

Brought to you by the UK Equine Initiative and Gluck Equine Research Center

## Barry A. Ball New Equine Reproduction Endowed Chair at UK Gluck Center

**B**arry A. Ball, DVM, PhD, professor and John P. Hughes Endowed Chair in Equine Reproduction at the University of California, Davis, has accepted the position of the Albert G. Clay Endowed Chair in Equine Reproduction at the University of Kentucky's Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center. Ball will join the UK Department of Veterinary Science as a faculty member in December.

"The appointment of Dr. Barry Ball to the Albert G. Clay Endowed Chair in Equine Reproduction will help us form a critical mass of researchers in the field of equine reproduction at the Gluck Equine Research Center," said Mats Troedsson, chair of UK's Department of Veterinary Science and director of the Gluck Center. "Dr. Ball's interest, expertise, and research credentials make him a good fit within our group and provide a valuable addition to the horse industry in Kentucky. We are very fortunate to have the support of the Clay family to allow us to



recruit internationally recognized researchers like Dr. Ball to the Gluck Center."

Ball received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Cornell University, his doctor in veterinary medicine degree from the University of Georgia, and did his undergraduate studies in animal science at Virginia Tech. In 1987 he received his board certification as a diplomate in the American College of Theriogenologists, a branch of veterinary medicine concerned with reproduction. He holds veterinary licenses in North Carolina and California. Ball has been a faculty member at UC Davis since 1996.

At UC Davis, Ball's research in equine reproduction emphasizes gamete biology, fertilization, embryonic development, embryonic loss, and endocrinology. Ball also served as the vice-chair in the department of population health and reproduction from 2005-2006.

The Clay Chair, established in

### ARTICLES OF INTEREST

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1999, was originally designed to focus on stallion reproduction. When Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome severely impacted Kentucky's

(BARRY BALL ...)

breeding season in 2002, the Gluck Equine Research Foundation board voted to change the focus of the position to neonatal pathology before the focus was changed again and broadened to encompass all equine reproduction research.

The current focus of the Clay Chair is to develop a research program that leads to the advancement of knowledge and understanding of equine reproduction as related to biology, physiology, endocrinology, pathology, or immunology.

"I am deeply grateful for the support of three generations of the Clay family, not just for helping us establish this endowment, but for the leadership they have provided to the University and to Kentucky agriculture over so many years," said Scott Smith, dean of UK's College of Agriculture.

Prior to Ball's position at UC Davis, he was at Cornell University from 1987-1996, first as an assistant professor of theriogenology and then an associate professor of theriogenology; a graduate research assistant at Cornell from 1984-1987; resident in reproduction at the University of Florida, clinical theriogenology, from 1982-1984; and a veterinarian at Washington County Veterinary Service, a bovine and equine practice in Abingdon, Va., from 1981-1982.


"Barry Ball is a well-respected scientist and researcher. He has contributed significantly to the investigation and understanding of reproductive questions in both the mare and the stallion," said Walter Zent, Gluck Equine Research Foundation chair and veterinarian at Hagyard

Equine Medical Institute in Lexington. "Barry is not only a world-class researcher but also an excellent clinician.

"His contributions to the equine industry in Kentucky will be considerable, and he will add greatly to the team of researchers in reproduction that are already assembled at the Gluck Center. He is a researcher of the stature that the Clay Chair must attract in order to fulfill the lofty visions of the donors."

Ball has published more than 100 scientific

research papers. He is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, American College of Theriogenologists, Society of Theriogenology and the American Association of Equine Practitioners. Ball also has international research interests in Australia, New Zealand, South America, and Europe.

For more information on the Gluck Equine Research Center, visit [www.ca.uky.edu/gluck](http://www.ca.uky.edu/gluck). 

*Jenny Blandford is the Gluck Equine Research Foundation assistant at the Gluck Equine Research*

## SPOTLIGHT EQUINE

### UK's Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center

Construction crews have been hard at work at the corner of Newtown Pike and Citation Boulevard for months with the rapid expansion of the University of Kentucky's Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center (LDDC). Center Director Craig Carter, DVM, PhD, admits that while the expansion is exciting, the activity probably also stimulates curiosity among Lexington residents about the purpose of the LDDC.

