

Delaware Equine News

Vol. 23 No. 5

www.delawareequinecouncil.org

Oct/Nov 2024

Elrita Annette – Thanks for the Memories

By Pam Nebel



We lost an incredible horsewoman on August 11. Elrita was known for her love of the young generation and being able to teach them the art of horsemanship and showmanship.

In the early days Elrita served as a Construction Project Manager with the State of DE/OMB/Facilities Management Office from 1988 to 2012 when she retired. She was instrumental in overseeing the construction of the Quillen Arena at the DE State Fairgrounds.

Following retirement she spent most of her time at her beloved home, Annett Farms, where she boarded or owned as many as 29 horses. Some belonged to her students in the show industry, some to her daughter and some belonged to her. Two particular favorites were Gizmo (Welsh Cob) and Sea Shanty (Welsh). She loved just walking thru the barn and over to the pastures to take in the beauty of these magnificent animals that were so close to her heart. For years she hosted horse shows at her facility and enjoyed watching many of the students that she had taught. These were some of her happiest times.

Elrita was a longtime supporter of DEC, the American Mustang & Burro Association, Courageous Hearts LLC and a longtime member of the 4H Horse Advisory Committee. She also was a certified judge for horse shows and travelled to MD, PA and NJ judging various events.

Amidst the farm and horses was the deepest love of her life....her granddaughter Avalon. Her biggest wish was that she grow up to live a life full of love, laughter and happiness. Nothing would have made her happier.

Rest in peace my friend. You will be forever missed.



2024 DEC Membership Ride

Sunday, September 29th was the 11th running of the Delaware Equine Council Membership Appreciation Day Ride & Drive event. We had a beautiful day surrounded by scattered showers, but we were spared!

We had 82 participants with a good portion of them riding their beautiful mounts (I saw at least 1 mule, maybe 2!) and 4 driving rigs joined us.

Our event was followed by the annual meeting of the Delmarva Driving Club. Thank you DDC for your support! We would also like to thank Pam Gray from DDC who made an \$80 donation in memory of all past DDC Presidents who are no longer with us.

We encourage everyone to support AMBA in their 18th annual Halloween ride and luncheon at Redden on Sunday, October 27th.



Photos Continued on Page 8



President's Message

We're on the downhill side of 2024 with a number of positives to report. First, thanks to many people's efforts, we were able to provide Sussex County with much needed "Large Animal Rescue Equipment". It was much appreciated by the Tactical Response Team.

Second, with the guidance of Joan and Neal Greenberg, we had a very successful Show Series that has grown in its short 3-year existence.

Our 11th annual Member Appreciation Day Ride/Drive had a beautiful day at Redden Headquarters under the continued guidance of Stan Vonasek, unfortunately, I had to miss it for the first time in 11 years.

But the work is not done. For the first time, we are having the DEC Horse Show Series Awards Dinner on Saturday, November 2nd. At the November 18th meeting, we have the election of Officers and Directors for the next cycle and the Foundation is working hard to plan the Scholarship Awards Dinner planned for after the first of the year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those members (and some non-members) for their efforts to make this a successful year. Why not join the fun in 2025?!

Ken Horeis, DEC President

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~Welcome New DEC Members~

New Individual Members

Mary Zeman, Shannon Slingwine, Al Gove, Dean Records, Lynne Maxwell, Kevin Smith, Allison Naughton, Becky Holsonbeck, John Cooper, Colleen Layton, John Layton, Anibal Escalante, Lori Bean, Billy Bean, Sherry Harris, Wayne Baker, Tabetha Vanhekle Janine Ewald

Commercial Member

Rainbow's End Tack Shop

Youth Members

Maddie Ralph, Alexis Blair
 Samantha Gove, Brooke Luffman



Next DEC Meeting

3rd Monday of the Month at Houston Fire Hall

October 21st
 November 18th - Elections

If you or someone you know would like to present at a meeting, please contact a Board member

Upcoming Events:

Nov. 2-DEC Horse Show Awards Banquet,
 Harrington Moose Lodge, 6pm to 10pm,
 Adults \$35, kids 8 under \$20

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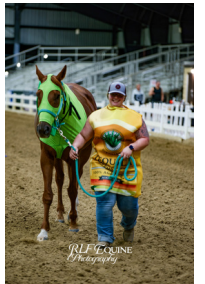
302-629-0306

Fall Spotacular 2024

The Delaware Fall Spotacular did not disappoint this year. There were tons of smiles and fun the entire weekend.

