

## **Penn State Extension Offers “Equine Parasite Puzzle” Seminar**

Did you know that parasites are becoming resistant to the deworming products that are on the market today? Have you been faithfully deworming your horses every 6 weeks only to learn that this is no longer the recommended practice? Are you confused about when to worm your horse and how often? Do you know which horses on your farm have natural resistance to parasites and which may need to be dewormed more frequently? Have you ever had your horse colic, especially after being wormed?

The Penn State Cooperative Extension Equine Program Team is offering a full day seminar designed to help horse owners make sense of the parasite puzzle. “Piecing Together the Equine Parasite Puzzle”, will be held Saturday, **February 4, 2012, at the Eden Resort and Conference Center, located at 222 Eden Road, Lancaster, PA. The Cost of \$55** per person includes all instruction, hand-out materials, and lunch.

Until recently, the common method of reducing parasite infections in horses was to rigorously de-worm horses every 6 to 8 weeks. Since there are only three major classes of de-worming agents available, resistance to these drug classes is increasing and cases of resistant parasites are now being reported worldwide. Horses move frequently from state to state and often internationally as well and may move resistant parasites to new farms. This one-day seminar will feature top specialists and researchers in the field who will review the life cycles of the parasites and will explain how resistance occurs. The speakers will also discuss the effects of rainfall, temperature, pasture rotation, and manure composting on parasite infection. Participants will learn how to prepare a slide and perform fecal egg counts and will be able to work with their veterinarian to develop a program targeted for their specific farm situation.

The schedule includes:

**9:00 to 10:30 AM Dr. Ed Jedzejewski, DVM, Manager Penn State Equine Farm**

Thinking Like a Parasite: Types of Parasites, Biology, and the Science of Resistance. What monitoring parasite levels in the Penn State herd has taught us about parasite management

**10:30 AM –Noon Dr. Michael Sukhdeo, Rutgers University Department of Environment and Natural Resources**

The Ecology of Parasite infection on Horse Pastures and Implication for Control Strategies

**12:00 to 12:45 PM LUNCH (included in registration cost)**

**12:45 to 1:00 PM Dr. David Wolfgang, DVM, Penn State Department of Veterinary Medicine**

How to Conduct Fecal Egg Counts in Horses and What the Results Can and Cannot Tell Us.

**1:00 to 2:30 PM Donna Foulk, Equine Extension Educator; and Dr. Wolfgang, DVM, Penn State**

Putting Together the Pieces: Participants will practice making a slide and counting eggs and will work through a series of problems dealing with parasite infection and management.

This program is one of many educational programs being offered by the Penn State Extension Equine Program Team throughout the state. Additional programs include:

**Caring for the Geriatric and Aging Horse** to be held Saturday, March 10, 2012, (9:00 am-3:00 PM) at the Best Western Conference Center in Bethlehem, PA.

This seminar will present the latest information on how to meet the nutritional needs of geriatric, underweight, and metabolically challenged horses. Other topics will include adopting practices to increase comfort and manage pain in older horses; understanding diseases associated with the aging process; developing appropriate vaccination, dentistry and de-worming programs; and addressing the mental and physical needs of geriatric and/or rescued horses; and knowing when to say good-bye to your equine friend. This short course has been developed for barn managers, non-profit groups that care for older and/or neglected horses, and anyone that rides or cares for older horses.

### **Equine Environmental Stewardship short courses will be held on the following dates and locations:**

March 7, 14, 21, and 28 - Lehigh County Ag Center, Allentown, PA

April 3, 10, 17, and 24 – Columbia County Extension Office

April 5, 12, 19, and 26 – Wayne County Extension Office

Participants in this short-course will be made aware of new and emerging information that will benefit their horses, their farms, and the environment. Participants will learn how to: reduce grazing health risks; rotate and rest pastures; identify grasses, weeds, and toxic plants; properly fertilize soil; properly store, compost, and apply manure; develop feeding programs for horses that meet but do not exceed nutritional requirements. Participants will also learn how the manure and nutrient management regulations will impact their farm. Cost is \$45 per person for all four sessions.

