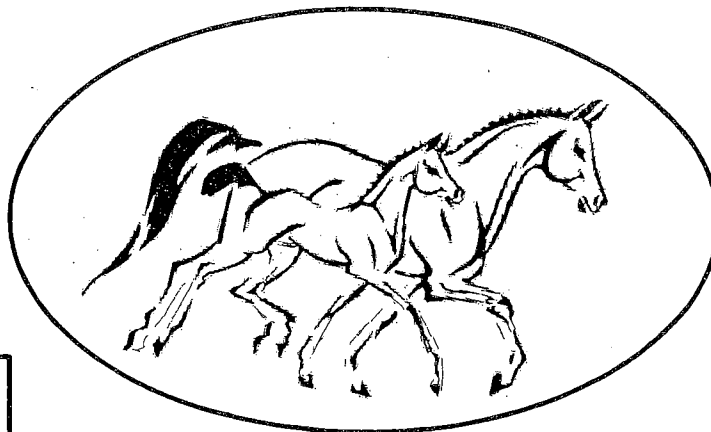


April



2018

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This publication is the official Newsletter of the -

**Australian Thoroughbred Breeders
Club Ltd.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Hunter Valley Bus Trip June 2018
Update**

The June long weekend (9th, 10th and 11th) bus trip to the Hunter Valley will include, **Arrowfield, Coolmore, Newgate, Widden and Yarraman studs.**

We will also visit 'Two Rivers' winery at Denman where we will stay at the Vineyard Motel and Restaurant. The cost for the trip will be approximately \$350. this includes coach transport, 2 nights accommodation, all meals, morning and afternoon teas as well.

Still some vacancies so make sure you don't miss out.

**Please Phone: Dianne Lanham
A.S.A.P - 0434 039 456**

Next Meeting:

The next Committee meeting will be held on 16th May 2018 at 6.30 pm. At the A.T.B.C building Clarendon.

★ A number of people have shown a great interest in the 'Foal Squeeze' article briefly presented in last month's Newsletter, and have asked for further information. See page 3.

★ Those who were unable to attend the talk on equine nutrition and gastric ulceration will enjoy a report written by one of our committee . page 2 & 4

A trainer was giving last minute instructions to the jockey and appeared to slip something into the horse's mouth just as the steward walked by.' What was that?' inquired the steward. 'Oh nothing,' said the trainer, 'just a Tic-Tack.' He offered one to the steward and had one himself. After the suspicious steward left the scene the trainer continued with his instructions. 'Just stick to the fence, you are on a sure thing. The only thing that could possibly pass you in the home straight is either that steward or me.'

The Committee of the A.T.B.C would like to warmly welcome a new members Ivan Danzo and Vanessa Berends to the club.

Once again many thanks to members who have contributed to the Newsletter so far. We have all enjoyed sharing your input, personal experiences, and feedback. Keep up the good work.

All members are invited to contribute to the newsletter via a story, a letter, a joke or an article please phone the secretary.



Report :- Hawkesbury Equine Vet Clinic Information Night 12.04.2018.

Anne Parbery presented guest speakers, Dr Nerida Richards from FeedXL Pty Ltd and Dr Michael Robinson from Randlab Veterinary Medicines.

Dr Richards presented a power point overview of the equine digestive system function and process in relation to various feed rations. She provided some very informative handouts in relation to her talk.

Dr Michael Robinson gave a power point presentation and videos of gastric ulcers in horses at different stages. One showed the effect of exercising horses on an empty stomach, video evidence of a horse on a treadmill with a gastroscope in place. All very interesting information on both diet, nutrition and gastric ulcers.

With 110 guests it was a full house. A BBQ at interval gave a brief time to reflect on the information with other guests. Many of the people in attendance were from performance horse backgrounds included high profile competitors such as Colleen Brooks.

Many horse owners and trainers etc. could relate to both presentations and were given the opportunity to ask questions during the screenings.

I personally came away with a greater understanding of the effect of stress on horses in training with regard to gastric ulcers.