Classes were some of the biggest we've had in a long time with over 20 horses in some of the classes. If you haven't been to the Fall Spotacular Appaloosa & All Breed Show you should put it on your calendar for 2025. There are classes for all ages and abilities .

The Freestyle Showmanship was a bast this year and the costumes keep getting better



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DEC Trailer Tag legislation for DMV

Some have had difficulty obtaining our beautiful DEC tag for their trailers. Please show the DMV this legislation (House Bill 437) as proof that it's legal to have a DEC tag on your trailer.

DELAWARE EQUINE COUNCIL

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Delaware Department of Agriculture
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Delaware 4H Horse Program

Be part of something special

- 4H Hippology Contest
- State 4H Horse Bowl Contest
- 4H Equine Art Contest

Contact your county 4H agent for more information or read your county 4H newsletters to learn more about what Delaware 4H has to offer!

New Castle County - 302-831-8965 or betsym@udel.edu
 Kent County - 302-730-4000 or kristen@udel.edu
 Sussex County - 302-856-7303 or jackson@udel.edu

Delaware 4H Advisory Committee Members

Kay Betts	Pam Collins	Nina O'Bryan
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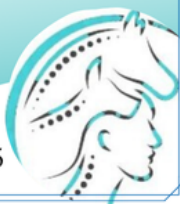
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Article Submission

Do you have something interesting happening in the equine world?

Send articles and information for the Delaware Equine News to warrington_girls@yahoo.com

TRIPLE CROWN
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Possible Link Between Selenium and Cribbing in Horses

By Kentucky Equine Research Staff



Stereotypic behaviors such as weaving, cribbing, and stall-walking occur commonly in high-performance horses as well as many companion horses. In addition to being unsightly, potentially damaging to the barn, and raising welfare concerns, stereotypic behaviors also result in important health issues such as dental disorders, temporohyoid joint damage, poor performance, weight loss, and colic.

“Cribbing is the most troublesome of these compulsive behaviors. It involves grasping a fixed object with the incisor teeth and aspirating air with an audible grunt,” explained Kathleen Crandell, Ph.D., a nutritionist for Kentucky Equine Research.

The exact reason horses crib remains unknown. Some suggest that cribbing horses have unmet dietary or management needs. Others believe that altered biological functions are the culprits, such as decreased antioxidant levels or increased oxidative stress.

Because trace elements such as selenium, zinc, manganese, and copper protect the body from oxidative stress, one research group* recently explored the hypothesis that oxidation status may contribute to cribbing. To test this theory, researchers collected blood samples from horses during or immediately after an episode of cribbing and when cribbers were resting. Control horses with no known history of cribbing were also tested. The scientists then analyzed the samples for various markers of oxidation.

“The most important finding in this study was that serum selenium concentration was significantly lower in cribbing horses than in controls, with the lowest levels measured while horses were actually cribbing,” Crandell said.

Based on these data, the researchers concluded “that alterations in serum selenium, an important component of the antioxidant system, may play a role in the

pathophysiology of cribbing behavior in horses, adding further evidence to the theory that cribbing may be related to increased oxidative stress and alterations in essential trace elements.”

Micronutrient imbalances can affect many physiological processes, which is one reason why Kentucky Equine Research nutrition advisors are available for free consultation. They can help with feed analysis, recommend ration fortifiers containing vitamins and minerals, and antioxidants such as Nano-E, a water-soluble, natural-source of vitamin E.

“Management also plays an important part in minimizing stereotypic behaviors. Strategies such as providing environmental enrichment tools, offering free-choice hay or prolonged grazing, and allowing direct visual contact or prolonged turnout time in groups are thought to improve the welfare of affected horses,” Crandell mentioned.

MAD (continued)



Delaware Equine Council Foundation

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
2025



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Enrolled in an equine or agricultural course of study or related field, veterinary or vet tech program
- Completed or about to complete 1 full semester
- US citizen or legal resident alien
- Delaware resident or Delaware Equine Council member

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP

The Delaware Equine Council Foundation awards \$1500 scholarships each spring to deserving college students looking to further the equine or agricultural industry.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Apply at <https://delawareequinecouncil.org/scholarship/>



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The Delaware Equine Council and their Foundation will award a Trade School Scholarship to one or more individuals who meet the required criteria. This is in addition to their annual college scholarships

- Must be a U.S. citizen, or a legal resident alien, and a Delaware resident or DEC member (may join during the application process).
- Must show proof of enrollment in an equine related trade course of study (i.e. farrier, therapeutic riding instructor, or any study that will result in a equine related trade).
- Submission must include a 400-word essay that describes how the trade will further the equine industry.

