

Volume 11, Fall• Winter 2020 A newsletter for Junior members of Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation.

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The Grayson Grazette is the digital newsletter for Junior Members of the



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## Tips for Keeping Horses Drinking During Cold Weather

Published in the January 16, 2017 of horsedvm.com

During the cold weather, horses are often less inclined to drink, which can result in increased risk of dehydration and colic. Provided herein is a list of various methods that may be helpful for keeping horses drinking and remaining healthy and hydrated!

### **Keep 'em Filled**

Studies show that horses drink more when there is more water available---it is a natural survival instinct. So make sure to keep those water troughs or buckets consistently filled. If needed, purchase an additional or larger trough and/or buckets.



### **Provide Warm Water**

During cold weather, horses drink 40% more water when it is warm than when cold. In addition, for horses living in areas where temperatures fall below freezing, unless water is heated sufficiently it will freeze over and prevent horses from accessing *any* water until the frozen blocks of ice melt or are physically removed.

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### Provide Electrolytes

Adding electrolytes to your horse's diet during cold weather is actually just as, if not more important than during the warmer months of the year. This is because horses tend to drink less, which makes them more at risk of colic. However, if adding it to water, make sure to still have an alternative water source available.





### Wet Hay

Wetting hay can be a beneficial strategy for helping horses stay hydrated. However, care should be taken not to *soak* the hay unless specifically directed to do so by your veterinarian, for managing the nutrition of some horses with certain diseases such as laminitis, heaves, HYPP, PSSM and others. This is because soaking hay reduces the content of certain nutrients and carbohydrates.

### Brown Water

Getting a horse to drink "brown water" is an excellent way to encourage drinking. Just add a handful of grain into a full bucket of water and offer it to the horse. Horses like to drink the water thinking there is a food reward in the bottom, which is especially useful during circumstances where they've been denied food for a bit due to colic. It is great for drinking without adding much food, such as for an impacted horse.



### **Bran Mash**

Offering horses bran mash mixtures is a traditional practice done by horse owners during cold weather. It can be useful for encouraging a horse to drink, however it should not be given more than once a week. This is because wheat bran contains 10 times more phosphorus (P) than calcium (Ca), which can negatively impact the horse's Ca:P ratio, leading to a metabolic condition known as Nutritional Secondary Hyperparathyroidism---also known as 'Big Head'.

# Preparing for Cold Weather

Don't take your horse's health for granted this winter season—work with your veterinarian and farrier to formulate a wellness, hoof care, and feeding plan that will help ward off cold weather woes and help you ensure your horse exits the cold months in fine form. For more information see TheHorse.com/30241

Whether your region's winter weather consists of cooler temperatures and occasional rains, or if it guarantees months of frigid winds and endless snowfall, you can take steps to make the season more manageable.

*The Horse* has formulated 10 veterinarian-approved tips for keeping your horse healthy and comfortable during the cold season. Check these off your to-do list before the temperatures plunge and the snow arrives.

- Let your horse's hair coat grow and thicken if not in steady work.
- Make sure blankets are clean, intact, and fit well.
- Stock up on quality hay early.



Determine if you need to adjust your horse's feed rations to help him maintain adequate body condition.



- Have a veterinary dental practitioner examine your horse's teeth.
- Make sure water heaters are in working order, and provide your horse with free-choice salt.
- Trim hooves and pull shoes or add studs or snow pads as needed.
  - Perform fecal egg counts in autumn to determine if deworming is needed.
- Make sure your horse's vaccinations are up-to-date, especially if traveling this winter.