The LDDC, along with the Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville, was built by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture in the early 1970s as a way to monitor disease outbreaks in farm animals. The labs were purchased by the University of Kentucky and Murray State University, respectively, and their missions continue to be service-oriented.

The LDDC helps control livestock illnesses by offering tests to help veterinarians diagnose and treat diseases. The center's staff work with the state veterinarian's office to track the incidence and spread of disease in all species of animals. The new Laboratory Information Management System disease tracking system ([www.TheHorse.com/15087](http://www.TheHorse.com/15087)) allows veterinarians and farmers to stay abreast of local disease patterns. The lab has seven faculty members who specialize in pathology, clinical toxicology, virology, and epidemiology.

"Vets out there do a good job of diagnosing an animal that's sick," Carter said, "but what they don't have is a lab to submit testing samples to. It's too expensive and they can't confirm a diagnosis ... We're the vet's vet. We're the ones standing shoulder-to-shoulder with (the veterinarians) in the field."

## (SPOTLIGHT EQUINE ...)

The LDDC takes samples from veterinarians and provides them with more specific information about animals' illnesses. For example, a veterinarian might diagnose an animal with a bacterial infection, and if antibiotics do not work, the LDDC can run tests to determine the type of bacteria causing the problem and the drugs that can efficiently treat it.

The other method used to control disease is to conduct necropsies on farm, companion, and wild animals in an effort to learn the cause of death and prevent the spread of illness in a population. A necropsy is the animal equivalent to a human autopsy. The LDDC has the largest equine necropsy load in the world due to its proximity to so many breeding farms.

Carter equates the necropsy process to the animal version of "CSI," noting that it is conducted for the protection of living animals. There are no limits to the species that the LDDC examines. Some of the most unusual animals to arrive at the LDDC include snakes, camels, bison, a piranha, and a baby elephant.

Carter emphasized the LDDC is a "life lab."

"Everything we do is to save lives. The (information gained from the) loss of one animal might save 10 or 20 or 100," Carter said.

The LDDC handles 3,000 necropsies and 60,000 clinical cases per year and is in the midst of a \$28.5-million expansion that will double or triple the workspace in some departments. The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians recently awarded national

## WEED OF THE MONTH

**Common name:** Buttercups

**Scientific name:** *Ranunculus* species

**Life Cycle:** Perennial

**Origin:** United States

**Poisonous:** Yes

Buttercup is the common name for several *Ranunculus* species distributed across much of the United States. Smallflower buttercup (*Ranunculus abortivus*), bulbous buttercup (*Ranunculus bulbosus*), tall buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*), and creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*) are the most commonly occurring species. They can be difficult to identify, depending on the growth stage. All buttercups are characterized by bright yellow flowers and most frequently occur in overgrazed pastures. Buttercups may overwinter as corms (fleshy, bulblike stem bases), but their greatest reproduction is through seeds. In Kentucky, seeds germinate in early March and plants flower from April through June. Buttercups can be poisonous to horses, but the plants are not palatable and usually not eaten by animals. The toxin is found in the leaves and stems, and flowering plants contain more of the toxin than younger plants. Mowing is usually ineffective for controlling buttercups; however, they are easily controlled with several herbicides. Consult a local Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service office (<http://ces.ca.uky.edu/ces/>) for a list of herbicidal controls in your area.

*William W. Witt, PhD, a researcher in the University of Kentucky Plant and Soil Sciences department, provided this information.*



**Buttercups**

accreditation to the lab, "a gold star" in Carter's words, for its testing procedures for all species.

In recent years the LDDC has also become a site for research. There are about 12 research projects currently underway, including several focusing on equine issues such as wobbler syndrome, contracted foal syndrome, contagious equine metritis, *Lawsonia intracellularis*, and

uterine artery rupture, among others.