For any of the course content information, or to arrange for a course to be offered in your locale, contact Donna Foulk at [dlf5@psu.edu](mailto:dlf5@psu.edu) or at 610-746-1970. To receive program registration materials or to be added to the list serve regarding the Equine Program Team offerings, contact Norma Young at [njy1@psu.edu](mailto:njy1@psu.edu).

Penn State is an equal opportunity employer.

**Penn State Extension Equine Team**

*Promoting Care of the Horse, the Environment,  
and the Industry, through Research and Education*

Because of the continual growth of the equine industry in Pennsylvania and the increasingly important role that the industry plays in supporting agriculture, the Penn State Extension Equine Team has been established to provide science based education that is both timely and relevant. The mission of the Team is to provide horse owners and farm managers, equine professionals, agricultural service providers, and agency representatives with the latest information on environmental stewardship and water quality, sustainable farm management practices, and horse health and well-being.

**Sponsored by:**

Penn State Extension Equine Team  
SARE - Sustainable Ag Research and Education



SARE's mission is to advance—to the whole of American agriculture—innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education.

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Photo: MillerLife (Barley), 8 yr. old Haflinger owned by Jan Martin, Northampton County

**Penn State Extension**

**Equine Program Team**

**Presents Three New Courses in 2012:**

***Piecing Together  
the Parasite Puzzle***  
.....  
***Equine Environmental  
Stewardship***  
.....  
***Caring for the  
Geriatric & Aging Horse***



**2012 Equine Programming**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be added to the Penn State Equine Team email list to receive timely information on equine programming and events? YES                      NO

**Please circle program choice(s)**

	Number of Attendees @	Total
<b>Piecing Together the Parasite Puzzle:</b> February 4, 2012, 8:30AM - 3:30PM	\$55 each	
<b>Caring for the Geriatric &amp; Aging Horse</b> March 10, 2012, 8:30AM - 3:30PM	Number of Attendees @ \$45 each	Total
<b>Equine Environmental Stewardship</b> (see below for dates and locations)	Number of Attendees @ \$45 each	Total
Please circle location choice All sessions are evenings: 7:00PM - 9:30PM	March 7, 14, 21, and 28 Lehigh County Ag Center	April 3, 10, 17, and 24 Columbia County Extension Office
		April 5, 12, 19, and 26 Wayne County Extension Office

**TOTAL DUE =**



Penn State Extension Equine Team



**Checks payable to:  
PSCE Program Account  
Send to:**

Equine Short Course  
Northampton County Extension  
Greystone Building  
14 Gracedale Avenue  
Nazareth, PA 18064

For information about Extension Equine Team programs:  
<http://bit.ly/tKXAks>

## Piecing Together the Parasite Puzzle

February 4, 2012—9:00AM–3:30PM  
Eden Resort and Conference Center  
222 Eden Road, Lancaster, PA 17601  
Cost: \$55

- Did you know that parasites are becoming resistant to the deworming products?
- Have you been faithfully deworming your horses every 6 weeks only to learn that this is no longer the recommended practice?
- Are you confused about when to worm your horse and how often?
- Do you know which horses on your farm have natural resistance to parasites and which may need to be dewormed more frequently?

This one day short course will feature top specialists and researchers in the field who will review the life cycles of equine parasites and will discuss the effects of rainfall, temperature, pasture rotation and manure composting on parasite infection. Participants will learn how to prepare a slide and perform fecal egg counts and will be able to work with their veterinarian to develop a program targeted for their specific farm situation.