Congratulations to HEVC for inviting people to their clinic for this very informative evening and for their hospitality. *By Joan Pracey.*

COMMON SIGNS THAT YOUR HORSE MAY HAVE GASTRIC ULCERS

Failure to thrive, put on body condition, weight loss
Behavioural changes, irritable, nervousness, aggression
Poor performance
Jacking up, refusal to train, refusing jumps, resistance etc.
Dull, harsh coat
Mild intermittent or recurrent colic associated with eating
Cribbing or windsucking
Girthiness

Editor's Note: *I find it interesting that for a number of years now animal protection groups have been trying to tell us that just about every race horse suffers with **gastric ulcers, bleeding from the lungs and being whipped during races** but we as owners, trainers, riders, racing organisations etc. just don't seem to want to know. It takes Veterinary Pharmaceutical Companies to point this out and then and only then are we prepared to give it some thought. I feel sorry for animal protection groups who are often jeered at for the work they do. It seems they have been vindicated by science and have proven to be more enlightened than the rest of us! I invite you to read a snippet from a short article produced by 'Animals Australia'. (please excuse font size)*

A little information from the FeedXL nutrition presentation handouts we can share with those unable to attend:-

Feeding horses with laminitis

1. Always base the diet on forage (pasture or hay).
2. Feed forages with less than 12% starch and sugars (Non-Structural Carbohydrates, NSC).
3. Soak hay to remove sugars if you are unsure of its NSC content or if your horse is very sensitive.
4. If grazing is to be provided, only graze in the very early hours of the morning. Have horse's off pasture by 2 hours after sunrise.

Feed
Nutrition Makes a Difference



Feeding horses with laminitis cont.

6. Use a grazing muzzle to reduce pasture intake. Try Harmany Muzzles for a muzzle suitable in hot climates. <http://www.harmanymuzzle.com/>
7. It is important to feed a balanced diet. Use a low dose rate balancer (EasiKeeper) to meet vitamin and mineral requirements.
8. You may need to feed some high quality protein e.g. Extruded Full-Fat Soybean
9. Use low NSC, grain free feeds/ingredients where additional calories are required. FeedXL can help identify these.



Feed
Nutrition Makes a Difference

Pasture Laminitis

- Pasture laminitis is the most common form of laminitis you will experience as a horse owner.
- Frequently occurs in spring and autumn when pasture sugar and starch levels are high but also occurs in winter and summer.
- Usually seen in horses with any condition that leads to insulin resistance e.g. Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS) and Cushing's Disease.
- Obesity and being idle are huge risk factors.

Feed
Nutrition Makes a Difference

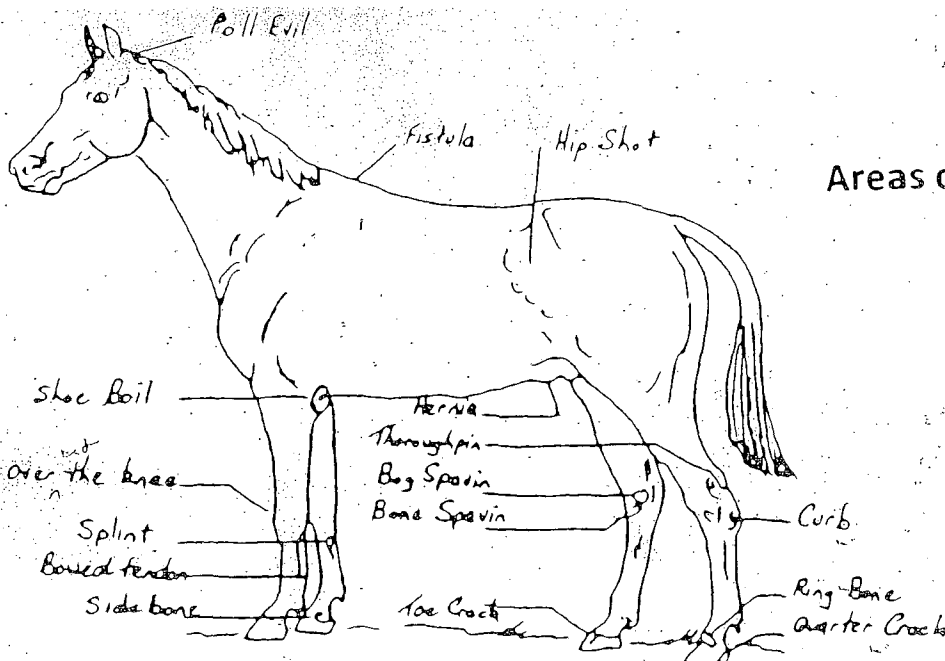


Suitable Forages

- Lucerne is almost always less than 10% non-structural carbohydrates (NSC) making it very safe. But it can't be fed as the only forage.
- Any sub-tropical grass hay (e.g. Rhodes Grass hay, Teff hay) is also usually safe.
- Cereal hays including oaten, wheaten and barley hay can be very high in non-structural carbohydrates, even with no seed heads. **DO NOT FEED THEM!!!**
- Temperate grasses like ryegrass can also be very high in NSC so again **don't feed them**.