Alan Loynachan, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVP, is an anatomic veterinary diagnostic pathologist and assistant professor at the LDDC. He particularly enjoys the opportunities for collaborative research projects involving other universities and a range of species. Loynachan is involved in several projects dealing with horses and pigs.

## RELATIVE RESPONSE OF WEEDS TO HERBICIDES USED IN PERMANENT GRASS PASTURES

Responses based on herbicide rates normally used for control of the specific weed.

|                   | Weed Species       | Preferred time to treat | Cimarron Plus | 2,4-D | Weed master | Fore Front |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------|-------------|------------|
| <b>Annuals</b>    | Chickweed, common  | Nov or Feb-Mar          | G             | P     | G           | G          |
|                   | Pennycress, field  | Nov or Feb-Mar          | G             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Amaranth, spiny    | May-July                | G             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Cocklebur, common  | May-July                | G             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Marestail          | Mar-Apr                 | F             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Mint, perilla      | May-July                | P             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Ragweed, common    | May-July                | P             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Marshelder         | May-July                | F             | G     | G           | G          |
| <b>Bien</b>       | Burdock, common    | Feb-Mar                 | F             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Hemlock, poison    | Mar-Apr                 | F             | F     | F           | F          |
|                   | Thistle, bull      | Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar      | F             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Thistle, musk      | Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar      | P             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Thistle, plumeless | Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar      | F             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Carrot, wild       | May-June                | G             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Yellow rocket      | Feb-Mar                 | F             | G     | G           | G          |
| <b>Perennials</b> | Aster spp.         | Aug-Oct                 | F             | F     | F           | F          |
|                   | Buttercup spp.     | Feb-Mar                 | G             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Chicory            | Sept-Nov                | F             | F     | G           | G          |
|                   | Clover, white      | May-Aug                 | G             | F     | G           | G          |
|                   | Dandelion, common  | Oct-Nov or Mar          | G             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Dock, curly        | Feb-Apr                 | G             | P     | G           | G          |
|                   | Dogbane, hemp      | May-July                | P             | F     | F           | F          |
|                   | Horsenettle        | Aug-Sept                | G             | P     | F           | G          |
|                   | Ironweed, tall     | June-Aug                | P             | P     | F           | G          |
|                   | Plantain spp.      | Oct-Nov or Mar          | P             | G     | G           | G          |
|                   | Thistle, Canada    | Oct-Nov                 | F             | P     | F           | G          |
|                   | Yarrow, common     | Mar-Apr                 | G             | P     | F           | F          |

G=good or excellent control; F=fair control or suppression of weed growth; P=Poor to no control

Prepared by W. W. Witt, UK Department of Plant & Soil Sciences, for the 2009 UK Equine Field Day, June 27, 2009. Listing of herbicide products implies no endorsement by the University of Kentucky or its representatives. Criticism of products not listed is neither implied nor intended.

### (SPOTLIGHT EQUINE ...)

Loynachan completed his residency at the LDDC in 2007 and was excited to return as an assistant professor. One of Loynachan's favorite tasks is working with the three pathology residents studying at the LDDC. The LDDC typically accepts one veterinarian each year into its three-year residency program, after which they are eligible to become board-certified pathologists.

"It provides an opportunity to serve not just the horse industry, but Kentucky agriculture in general ... As a diagnostic lab, it is on the frontier of detecting disease," he said.

For more information about the LDDC, visit its website at [www.lddc.uky.edu](http://www.lddc.uky.edu) or call 859/253-0571. [UK](#)

*Natalie Voss is a UK equine communications intern and an undergraduate student in equine science and management.*

## French Students Get a Taste of the Bluegrass

The University of Kentucky hosted seven international travelers in May. Students from the Master of Equine Science and Business Program, a partnership between UK and the University of Caen Lower Normandy, France, spent several weeks learning about the American horse industry in the horse capital of the world.

