signs of acute liver failure occur. Photosensitization, a skin condition affecting nonpigmented areas of skin, can occur in animals that survive the acute stages of liver damage. Other types of algal toxins occur in other regions of the world. Blue-green algae toxins are released when algal cells are damaged and die in the water (e.g., after water is treated with an algacide such as copper sulfate), or when ingested water reaches the animal's digestive tract and disrupts cells, releasing the toxins.

Most animals exposed to blue-green algae toxins die acutely. Treatment is supportive and symptomatic. In some cases animals can recover, but death typically occurs so quickly that the animals are found dead near the water source.

It is impossible to tell visually if a water source contains blue-green algae or to determine which species are present without laboratory analysis. Blue-green algae blooms often, but not always, impart a blue-green sheen to water, and bluish-green biomass accumulations in water are not always blue-green algae. Even when blue-green algae are present, toxic compounds may or may not be produced. Some water testing laboratories and veterinary diagnostic laboratories can test water for the presence of blue-green algae and several of the algal toxins.

Preventing blue-green algae poisoning is important. The following steps can help minimize the risk of algae poisoning in your animals:

- Provide constant access to clean, clear fresh water, and fence off or otherwise prevent access to stagnant, scummy ponds. Do not allow animals to contaminate the water with feces and urine.
- Prevent fertilizer or manure runoff into water sources.
- If a water source is treated with an algacide such as copper sulfate, prevent animal access to the water for at least a week or longer to allow any released toxins to degrade.
- When traveling with animals, do not allow them to access murky, scummy ponds or other suspect water sources. **UK**

>Cynthia Gaskill, DVM, PhD, clinical veterinary toxicologist at the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, provided this information.

WEED OF THE MONTH

Common name: Common ragweed
Scientific name: *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L.
Life Cycle: Warm season annual
Origin: United States
Poisonous: No

Common ragweed is distributed widely across the United States and grows in pastures and among cultivated crops. Pasture infestations are usually more of a problem during periods of drought or when overgrazing occurs. Leaves alternate between the upper and lower portions of the stem, which can be smooth or hairy and is usually branched. Mature plants can grow to 3 to 5 feet, depending on the area of growth. Common ragweed has small female flowers in the leaf axils. Showier male flowers grow at the top of the plant.

Common ragweed control is relatively easy with herbicides, if property managers apply it to unmowed plants less than 12 inches tall. Treatment time is normally between May and July. Mowing is not very effective, as it tends to remove the top of the ragweed plant and lateral branching occurs on the remaining plant. This "regrowth" is much more difficult to control with herbicides. Hand-weeding is effective and should be done before seed production. Consult your local Cooperative Extension Service personnel for herbicidal control recommendations in your area. **UK**

>William W. Witt, PhD, professor emeritus in the department of plant and soil sciences at the University of Kentucky, provided this information.



Common ragweed

UK Researchers and Students Present at AMCOP

Several researchers and students from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment presented at the 66th Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists (AMCOP) June 5-7. UK's Gluck Equine Research Center hosted the event.

Daniel Howe, PhD, professor and molecular parasitologist at the Gluck Center, was the meeting's program officer. The conference topic was "Parasite ad-



JENNY EVANS

Researchers and students gathered to discuss parasite adaptation and anthelmintic resistance.

aptation and anthelmintic resistance." Symposium keynote speakers included Craig Reinemeyer, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVM, president of East Tennessee

Clinical Research, and Martin Nielsen, DVM, PhD, Dipl. EVPC, ACVM, assistant professor at the Gluck Center.

The conference featured oral and post-

AMCOP

er presentations, as well as a graduate student competition. Allison Young, an agriculture biotechnology major at UK and undergraduate student in Howe's laboratory at the Gluck Center won the R.M. Cable Award for best presentation by an undergraduate student with her presentation titled, "Identification of surface antigens in the llama and alpaca parasite *Sarcocystis aucheniae*."

The following is a recap of other abstract titles and corresponding UK presenters:

- "Evaluation of growth rate responses to anthelmintic regimens in young Thoroughbreds," Jennifer Bellaw, MS candidate in Nielsen's laboratory.
- "Transabdominal ultrasonography for diagnosing and monitoring *Parascaris* spp. in foals," Maci Stephens, undergraduate in Nielsen's laboratory.
- "Evaluation of the systemic inflammatory response to anthelmintic treatment in ponies" and "Efficacy of injectable ivermectin on gastrointestinal helminthes in captive wild elk," Alejandra Betancourt, MS, research analyst at the Gluck Center.
- "Characterization and localization of

Sarcocystis neurona Rhoptyr Protein Snrop9," Maggie Schlich, undergraduate student in Howe's laboratory.