**Who should attend?** Everyone that owns a horse or manages horses for others should attend this short course

### Topics:

- Types of Parasites and How They Behave
- The Science of Resistance—Is it a Problem on Your Farm?
- What Monitoring Parasites in the Penn State Herd Has Taught Us
- How Rain, Drought, and Pasture and Manure Management Effects Parasites
- How to Conduct Fecal Egg Counts in Horses and What the Results Can and Cannot Tell Us

## Equine Environmental Stewardship

March 7, 14, 21, and 28:  
Lehigh County Ag Center, Allentown, PA  
April 3, 10, 17, and 24:  
Columbia County Extension Office  
April 5, 12, 19, and 26:  
Wayne County Extension Office  
All sessions are evenings, 7:00PM - 9:30PM  
Cost: \$45 for all four sessions at each location

- Are you aware that all farms with animals in PA are required to have either a certified nutrient management or a manure management plan?
- Do you know how to manage your pastures to increase forage quality and reduce weeds and toxic plants?
- Do you know how to compost manure so that it is a resource that you can use in your pastures?

The Equine Environmental Stewardship short course is an exciting, four part educational series that provides practical hands-on experiences that will help farm owners develop the knowledge and skills necessary to adopt environmentally sound farm management practices.

**Who should attend?** Everyone that owns a horse, manages horses for others, or works with farm owners should attend this short course

### Topics:

- Rotating, Resting, and Reseeding Pastures
- Identifying Grasses, Weeds, and Toxic Plants
- Properly Fertilizing and Liming Soil
- Managing Pasture Weeds
- Properly Storing and Composting Manure
- Constructing Heavy Use Areas
- Complying with Manure and Nutrient Management Regulations

<http://www.das.psu.edu/research-extension/equine/Penn-State-Extension-Equine-Team>

## Caring for the Geriatric and Aging Horse

March 10, 2012—9:00AM–3:30PM  
Best Western Conference Center  
300 Gateway Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18017-9076  
Cost: \$45

- Do you know how to feed and care for a debilitated horse?
- Do you know how to minimize the risk of metabolic disorders?
- Are you aware of the steps you can take to keep older horses comfortable and mobile?

A short course that provides the latest information on managing the health and well-being of geriatric and older performance horses.

**Who should attend?** This short course has been developed for barn managers, non-profit groups that care for older, rescued and/or neglected horses, and anyone that rides or cares for older horses.

### Topics:

- Feeding the Geriatric and Aging Horse
- Metabolic Disorders Associated with Aging
- What 100 Years of Caring for Retired and Rescued Horses at Ryerss Farm has Taught Us
- Meeting the Physical and Emotional Needs of Geriatric and Neglected Horses
- Keeping Older Horses Comfortable and Mobile
- Planning Ahead—Knowing When to Let Go

## Featured Speakers:

### Parasite Puzzle:

**Dr. Ed Jedzejewski, DVM**  
Manager Penn State Equine Farm  
**Dr. Michael Sukhdeo**  
Rutgers University,  
Dept. of Environment & Natural Resource  
**Dr. David Wolfgang, DVM**  
Penn State Dept. of Veterinary Medicine  
**Donna Foulk**, Equine Extension Educator

### Equine Environmental Stewardship:

**Ann Swinker**, PSU Equine Extension Specialist  
**Donna Foulk**, Equine Extension Educator  
**Cheryl Fairbairn**, Extension Educator  
Agriculture, Livestock, Agronomy (Lehigh location)  
**Dave Messersmith**, Extension Educator  
Agronomy (Wayne Co. location)  
**Dave Hartman**, Extension Educator  
Agriculture, Livestock (Columbia Co. location)

### Caring for the Geriatric and Aging Horse:

**Dr. Sarah Ralston, VMD**  
Associate Professor, Animal Science, Rutgers University  
**Lisa Shotzenberger**  
Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines  
**Dr. Ann Swinker**  
PSU Equine Extension Specialist  
**Dr. Jennifer Buchholz, VMD**  
Blauner, Vecchione and Associates

For additional information about these courses visit:  
<http://bit.ly/sYkCDn> or contact  
Donna Foulk:  
dlf5@psu.edu or 610-746-1970  
AnnSwinker:  
axs15@psu.edu or 814-865-7810

To be added to the email list regarding the Equine Program Team offerings, contact Norma Young:  
njl1@psu.edu