Horse Skill-a-thon Study Guide

This packet contains study material for the annual skill-a-thon contest. Every member taking a livestock project is encouraged to look over this material. Not every skill-a-thon station is represented in this packet. Members are also encouraged to use other resources to study (ie. Online resources and livestock resource books). These packets are the members’ to keep; they do not need returned to the Extension Office.

Feed samples are available upon request. (These will need returned to the Extension Office).

As always, if you have any questions please call the Extension Office at 419-354-9050.
Parts of a Horse
Senior Skillathon Questions

1. Name the two types of knots used to safely tie a horse.

2. What is the correct term for safely getting a young or soft horse into condition?

3. Name the 5 essential types of nutrients for a horse to sustain life.

4. What is the difference between a paint and a pinto horse?

5. Name the 5 basic coat colors.

6. Name the 5 variations of the basic coat colors.

7. What is the normal body temperature for a horse?

8. What is the normal respiration rate for a horse at rest?

9. What are the names of the two sets of teeth a horse will have during it’s life?

10. What is the name for a fungal infection of the skin causing a circular shaped lesion that is easily spread by direct contact between animals and humans?
Senior Skillathon Questions

1. Name the two types of knots used to safely tie a horse.
   - Bowline
   - Quick Release Knot

2. What is the correct term for safely getting a young or soft horse into condition?
   - Legging Up

3. Name the 5 essential types of nutrients for a horse to sustain life.
   - Water, Energy, Protein, Vitamins, Minerals

4. What is the difference between a paint and a pinto horse?
   - A paint is of stock horse breeding, a pinto is any other breed type.

5. Name the 5 basic coat colors.
   - Brown, chestnut/sorrel, black, white, bay

6. Name the 5 variations of the basic coat colors.
   - Gray, palomino, roan, paint/pinto, dune/buckskin

7. What is the normal body temperature for a horse?
   - 100.4 Range: 99.5 - 101.5

8. What is the normal respiration rate for a horse at rest?
   - 8-10 breaths/minute

9. What are the names of the two sets of teeth a horse will have during it's life?
   - temporary/milk (baby)
   - permanent

10. What is the name for a fungal infection of the skin causing a circular shaped lesion that is easily spread by direct contact between animals and humans?
    - Ringworm
Junior Skillathon Questions

1. What are the knots to safely tie a horse?
   A. Bowline and quick release knot
   B. Square knot and slip knot
   C. Granny knot and half hitch knot

2. What is a diagonal two beat gate?
   A. Walk
   B. Trot or jog
   C. Canter

3. What is NOT judged in showmanship?
   A. Conformation
   B. Appearance of animal
   C. Presentation of horse in ring

4. How much feed will an average horse eat in a day?
   A. 20% of its body weight
   B. 2% of its body weight
   C. 13% of its body weight

5. What are the five basic coat colors?
   A. Bay, black, brown, roan, white
   B. Bay, gray, dun, white, palomino
   C. Bay, black, brown, white, chestnut/sorrel
Junior Skillathon Questions

1. What are the knots to safely tie a horse?
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   A. Bay, black, brown, roan, white  
   B. Bay, gray, dun, white, palomino  
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Parasites

1. Adult form of this internal parasite is a fly.

2. Causes the horse to rub its tail excessively.

3. Causes summer sores.

4. Are considered very dangerous because they are difficult to eliminate due to the formation of pockets in the intestinal lining.

5. A drug effective against tapeworms.

6. A drug effective against onchocerca.

Horse Skillathon

Parasites
Parasites

Bots  1. Adult form of this internal parasite is a fly.

Pinworms  2. Causes the horse to rub its tail excessively.

Stomach Worms  3. Causes summer sores.

Small Strongyles  4. Are considered very dangerous because they are difficult to eliminate due to the formation of pockets in the intestinal lining.

Praziquantel  5. A drug effective against tapeworms.