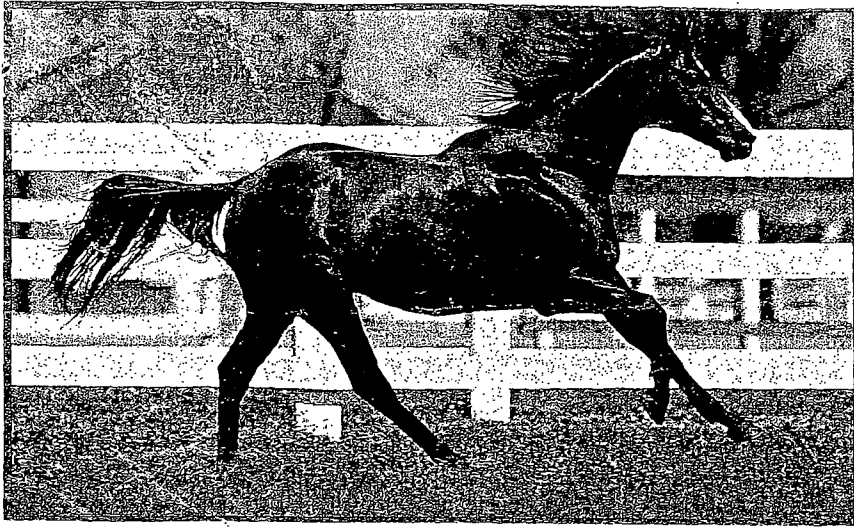


Feed
Nutrition Makes a Difference



Areas of Unsoundness

Quote:- Gypsy gold does not chink or glitter. It gleams in the sun and neighs in the dark. - Claddagh Gypsies Galway



A thousand horse and none to ride! -
With flowing tail, and flying mane,
Wide nostrils never stretched by pain,
Mouths bloodless to the bit or rein,
And feet that iron never shod,
And flanks unscarred by spur or rod,
A thousand horse, the wild, the free,
Like waves that follow o'er the sea,
Came thickly thundering on,...
~Lord Byron, XVII, *Mazeppa*, 1818

Mental suffering

Whilst in training, horses may be individually stabled for most of every day, apart from when they're on the training track. Stabling is the most 'practical' way to provide the horses with their high-performance training and racing diet, and housing them right next to the training track reduces time consuming daily transport. However, without social and environmental stimulation, horses can develop stereotypic behaviours, such as crib-biting (biting on fences and other fixed objects and then pulling back, making a characteristic grunting noise, called wind-suckin and self-mutilation may occur. These stereotypic behaviours are a strong indicator of welfare problems for horses.

Around 31,000 thoroughbreds and a similar number of Standardbreds will be 'in training' or racing at any one time in Australia.

Physical suffering

The feeding of high concentrate diets (grains) fed during training rather than extended grazing, often leads to gastric ulcers. A study of racehorses at Randwick (NSW) found that 89% had stomach ulcers, and many of the horses had deep, bleeding ulcers within 8 weeks of commencement of their training (Newby J, *Welfare Issues raised by racehorse ulcer study*, The Veterinarian, March 2000).

During training and in competition, horses of all ages can suffer painful muscular-skeletal injuries, such as torn ligaments and tendons, dislocated joints and even fractured bones.

Internal race injuries

The exertion of the races leads a large proportion of horses to bleed into their lungs and windpipe — called Exercise-Induced Pulmonary Haemorrhage. This has only been fully realized in recent years when endoscopes have been used to carry out internal examinations via the throat. A study carried out by the University of Melbourne found that 50% of race horses had blood in the windpipe, and 90% had blood in the lungs.



More on the foal squeeze Technique. It should be noted that this research is ongoing. Those doing research into Autism in humans are also very interested as dummy foals exhibit very similar behaviours to children with Autism. They feel there may be a link.

Professor Madigan is a well-respected equine neurologist and researcher. His squeeze technique is being used in vet clinics all over the USA and the western world. But until recently I had not heard of it nor have other horsey people I've mentioned it to. To my mind it all makes sense that foals don't gallop in the womb but remain quiet till they hit the ground and start to react to their surroundings, something keeps them asleep until berth. Professor Madigan's research has shown that certain neuro chemicals are responsible and it is the pressure exerted on the foal's torso in the birth canal that 'flips the switch' on or off at birth. His technique mimics that pressure releases the foal from its sleepy state. **To view many articles and videos on this subject Google 'Foal Squeeze'**