- "Vaccine-induced responses in ponies—are they modulated by anthelmintic treatment?" Emily Rubinson, MS candidate in Nielsen's laboratory.
- "Measurement of antibodies to *Strongylus vulgaris* in equine colic cases," Holli Gravatte, research analyst at the Gluck Center. UK

>Jenny Evans, MFA, is the marketing and promotion specialist senior at the UK Gluck Equine Research Center.

Grazing Oat Pastures

Q Can horses be turned out on an oat pasture if it is dried up and not green? The oats have already been harvested, and we turn cattle out to graze the leavings, but is it okay for horses?

Barbara Herbert, Riverton, Wyoming

A I would assume the available forage in your harvested oat field will be similar to oat straw. This means the forage will be low in digestible energy, crude protein, and the major minerals calcium and phosphorus. Mature horses at maintenance can graze the field, but be prepared to supplement the horses' diets to meet nutrient requirements.

Due to the highly fibrous nature of the stubble, it's important to ensure that horses kept on this pasture are drinking adequate amounts of water to reduce the risk of impaction. Also, horse owners should make sure that no large piles of grain are in the field due to spillage from the combine, as excessive grain intake can lead to digestive disturbances and laminitis.



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There's always a concern over nitrate levels on the forage. This occurs more frequently on damaged out crops (due to frost or drought) and should be of limited concern with mature horses.

The forage will give the horses something to graze, but do not expect it to meet their nutrient requirements without supplementation. UK

>Bob Coleman, PhD, PAS, is an associate professor and extension horse specialist in UK College of Agriculture's Department of Animal and Food Sciences.

University of Kentucky

Ag Equine Programs





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UK Ag Equine Program Hosts Two June Equine Field Days

Sixth Annual Equine Farm and Facilities Expo

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs hosted the sixth annual Equine Farm and Facilities Expo June 3 at the Kentucky Equine Humane Center, in Nicholasville. Approximately 150 people attended the horse owner event.

Field demonstrations covered topics such as sampling techniques for soil fertility and hay quality, equine digestion, practical parasite control, and fencing possibilities. UK specialists included Ray Smith, PhD, professor and forage extension specialist in plant and soil sciences; Martin Nielsen, DVM, PhD, Dipl. EVPC, ACVM, assistant professor in veterinary science at the Gluck Equine Research Center; and Bob Coleman, PhD, PAS, associate professor and extension horse specialist in animal and food sciences. Jeremy McGill, territory manager for Gallagher Animal Management Systems, and Amy Parker, MS, of McCauley Bros Inc., also participated in field demonstrations.

Other educational highlights included weed identification and control, nutrition, pasture management, equine bones, veterinary diagnostic laboratory work, and farm safety.

Event sponsors included Central Equipment and McCauley Bros Inc. Other event supporters included Central Kentucky

Ag Credit, Creech Services Inc., Farm Credit Services, Kentucky Bank, Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Inc., NTRA Advantage, and The Pond Lady.

The Kentucky Equine Humane Center hosted the event at its 70-acre farm. The center is a safe haven for equines in need from all breeds and backgrounds.

UK and Murray State Host Second Western Kentucky Equine Farm and Facilities Expo

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs and Murray State University co-hosted a second Western Kentucky Equine Farm and Facilities expo June 5 in Murray, Kentucky. The free event was held at Murray State's Equine Center and was open to the public. The expo highlighted informational demonstrations designed to offer



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Murray State's Bio-Burner

real-world applications.

Approximately 70 people attended the expo to see the latest horse management techniques. Attendees viewed demos about pasture establishment, parasite control, pasture fencing, and weed control. The event also featured Murray State's Bio-Burner technology, a system that utilizes plant and crop feedstock or waste, as well as horse manure, to help heat Murray's equine center.

Coleman co-demonstrated pasture fencing with McGill.

"The audience was very engaged, and asked great questions," said Coleman. "It was great having a crowd so passionate about the equine industry. I also found out how much you can learn from other people's questions. The expo was a great opportunity to find out what the public is really interested in."

The event will return to Murray for a third year in June 2015. **UK**

>UK Ag Equine Programs communications interns Jackson Wells, an undergraduate majoring in equine science and management, and Hannah Forte, an undergraduate majoring in community and leadership development, provided this information.