Ivermectin  6. A drug effective against onchocerca.
Horse Skillathon

Parts of Hoof
Conformation
(Front View)
Conformation
(Front View)

- Base Narrow (stands too close)
- Knock Kneed (knees knuckled and splay footed, forefeet toes out/heels in)
- Pigeon Toed (forefeet toes in/heels out)
- Narrow Chested, Toes Out

- Bench Kneed
- Ideal Position (correct conformation)
- Bow Legged (with offset cannons)

Horse Skillathon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza (Flu)</td>
<td>Virus (myxovirus)</td>
<td>• <strong>Incubation:</strong> 1 to 3 days</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• <strong>Fever:</strong> 102.5°F to 105°F - several days</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Loss of appetite, dullness, depression, nasal discharge</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Cough - may last several weeks after fever breaks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhinopneumonitis (Rino)</td>
<td>Virus (equid herpesvirus)</td>
<td>• <strong>Incubation:</strong> 2 to 10 days</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• <strong>Respiratory:</strong> Cough with clear nasal discharge, slight fever (102°F)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Abortive:</strong> Mares abort in last trimester, often several months after infection without signs of illness - foals are sometimes born, but they are often very ill and die within a few days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE, WEE, VEE)</td>
<td>Virus (Eastern, Western, or Venezuelan encephalitis virus)</td>
<td>• <strong>Incubation:</strong> 1 to 2 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• <strong>Fever:</strong> 106°F - loss of appetite, stiffness</td>
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<td>• Sometimes progresses to affect the brain - impaired vision, walking in circles, yawning, increased drowsiness, paralysis, and death</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rabies</td>
<td>Virus (rabies)</td>
<td>• <strong>Incubation:</strong> 3 weeks to 6 months</td>
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<td>• Personality changes, though not necessarily aggressive</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Loss of appetite due to inability to swallow</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Nile Virus</td>
<td>Virus (West Nile)</td>
<td>• Incoordination, weakness in the rear legs, stumbling</td>
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<td>• Head tilt, muscle twitches on neck and body</td>
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<td>• Down and unable to rise, coma, death (within 5 days of symptoms, if they're going to die)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
<td>Pathogen</td>
<td>Three Types:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA)</td>
<td>Virus (EIA)</td>
<td><strong>Acute</strong>: Fever: 105°F to 108°F, depression, loss of appetite, death within days</td>
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<td><strong>Chronic</strong>: sub-acute; shows signs periodically but recovers - can result in organ damage and anemia</td>
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<td><strong>Inapparent Carrier</strong>: shows no symptoms but tests positive for the disease; can spread the disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strangles (Distemper)</td>
<td>Bacteria (Streptococcus equi)</td>
<td><strong>Incubation</strong>: 2 to 14 days</td>
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<td><strong>Fever</strong>: 103°F to 104°F - depression, loss of appetite, reluctant to swallow</td>
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<td><strong>Nasal discharge - thick</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lymph nodes under jaws abscess and burst</strong></td>
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<td><strong>If abscesses form in other body parts, can burst inside body and cause death</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Potomac Horse Fever</td>
<td>Bacteria (Ehrlichia ristici)</td>
<td><strong>Fever</strong>: initially 103°F to 104°F and depression</td>
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<td><strong>Shortly after the fever breaks, severe diarrhea begins</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Laminitis may develop</strong></td>
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<td>Tetanus</td>
<td>Bacteria (Clostridium tetani)</td>
<td><strong>Incubation</strong>: 7 to 10 days</td>
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<td><strong>Hyper-responsive to light, sound and touch</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Prolapse of third eyelid</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Gait/neck stiffness, “sawhorse” stance, lock jaw</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Death</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis (EPM)</td>
<td>Protozoa (Sarcocystis neurona or Sacrocystis falcata)</td>
<td><strong>Vary from slight gait abnormality to obvious limb weakness to lameness</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Muscle atrophy, particularly in the rear end</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Paralysis of muscles in face (loss of ear/eyelid control) and head tilting</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Progressive disease - can cause death</strong></td>
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