The program, now in its second year, is designed for individuals with a master's degree in a related field or established professionals seeking to expand

## (FRENCH STUDENTS ...)

their skills. This year's students, Marie deBeauchesne, Sophie Engerran, Delphine Herbeau, Raja Mahjoob, Emmanuelle Morvillers, Estelle Rewega, and Camille Valette, came from a variety of horse-related backgrounds and career interests, ranging from Arabians to Standardbreds to race and show horses. The group had a diverse educational background with

degrees in language, sports management, and an array of agricultural focuses.

During the 15-month program, students attend lectures and seminars in addition to two hands-on internship periods, which culminate in a final thesis project related to equine business, management, or science. Learning sessions take

place at AgroSup, Bourgogne, l'Université de Caen, Haras du Pin, and UK, while students can complete internships anywhere in the world.

So far this year's students have attended the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, the Kentucky International Equine Summit, and horse races at Churchill Downs. Their learning segment in

## TOXIN TOPIC ADVERSE DRUG EFFECTS

Therapeutic drugs such as antibiotics, anti-inflammatory and pain relief medications, anesthetics, and antiparasitic drugs can dramatically improve the health and well-being of horses. Without these drugs, many horses would die or suffer serious consequences from conditions that might otherwise pose minimal risks. However, many horse owners are unaware that virtually all drugs can cause unintended side effects, or adverse effects, that sometimes can be serious.

Some drugs are safer than others with little risk of serious side effects even with marked overdoses. Other drugs have much narrower margins of safety and can cause major side effects at normal therapeutic doses. Many factors influence whether side effects will occur and how severe they are. These factors include species, individual variability, age, pre-existing medical conditions, other drugs given concurrently, pregnancy, and drug dosage, among others.

For example, some drugs:

- Are safe for cattle but very dangerous to horses.
- Are more dangerous to foals compared to adult horses due to differences in metabolism and clearance of the drug from the body.
- Can be dangerous in dehydrated animals and/or animals with kidney impairment.
- Should not be used in pregnant mares due to risk of abortion or adverse effects on the fetus.

Examples of side effects that can be associated with common therapeutic drugs in horses include: gastrointestinal disturbances such as colic and colitis secondary to antibiotic therapy; gastrointestinal ulceration and kidney damage associated with the use of some anti-inflammatory drugs (e.g., Banamine and phenylbutazone); and laminitis secondary to use of glucocorticoids (e.g., dexamethasone).

Many adverse drug effects are well-documented and can be anticipated. Others, called idiosyncratic reactions, are unexpected, usually rare, and are not dose-dependent. Horse owners should always consult with their veterinarians before using any drug, even common drugs such as phenylbutazone. Veterinarians are familiar with anticipated side effects and the factors that can influence risk of toxicity from the drug. Your veterinarian can advise you on the appropriateness of drug use and recommend the best dosing regimen that will reduce the risk of unintended side effects.

Therapeutic drugs play an important role in keeping horses healthy and comfortable, so horse owners should not be discouraged by the potential for side effects. Your veterinarian can help determine whether the risks from the drug outweigh the benefits. Be sure to ask your veterinarian about any potential side effects whenever using therapeutic drugs. **UK**

*Cynthia Gaskill, DVM, PhD, clinical veterinary toxicologist at the University of Kentucky Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center, provided this information.*



(FRENCH STUDENTS ...)

Normandy included lectures by Mary Rossano, assistant professor in animal and food sciences in the UK College of Agriculture.

All students agreed their experience in Lexington gave them perspective on a new type of horse industry. For many years, the French government regulated and funded equestrian sports in France, but it recently decided to remove its support. As a result, public stud farms will shut down unless the farms can raise enough money to cover their own operating expenses. Since the American horse industry is completely privatized, the group was interested to learn how it functioned. Mahjoob observed that the government regulation affected each discipline differently.

**“(It’s easier for) people to succeed here because there are lots of disciplines.”**

**DELPHINE HERBEAU**

Mahjoob said it seemed American horse racing faces more issues stemming from a lack of regulation than French racing, while the sporthorse industry in the United States thrives without government support, unlike the French sporthorse industry.