All awards are given without discrimination as to race, sex, creed or age.

Application must be received by **December 1, 2024.**

Scholarship award: **\$1500**

The 2024 Annual DECF Scholarship Awards Dinner will be held on **Saturday, March ?? 2025** at the **Harrington Moose Lodge** from 6-10 pm.

Apply at <https://delawareequinecouncil.org/scholarships.php#apply>

11th Annual

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Photo credit Louisa Emerick

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Proceeds benefit the ongoing preservation of Mount Harmon
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Sunday, October 27th 2024

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DELAWARE EQUINE COUNCIL

Horse Show Awards Dinner

Join us for an end-of-year Awards Dinner as we celebrate the accomplishments of our riders.

Great prizes ~ Chinese auction ~
Dancing ~
RSVP by Oct. 19th

Date/Time:

Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024

6 pm to 10 pm

Harrington Moose Lodge

\$35 Adults
\$20 Kids 8 and under

Contact Joan

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Emergency Equine Assistance Program

DEC Emergency Equine Assistance Program is a payment program designed to assist horse/equine owners who demonstrate financial need with the cost of hay, feed, or veterinary services for their equines. Payments will be to the feed/hay suppliers or veterinarians to cover actual, documented out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the horse/equine owner. **Visit https://delawareequinecouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/eeap_all_docs.pdf** Our online application forms are the fastest way to get help. Please use the link to access the forms. Fill them out completely and accurately. When complete, they will be e-mailed directly to the committee.

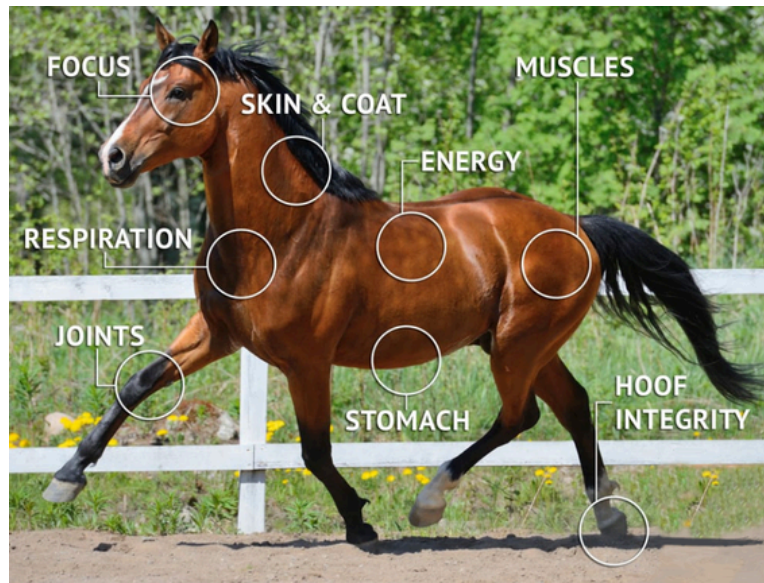
Knocking Out Inflammation in Horses with Omega-3s

By Kentucky Equine Research Staff

As rich sources of the omega-3 fatty acids DHA and EPA, high-quality marine-derived supplements support osteoarthritis and asthma, two common performance-limiting ailments of horses. New research shows that the benefits of DHA and EPA supplementation, most notably the anti-inflammatory effects, occur 60 days after initiating supplementation in horses.*

Researchers at Lincoln Memorial University chose 20 healthy horses for the study. Ten horses consumed a commercial supplement that contained 8.82 grams of EPA and 5.25 grams of DHA daily for 90 days, and 10 horses served as unsupplemented controls during the same timeframe.

Samples of blood, joint fluid, and pulmonary surfactant (a mixture of fats and proteins found on the surface of the lungs at the air-liquid interface) were collected at baseline (day 0) as well as days 30, 60, and 90. Samples were analyzed for polyunsaturated fatty acid levels, which include DHA, EPA, and related molecules contained in minute spheres of fat called glycerophosphocholines (GPC). These molecules circulate throughout the body acting on anti-inflammatory molecules, such as oxylipins. As lipid mediators, oxylipins are involved in numerous physiological and pathological processes, including termination of inflammation pathways.



Researchers found that DHA and EPA supplementation augmented levels of GPCs in joint fluid and pulmonary surfactant. Omega-3 supplementation, therefore, “has the potential to improve the ability of anti-inflammatory mechanisms to resolve anti-inflammatory pathways in these critical compartments involved in arthritis and asthma,” according to the researchers. Of note, the incorporation of DHA and EPA into GPCs did not occur until 60 days after supplementation was initiated.