## **HORSE PUPPET FUN**

#### Materials

HEAD:One sock MANE: Yarn EYES: Buttons, Felt or Googly Eyes NOSTRILS and EARS: Felt (any colors you like) Also needed: Hot glue gun (An adult to assist) If you don't have a hot glue gun, you can sew your sock horse or use PVA glue Optional sewing needle for yarn. Optional small paper plate or tissue to insert in the sock to stop to side sticking together when glueing



Instructions:

- 1 Cut from felt nostrils and two parts for the ears
- 2 Insert paper plate (or a wade of paper) inside the sock
- 3 Glue on the eyes and nose where desire (or you may sew on the eyes)
- 4 To shape the ears a little, glue the inside color and outer ear together first and let dry
- 5 With a good dollop of hot glue secured them just above the googly eyes
- 6 You can pinch the base of the ear together with glue to make them more 3-D
- 7 Making the Mane in two or three parts is easier
- 8 Starting at the top, wrap some strands of yarn around your hand or a round tube
- 9 Glue them in place between the ears or use some of the yarn and a needle to sew them
- 10 Snip open the "loops" to create your mane
- 11 You can then make one or two more sets and glue or sew them next to each other
- 12 Make sure the hot glue catches all the strands
- 13 Snip open the remaining "loops"
- 14 You can add an optional bridle if you would like
- 15 Send Admiral a photo of your puppet







## Parts of the Horse Word Search

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### Horse Crossword Puzzle



Across

- Another name for a loose ring snaffle bit
- Type of pony breed, very similar to the Appaloosa as it possesses the same coloring
- Estimated number of horses in the world: million
- Result of a cross between a female donkey and a male horse
- Name of the only breed of horse that has never been domesticated
- 11. Name of the famous horse story that Anna Sewell wrote

- 12. Number of inches in a hand
- Name of the sport that has "chukkas"
- Type of knot that you should always tie your horse with
- Name of the only breed of horse to descend from a single stallion
- 22. Ohio, USA town that is home to the All American Quarter Horse Congress
- 23. Name of the breed of horse used at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna
- Number of months the average mare in pregnant

Down

- Breed of the horse that starred as Mr. Ed on the TV series
- Name of the first cloned mule, produced in May of 2003
- Name of a type of paint/pinto coat pattern with jagged, irregular spots, and white that does not cross the horse's back
- Name of the 2003 Kentucky Derby winner
- Age of the oldest recorded horse, a barge horse in England named "Old Bill"
- Name of the Tri-County Equestrian Club's president
- 10. Name of the first filly to win the Kentucky Derby
- Type of show jumping competition where a single jump is built higher and higher with every round
- 15. Term for the color of Suffolk Punch horses
- 16. Inventor of the "forward seat" used in jumping
- 17. A great compánion animal for horses
- French word referring ot the methodical gymnastic training of the horse
- 20. Canada's national breed of horse, sometimes referred to as "The Little Iron Horse"
- 21. Name of Roy Roger's famous horse





Answers to puzzles on pages 5 and 6

JDHINDQUARTERSDFA ABOZZEGJBMACXHPKN NP N E E WUCMPSNRFOOHTOF 5 X MKGAHTPJCEKQU ASIZWMANETAILL DEY B Т A S I Z WMANETAILLIO GMFZPIOGHYMJNDXP AQEVCANNONBONECL SRTHMSBKPWSITRLA KPLACMRUEBACKINS I POKLAUPGRNKRVHN ION D E A XPTR 1 R ER SIN TE L W G A W Т BCDEK JFH FARLPGOEG ND Ò DAKZULETZOHMIJPCJEAE JSUDAQVOPLNCABDKVNQR FLANKABSTRENLGIRTHYS







# Admiral's Corner

There are several ways you can support equine research. One is our tribute program. We will place a photo and written tribute of your horse on our website. We can do this in memory or honor of your horse or a favorite horse. With your minimum donation of \$50 you will also receive a leather bracelet with the name of your horse engraved.

Encourage your friends to join our Junior Membership program for only \$20 and don't forget to renew your membership to keep getting cool stuff.

### **Thanksgiving Mash**

### Ingredients:

Hot Water 1/4 to 1/2 cup Brown Sugar 2 Shredded Carrots 1 Chopped Apple 2 cups of Unsweetened Apple Juice Shredded Beet Pulp, Bran, or Alfalfa Cubes depending on your horse's preference.



### **Directions:**

- Mix all ingredients together in a large bucket.
- Pour hot water on top.
- Allow the mixture to sit for a few minutes or until the water is absorbed and is cool enough to eat.

*Tip:Pour the apple juice over the mash right before serving.*