Program participants were also fascinated with the diversity of the U.S. horse industry. Fewer breed organizations exist in France, which translates to fewer opportunities for involvement and employment in the industry.

“(It’s easier for) people to succeed here because there are lots of disciplines,” Herbeau said.

“If we had more disciplines (in France), maybe more people would be attracted to horses.”

While racing and the English disciplines have been popular in France for centuries, Western horse sports are just beginning to catch on. The students believe this is partially due to the influx of natural horsemanship training methods into Europe in the past 15 years, and they admit that while the general knowledge of Western disciplines is limited, the interest in them stems partly from the costume and culture associated with Western riding.

“People are looking for something to have fun (with),” Rewega said.

Many in the group had visited the United States before entering the program and have enjoyed the opportunity to learn about American culture, although some things in America—such as the cars and food—are very different from home.

Laurie Lawrence, a professor in the UK Department of Animal and Food Sciences, coordinated the Kentucky learning section of the program. She said she is excited to see the university partnership enter its second year.

“When the Dean created the Equine Initiative, one of his goals was to make our program at UK the leading program in the world and commensurate with the status of the horse industry, so I see that this type of exchange where students come here from other places is just a part of that,” Lawrence said. [UK](#)

*Natalie Voss is a UK equine communications intern and a recent graduate in equine science and management.*

## EQUINE PIROPLASMOSIS TESTING OFFERED BY LIVESTOCK DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC CENTER

After passing a rigorous proficiency testing program, the UK Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center (LDDC) was approved by the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Veterinary Services Laboratory to begin testing horses for equine piroplasmosis on Monday, May 17. These tests detect antibodies to *Babesia caballi* and *Theileria (Babesia) equi* and they can be ordered individually or as a panel. Currently these tests are not listed on the LDDC accession form. Individuals need to write on the accession sheet which test(s) they want. Each test costs \$15.00 for horses located within the state of Kentucky. A panel of both tests costs \$30.00. Turn-around time will be 24 hours from date of testing. Specimens received from out-of-state will be billed at \$17.00 each (\$34.00 for the two-test panel). [UK](#)

For more information contact Dr. Deborah Williams or Meg Steinman at LDDC: 859/253-0571.

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## Proper Stall Disinfection and Other Farm Management Techniques

Infectious diseases are a constant threat to the health and welfare of horses. Foals are especially at risk, and it is important to thoroughly clean and disinfect stalls in which mares foal. Disinfectants such as phenolic compounds will kill rotavirus, a pathogen that causes infectious diarrhea in young foals, as well as *salmonella*, *R. equi*, and other equine pathogens.

To clean and disinfect stalls that have nonporous surfaces, take all buckets, feed tubs, and bedding out of the stall and remove as much organic matter as possible. This includes hay, straw, shavings, feed, manure, urine, etc.

Using a hose and garden nozzle sprayer, wash all stall surfaces using a detergent or a disinfectant that also has detergent capabilities. Before working with the disinfectant, however, put on protective clothing, rubber or nitrile gloves, and eye goggles.

Follow label instructions and dilute the disinfectant into an applicator (e.g., garden nozzle sprayer). Spray the disinfectant on the walls (begin at the top) and floors and allow to dry. Do not rinse. Scrub all buckets, feed tubs, and other feeding equipment with a detergent. Spray on the diluted disinfectant, allow to soak for 10 minutes, and then completely rinse with potable (drinkable) water. For stubborn stains, keep the surface wet for 10-20 minutes, then scrub by hand. Rinse by starting at the top of the stall, then work from the edges of the stall toward the drain area or exit of the stall.

**Infectious diseases are a constant threat to the health and welfare of horses. Foals are especially at risk, and it is important to thoroughly clean and disinfect stalls where mares foal.**

After cleaning and rinsing all surfaces, remove as much excess water as possible, especially from floors, using a broom or rubber squeegee. Make sure to completely rinse the disinfectant off any item from which the horse will eat or drink. Dry these containers and return them to the disinfected stall.