“Certain omega-3 fatty acids, such as DHA and EPA, are well-known for their anti-inflammatory effects, and are particularly useful for horses with osteoarthritis and asthma,” said Catherine Whitehouse, M.S., a nutrition advisor for Kentucky Equine Research.

“The levels of DHA and EPA used to supplement the diets in the research study are achievable with EO-3, a marine-derived oil created by Kentucky Equine Research, as the product contains almost 9.5 grams of omega-3 fatty acids per ounce (30 mL),” she added. “EO-3 undergoes advanced distillation and flavor-testing to produce a highly palatable product suitable for all horses to boost health and wellness.”

Recent studies conducted at KER highlighted the benefits of supplementing with a marine-derived omega-3 fatty acid, including its superiority to plant-based sources and its usefulness as an anti-inflammatory for high-performance horses.

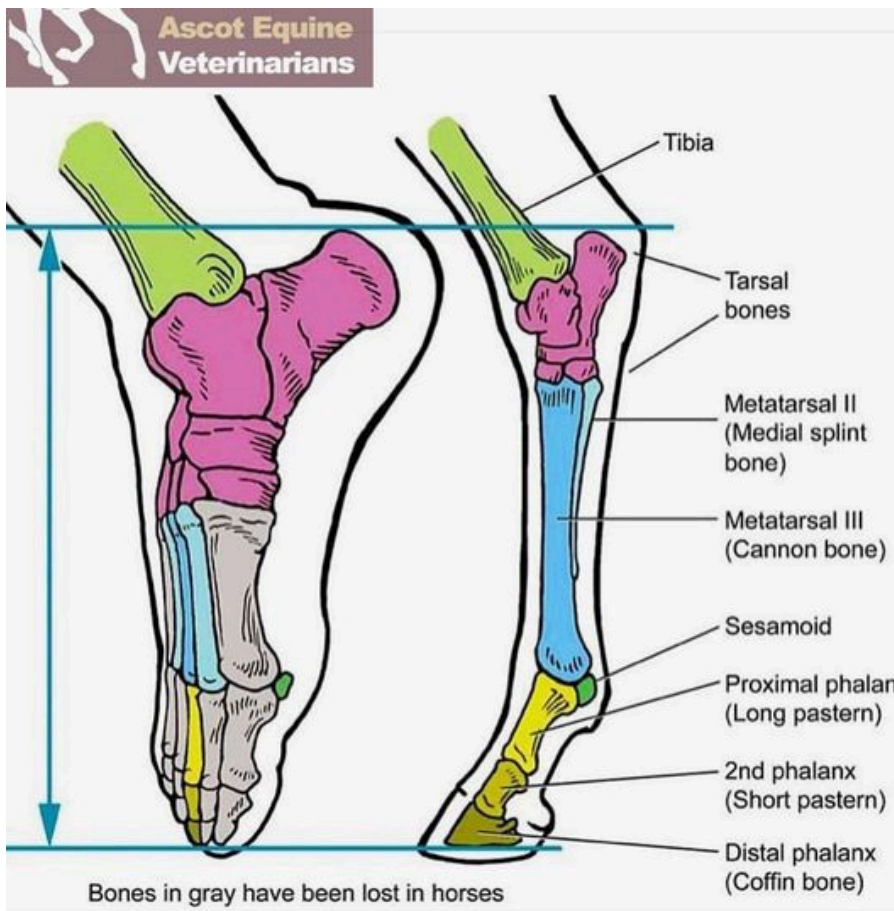
Delaware Department of Agriculture Fecal Testing



The Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) announced that beginning October 15, 2024, the cost of fecal analysis testing performed by the Poultry and Animal Health Section will increase to \$3.00 per sample.

DOVER, Del. — The Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) announced that beginning October 15, 2024, the cost of fecal analysis testing performed by the Poultry and Animal Health Section will increase to \$3.00 per sample.

The Poultry and Animal Health Section will begin offering livestock fecal sample analysis using the McMaster technique for relevant livestock species, and the current qualitative fecal float testing will still be performed as appropriate by species. The McMaster technique is an improvement over the currently used method because it provides a quantitative assessment (count) of the number of strongyle eggs in the sample. Strongyles are the most common parasite seen in fecal samples from sheep, goats, camelids, and horses in Delaware. With this technique, producers can better work with their veterinarians to determine a deworming protocol for their animals and determine the effectiveness of the protocol.



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