

Equine Program Review

A.S. Leaflet R2988

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Summary

The Department of Animal Science equine program provides a high quality active learning environment that promotes life-long learning in both career and life skills for students. Courses accommodate the range of experiences by incorporating the science with the “hands-on” activity. In addition the equine community is served through extension and outreach activities.

Equine Teaching

The goals of teaching are to allow students to understand basic concepts associated with equine production and management; to develop concepts and skills for problem-solving and appropriate management integration in areas of safe and efficient horse handling, nutrition and reproduction; to understand basic physiology as applied to equine animal systems; to apply scientific knowledge for problem-solving in the equine industry; to acquire scientific and technical knowledge and understanding as well as practical, managerial and business skills necessary to work within the equine industry, and to demonstrate an understanding of the anatomy, physiology, nutrition and psychology of the horse. Equine courses that meet these goals are listed in table 1. To accommodate the growing number of equine interests, ANS 217 is taught both fall and spring, ANS 216 has a summer section, and ANS 415 is taught in the fall and spring. In addition, ANS 306 was changed to the fall only.

Dr. Auwerda and Dr. Brad Skaar took 12 students on an Equine/Beef study abroad program in Brazil in May 2014. For the horse component consisted of visiting the São Paulo Joquei Club – Horse Racing Arena (Figure 1), Haras Sacramento (Reining Horses), Coudelaria Rocas do Vouga (Lusitano Horses), and Haras Nova Tradição (Brazilian Mangalarda Marchador Horses). The trip was excellent in exposing students to different production systems in Brazil.

Horse Barn News

The historic Horse Barns at Iowa State continue to provide horses for teaching, research, and extension activities. The Horse Barns offer a classroom and space for demonstrations or teaching ‘hands-on’ skills during animal science courses, extension and outreach activities. In addition to teaching, the Horse Barn does provide breeding services to the public.

Over the past year, Animal Science has been constructing a new Equine Learning Center (ELC) with 25 stalls and runs (Figure 2). The new facility is on the south side of campus near the Hansen Agriculture Student Learning Center. In addition to providing housing, the ELC will have an office, breeding lab, wash racks and isolation stalls. The ELC sits on approximately 60 acres, which has been re-fenced during summer 2014. Horses will continue to be housed at both facilities in the future.

The ISU horse herd is comprised of approximately 20 head of broodmares. Approximately 10 mares are Thoroughbred and 10 Quarter Horse. Not only are the mares and their offspring used for teaching demonstrations and practicum classes, but the mares are also used for student activities such as Block and Bridle’s Little North American (LNA) showmanship contest, Academic Quadrathlon, and recruitment activities such as 4-H Roundup.

Last year, two new stallions joined Canaveral on campus for the 2014 breeding season. Shore Breeze ended the 2013 year as the leading sire in Iowa by progeny earnings and is currently ranked 2nd in Iowa for 2014. Newport’s first foals are yearlings of 2014 but are big, strong and correct, so we hope for good things on the track in the future.

The foals produced are utilized for teaching and marketed to the public through private sales and public auctions. In 2014, yearlings and weanlings were sold at the Iowa Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association Sale (Figure 3) and the All-American Quarter Horse Congress (Figure 4).

At the track, the 2 year old filly Haforuhaforme finished the 2013 year as the top 2 year old filly in Iowa. She was 2 for 2 breaking her maiden on her first out and coming back to win the Iowa Sorority Stakes on Classic Night August 3 earning a total of \$73,054 in 2013. Haforuhaforme was bred by ISU and foaled at the farm. This filly is owned by Valley Ridge Racing Stables (Figure 4).

Students are able to show off their hard work and experience a larger portion of the industry when they travel to the large sale venues where the ISU horses are marketed. For many students, it is their first up close look at the horse industry from a production and marketing perspective. Students enjoy not only training and fitting the young horses but also getting to interact with the sales personnel, potential buyers and all of the professionals who are also marketing or buying prospects whether it is for show, racing or recreation.

The ISU horse barn is looking forward to 2015 – the excitement of new students, new foals, and new opportunities lies just around the corner.

Iowa State University Animal Industry Report 2015

Equine Extension and Outreach Activities

Table 2 lists the adult equine programs. The horse judging clinic is designed as an educational opportunity for horse show judges. Participants judge 8 to 10 classes plus take a written examination. From the results, an annual directory is developed that is distributed to county extension offices and open horse show organizations.

The Master Equine Manager (MEM) program is available year-round due to its online format. The MEM E-Learning Certificate Program provides horse owners and enthusiasts with a comprehensive educational program that teaches the science of horse management. The program combines focused learning opportunities with hands-on practical evaluation. The learning modules include:

- Welfare of Horses: Understanding Horse Behavior, Facilities and Equipment, Equine Quality Assurance
- Horse Nutrition: Forages for Horses, Feeds and Feeding
- Horse Health: Equine Emergency Treatment, Vaccinations for Horses, Understanding Horse Parasites, and Hoof Care
- Selection of Horses: Conformation and Evaluation, Unsoundness's and Blemishes

Table 3 lists the horse programs for 4-Her's and youth. The 4-H judging contest is held in conjunction with the Horse Judges Certification Clinic. The Jamboree was held in March at Iowa State University. In 2014, over 200 youth participated (Grades 3 – Grade 12). Winning senior teams from hippology and quiz bowl represent Iowa at the Western Nationals in Denver, CO in January 2015.

Table 1. Equine Courses at Iowa State University

Course	Semester Taught
AnS 116 – Practicum in Safe Horse Handling and Welfare	Fall, Summer
AnS 216 – Equine Science	Fall, Spring, Summer
AnS 217 – Equine Farm Practicum	Fall, Spring
AnS 306 - Equine Selection	Fall
AnS 313 – Exercise Physiology of Animals	Fall
AnS 332 – Animal Reproduction Laboratory Methods - Equine	Spring
AnS 317 – Fundamentals of Equine Behavior and Training – Working with Weanlings	Fall
AnS 415 – Equine Systems Management	Fall, Spring

Table 2. Adult Equine Extension and Outreach Programs

• Iowa Horse Judges Certification Clinic
• Master Equine Manager (Year-round)

Table 3. 4-H and Youth Equine Programs

• Iowa 4-H Horse Judging Contest																
• Iowa 4-H Horse Show @ State Fair																
• Iowa 4-H and Youth Jamboree																
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hippology</td> <td>Quiz Bowl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Speaking</td> <td>Team Demonstrations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Poster</td> <td>Photography</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Painting</td> <td>Essay</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Poetry</td> <td>Clothes Horse</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Woodworking</td> <td>Model Horse</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Digital Storytelling</td> <td>Creative Writing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scrapbooking</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Hippology	Quiz Bowl	Public Speaking	Team Demonstrations	Poster	Photography	Painting	Essay	Poetry	Clothes Horse	Woodworking	Model Horse	Digital Storytelling	Creative Writing	Scrapbooking	
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• 4-H Roundup																



Figure 1. São Paulo Jockey Club – Horse Racing Arena



Figure 2. Equine Learning Center



Figure 3. Paige Gilster with Touch Real at the ITBOA auction.



Figure 6. Animal Science Round-up



Figure 4. Ms Fancy Deluxe, yearling Filly consigned and sold at the All American Quarter Horse Congress. Sales price: \$5800



Figure 5. Senator Jeff Danielson presenting the Iowa 2 Year Old Filly of the Year to Nikki Ferwerda (ISU) and Sandra Rassmussen (Valley Ridge Racing Stables) Photo credit – Coady Photography