Multiple farm-management techniques might significantly reduce disease outbreak risks. Not all are as labor-intensive as completely disinfecting stalls and aiseways. These techniques include:

- Group horses of similar uses. Don't comingle show horses, yearlings, broodmares, riding horses, etc.
- Plan a traffic pattern to take farriers, veterinarians, and other personnel to barns and pastures with at-risk horses (e.g., pregnant mares or mares and foals) first, and work toward horses that have multiple exposures to pathogens (show and trail riding horses).
- Isolate any new horses to the farm for a mini-

mum of 14 days and ideally 21 days. This allows owners or managers to monitor horses for infectious diseases and to complete any necessary vaccinations and deworming.

- Isolate horses returning from a hospital stay for similar periods of time. The stress of transportation and medical procedures can lower horses' immunity, and they might come in contact with other equine patients, some of which may be shedding pathogens.
- If observers perceive a horse as sick (coughing, runny nose/eyes, diarrhea, fever, etc.), they should immediately isolate the animal and ask everyone working with the animal to wear protective clothing. Only reuse such items as disposable gloves, booties and coveralls with that particular horse. Be sure to provide alternative gloves (nitrile or vinyl) for employees who are allergic to latex.
- Muck out sick horses' stalls last, and separately if possible, using pitchforks, shovels, and other properly disinfected tools. Alternatively, use separate tools for healthy horses' stalls and a different set for sick animals' stalls.
- Don't spread manure and bedding from stalls housing sick animals, including those experiencing foal loss, in fields. Compost this material away from all animals or dispose of it in a manner approved by local ordinances.
- Provide running water, liquid hand soap (pump-style container), and disposable paper towels

## (PROPER STALL DISINFECTION ...)

for hand washing in every barn. All employees should wash their hands prior to leaving at the end of their shift. In the midst of a disease problem, they should thoroughly wash their hands after working with sick animals, whether or not they were wearing disposable gloves. During a disease outbreak or when running water is not available, provide waterless hand foams or gels (at least 62% ethyl alcohol) to use after handling horses. Remind employees that these products are flammable.

■ Rodent control is paramount year-round. One barn mouse can ingest *Salmonella* and be a better multiplication factory than any petri dish. Mouse droppings contain enormous amounts of bacteria that can effectively seed the horse's environment and feed supply with infectious bacteria. Insect, bird, and bat control are also important. Remove standing water, bird nests, and other habitats. Hire professionals for removal of bat roosts and also for

difficult rodent or wildlife control.

- Routinely clean and disinfect stalls, water buckets, grooming tools, pitchforks, and other items, and increase the disinfection frequency during a disease outbreak.
- Most importantly, communicate and educate employees and enforce biosecurity procedures on the farm. **UK**

*Roberta M. Dwyer, DVM, MS, DACVPM, a professor in the Department of Veterinary Science at the University of Kentucky, provided this information.*

## Equine Higher Education Consortium Unveils Partnership Display

Where else for an equine education? This was the question posed by one of several projects spurred by a unique collaboration of Kentucky's universities and colleges with equine higher education programs and recently unveiled at the Rolex Three-Day Event and corresponding 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games test events in Lexington, Ky., April 22-25.

Kentucky's Council of Postsecondary Education established a consortium of equine higher education programs in late 2008 to promote equine education opportunities in Kentucky as the World Equestrian Games approached.

The consortium envisioned a display promoting Kentucky as the logical choice for an equine education to World Equestrian Games attendees, as well as attendees at other high-profile equine events across the country. Participating programs include Asbury University, Georgetown College, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Midway College, Morehead State University, Murray State University, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University.