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International Symposium on Equine Reproduction Coverage

In this seminar, three researchers from the University of Kentucky's Gluck Center for Equine Research summarize topics of interest from the International Symposium on Equine Reproduction, held January 2014, in Hamilton, New Zealand. Drs. Ed Squires, Barry Ball, and Mats Troedsson are featured.



Click the play button or visit TheHorse.com/33960

UK Ag Equine Programs Receives Two American Horse Publications Awards

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs won honors in two categories at the American Horse Publications (AHP) annual awards ceremony, held June 21 in Charleston, South Carolina.

In the online equine-related newsletter category, the Bluegrass Equine Digest, a partnership between UK Ag Equine Programs and TheHorse.com, with sponsorship by Zoetis, nabbed the top spot. The free monthly e-newsletter features information about equine research at UK. Archived issues can be found at <http://equine.ca.uky.edu/bed>.

In the equine-related specialty or custom publication category, UK Ag Equine Programs' 2012 Kentucky Equine Survey final results publication was awarded third place. That publication can be found at <http://equine.ca.uky.edu/sites/equine.ca.uky.edu/files/2012equinesurveyreportFINAL3.pdf> on the project website (<http://equine.ca.uky.edu/kyequinesurvey>).

According to its news release, the AHP presented 171 awards for material published in 2013. This year's competition included 50 classes, 736 entries, and 97 contestants, of which 64 became finalists and 38 earned first-place awards. A copy of the awards program can be found at Americanhorsepubs.org/programs/awards/Awards_Program_2014.pdf.

The AHP Annual Awards Contest provides members with an opportunity to be recognized for excellence in equine publishing, print and online, as well as professional critiques for improvement. American Horse Publications is a nonprofit association promoting excellence in equine publishing media. Its members include equine-related print publications as well as digital media, professionals, students, organizations, and businesses that share an interest in equine publishing. **UK**

> Holly Wiemers, MA, is communications director for UK Ag Equine Programs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 6-12

Kentucky State 4-H Horse Show, Broadbent Arena, Louisville, Ky.

July 26

Hats Off Day, Kentucky Horse Park

July 31, 4-6 p.m.

Department of Veterinary Science Equine Diagnostic Research Seminar Series, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Lexington, Kentucky. Topic and Speakers: The Foot, Dr. Debra Taylor, Auburn University; and Equine Welfare, Dr. Tom Lenz, Zoetis.

Like us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter!

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment has several equine-related social media pages with the latest news and events information.

The UK Ag Equine Programs recently joined Twitter. Follow us [@UKAgEquine](https://twitter.com/UKAgEquine).

The UK Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center is also on Twitter [@UKGluckCenter](https://twitter.com/UKGluckCenter).

Got Facebook? Like these pages administered by us:

[University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs](http://UniversityofKentuckyAgEquinePrograms) UK Ag Equine Programs is an overarching framework for all things equine at the University of Kentucky, including the undergraduate degree program, equine-related student organizations, equine research, and outreach activities.

[University of Kentucky Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center](http://UniversityofKentuckyMaxwellH.GluckEquineResearchCenter) The Gluck Center's mission is scientific discovery, education, and dissemination of knowledge for the benefit of the health and well-being of horses.

[University of Kentucky Horse Pasture Evaluation Program](http://UniversityofKentuckyHorsePastureEvaluationProgram) The UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program is a service program offered to Kentucky horse farms with the goal of overall improved pasture management. Regardless of breed or disci-

pline, the programs goals are to: provide detailed pasture management recommendation to horse farm owners and managers; help improve pastureland to increase quality and quantity of pasture as a feed source and reduce the need for stored feeds such as hay and grain; and assess the potential risk of fescue toxicity of individual pastures to pregnant broodmares.

[Kentucky Equine Networking Association](http://KentuckyEquineNetworkingAssociation) (KENA, created by the Kentucky Horse Council and University of Kentucky) KENA's mission is to provide an educational and social venue for equine professionals and other horse enthusiasts from all disciplines to share ideas and business strategies, and obtain current knowledge on horse and farm management with the principal objective of enhancing individual horse ownership and the horse industry at large.

[Saddle Up SAFELY](http://SaddleUpSAFELY) Saddle Up SAFELY is a rider safety awareness program sponsored by UK HealthCare, UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and many community organizations. It aims to make a great sport safer through education about safe riding and horse handling practices. **UK**