To find out more about the consortium and participating programs, please visit [www.kentuckyequineeducation.org](http://www.kentuckyequineeducation.org) (going live soon). **UK**

*Holly Wiemers, MS, is the communications director for UK's Equine Initiative.*

**WHERE ELSE... for an equine education?**

- Morehead State University:** Quality instruction, facilities, and resources in equine studies, including equine management, equine nutrition, and equine health.
- University of Kentucky:** A variety of equine programs, research, and facilities, including equine management, equine nutrition, and equine health.
- Midway College:** Midway College provides the highest quality equine education and equine management programs in the equine industry.
- Western Kentucky University:** Providing students the best equine education in the horse industry.
- Murray State University:** Murray State University provides a variety of equine education programs, including equine management, equine nutrition, and equine health.
- University of Louisville:** With its focus on horses, U of Louisville is the perfect place for an equine education.
- Georgetown College:** Georgetown College provides the highest quality equine education and equine management programs in the equine industry.
- Asbury University:** Asbury University provides the highest quality equine education and equine management programs in the equine industry.

**Kentucky UNBRIDLED SPIRIT**



## UK Equine Initiative Farm and Facilities Expo

The University of Kentucky Equine Initiative will host an equine farm and facilities expo June 1 from 3:30 to 8 p.m. EDT at Lexington's Spy Coast Farm on Newtown Pike.

"The expo will allow farm owners and managers to see the range of equipment and supplies that are currently available for small- to medium-sized horse farms," said Ray Smith, MS, PhD, associate professor and forage extension specialist for the UK College of Agriculture. "UK specialists will provide 'hands-on' instruction techniques for spraying, seeding, fencing, and mowing pastures."

The expo will feature demonstrations on the practical use of equipment suited for small- to mid-sized equine operations from 6-8 p.m. The

demonstrations will include weed control basics, mowing and dragging small pastures, seeding and overseeding pastures, and fencing and water systems for rotational grazing. The highlight of the expo will be equipment displays from companies throughout Central Kentucky.

Reservations for the farm and facilities expo are appreciated but not required. Contact the Fayette County Extension Office at 859/257-5582 or dLCESFayette@uky.edu to RSVP. A meal will also be provided.

Spy Coast Farm specializes in breeding and developing top-quality performance horses. Spy Coast Farm's Kentucky location serves as the home base for its show horses during the summer months and is its primary breeding location. Spy Coast Farm also has operations in Florida and New York.

For more information, contact your county extension agent or Smith, Expo Chairman, at 859/257-3358 or raysmith1@uky.edu. **UK**

*Alexandra Harper is a UK equine communications intern.*

## Kentucky International Equine Summit Recap

Several representatives from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture attended the 2010 Kentucky International Equine Summit held April 26-27 at Lexington's Downtown Hilton. Sponsored by the University of Louisville College of Business and the UK College of Agriculture, the Summit attracted about 100 attendees to listen to 74 speakers and panelists dealing with a broad range of challenges facing all segments of the horse industry.

The biennial event offers three simultaneous sessions over a two-day period. The tracks for 2010 were: New Ideas in Equine Media and Technology; Equine Industrial Structures and Strategies; Increasing Globalization of Equine Activities; Equine Association Leadership/Management; Postsecondary Equine Education Programs; and Equine Regulatory and Jurisdictional Issues.



John Long, Chairman of the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games and CEO of the United States Equestrian Federation, was the luncheon speaker on April 26. Nick Nicholson, president of the Keeneland Association, spoke at the luncheon on April 27.

A video of each panel discussion will be available at [www.horsetv.com](http://www.horsetv.com). For more information on the summit, visit [www.kyequinesummit.com](http://www.kyequinesummit.com). **UK**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 1**, 3:30-8 p.m., Equine Farm and Facilities Expo at Spy Coast Farm, in Lexington, Ky.

**June 10-11**, State 4-H Horse Contest, Holiday Inn North, in Lexington, Ky.

**June 24**, 4 p.m., Department of Veterinary Science Equine Diagnostic Research Seminar Series at the Kentucky Horse Park. University of Pennsylvania's James Orsini, DVM, Dipl. ACVS, associate professor of surgery and director of the Laminitis Institute, will speak about laminitis.

**July 4-10**, State 4-H Horse Show, Kentucky Fair and Expo Center in Louisville, Ky.



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Always consult your veterinarian before starting any parasite program.



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To help in the search for a cure for laminitis, donate online at [RidingWithBarbaro.org](http://RidingWithBarbaro.org).



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