

SCCHA News

From: Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association (sccha@wildapricot.org)

To: lindsayao@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, November 25, 2019, 08:32 PM PST



From the President

Hello Members,

Another month went by and I have to admit I didn't get out to ride. It was a busy month. Along with all the normal trials and tribulations, a lot of us were without power for a couple of days, a couple of times this month. It's been challenging, although at least we've been getting some warning from PG&E. For those with water provided by a municipality the challenge is heat and lights. On my property we are on a well, so when the power goes off the pump can't run, so no water either. We did fine by filling the bath tub so you can flush with a bucket. And my horses have a couple of nice big troughs that I kept topped off before the lights went out. No real suffering, although I moaned and groaned about it a lot. You really start to realize how dependent we are on power when you find yourself hitting the light switches automatically.

I hope it's over for a little while. Some rain should help stem the threat of fire. Meanwhile, November will be a busy month. The SCCHA board kicked off a new committee to work on development of the field area on the grounds. The cross country course has not been usable for some time due to rodent damage. Heather Shupe is leading the committee to decide the best use for that area. You will see a survey soon to get input from the membership. If you want to be involved, now is a good time to volunteer. And, of course, the Christmas party will be right around the corner.

Hope to see you on the trail.

Karen

Feature Articles

Equine Gastric Acid: 12 Facts You May Not Know

by Monique Warren
(reprinted from the haypillow.com)

<https://www.thehaypillow.com/blog/equine-gastric-acid-12-facts-you-may-not-know>

Gastric acid is produced by horses, donkeys and mules whether there is food in the stomach or not. Following are 12 facts about gastric acid - short and to the point. These have been compiled and condensed to provide a better understanding of the physiology, volume, benefits and conditions that occur from the production of gastric acid.

1. Horses, donkeys and mules **produce gastric acid continuously** in preparation for constant uptake.
2. The average 1,000 pound horse produces **16 gallons a day** of gastric/hydrochloric acid. That equates to **.66 gallons per hour** (16 gallons divided by 24 hours). The **stomach only has a 2 to 4 gallon capacity**.
3. Chewing and swallowing activate saliva production (an alkaline substance). **Saliva buffers gastric acid** by increasing the pH of the stomach.
4. Stress, travel and medications can increase stomach acid levels.
5. **Never exercise or transport your horse on an empty stomach.** Fiber creates a mat of sorts, which prevents acid from splashing in the stomach. An empty stomach allows accumulated unbuffered (lack of saliva from chewing) gastric acid to slosh and bathe its lining.
6. Gastric acid left unbuffered is the leading cause for gastric ulcers followed by stress. **Ulcers can develop in as little as 24 hours - and recur in 24 hours respectively.**
7. Researchers have determined that **gastro-esophageal reflux can occur** in horses despite the tight sphincter that separates the esophagus and stomach by characterizing esophageal lumen pH.
8. Ulcerations as a result of unbuffered hydrochloric acid occur in the entrance of the duodenum as well as the stomach.
9. According to Martine Hausberger, PhD, director of the Laboratory of Animal and Human Ethology, a branch of the French national research center (CNRS) and the University of Rennes, *"It is also known that horses can experience gastrointestinal discomfort if deprived of food for a mere one to two hours."*
10. **Using proton pump inhibitors (Omeprazole) long term** can have adverse effects. Long term stomach acid suppression can affect protein digestion and risk of vitamin and mineral deficiencies. Gastric acid serves a crucial and intricate role in overall digestion.
11. Gastric acid is an important component of the immune system. It's the **first line of defense** from ingested harmful microorganisms.
12. The crucial and initial stages of digestion by gastric acid are not fully realized if feedstuff exits quickly. The faster feedstuff is consumed, the less time it spends in the stomach buffering acid. Once the stomach **becomes two-thirds full it begins to empty** regardless of how well the particles are prepared to advance to the small intestine.

Taking Everything Into Account

The pH environment of the stomach requires a balancing act easily achieved in nature, where horses graze/forage 16-20 hours a day - ingesting small amounts as they move from place to place.

We hope these facts help illustrate the importance of free choice forage (loose or [slow fed](#) hay or pasture with or without a [muzzle](#)) for horses, donkeys and mules as nature intended.

[Editor's note: Check with your vet if you have concerns about changing your horse's feeding program.]

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Rescue Horse Spotlight

Skippy



Skippy was abandoned in a pasture in Salinas when his owner moved away and abandoned him. The neighbors wanted to help, but knew nothing about horses. They finally called Backstretch Rescue in Aromas when Skippy was within days of dying from starvation. Dennis and Janece Barwick of Backstretch have been working with his vet to try to put some weight on Skippy. The horse was also abused in the cruel game of horse tripping, so Dennis has been patiently convincing him to trust humans and enjoy his remaining years at the quiet and peaceful ranch. You can help Skippy and other rescues at Backstretch Rescue by donating and volunteering. Please visit backstretchrescue.org or call Dennis at 831-245-0458.

Trail Vision Awards

A public screening of the first ever photo and video competition focused on Santa Cruz County trails, Trail Vision Awards, was held at the Rio Theatre on November 1st. The event was presented by Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz and Bicycle Trip Santa Cruz; proceeds from the event will be put right back into building more trails for all users to enjoy. Submissions were divided into "Bike" and "Non-Bike" categories. There were 64 photos submitted in the "Bike" category and 30 photos in the "Non-Bike" category, including some equestrian shots submitted by SCCHA members Gale McCreary/Michael Trionfetti and Margaret Ingraham. In the "Bike" category, the winning photo was of a bike back lit by sunset and in "Non-Bike" the first prize went to a photo of sunlight streaming through the redwoods. There were six "Bike" videos submitted and only two "Non-Bike" videos...sadly, no equestrians, but it seems this competition will repeat next year, so keep your cameras at the ready. Photos will also be featured in a display at the MAH in the not too distant future if you would like to have a look!

Junior's Corner



All,

It has been a very busy summer for everyone so I did not schedule any meetings. I am willing to start them up again for the winter months but need your ideas and commitment to attend.

Last year we had a fun holiday horsey party that would be great to have again this year. **Friday, December**

13th 7-9 pm would be a good evening. We can have the same activities: cookie decorating, ornament making, music, games, etc.

During the winter months, starting in January, we can meet the third Friday of the month with guest speakers, fun activities and learning about the care and riding of horses and ponies.

During the summer months (June-Sept) I was going to try to schedule a once a month Saturday or Sunday riding meeting at the showgrounds. We would like to offer some games, drill riding, lessons with local instructors, etc. I presented these ideas to the board on October 22nd for their approval. Please email if you have other ideas for the Junior Program.

In order to know if we will keep the Junior Program moving forward, ***please reply to scchajuniors@yahoo.com (ASAP) to let me know you are interested or not.***

PLEASE ALSO RSVP FOR THE DECEMBER 13TH HOLIDAY HORSEY PARTY

Thanks!

Jan Jensen

Crossing the Rainbow Bridge

Bereavement Counselor to speak at the November 19th Member Meeting

Many of us share an intense love and bond with our animal companions. For us, a pet is not just a dog, a cat, or a horse, but rather a beloved member of our family, bringing companionship, fun, and joy to our lives. Our beloved fur-babies can add structure to our day, keep us active and social, help us overcome setbacks and challenges in life, and even provide a sense of meaning or purpose. So, when a cherished animal companion dies, it's normal to feel racked by grief and loss.

Janet Childs, Director of Education, Centre for Living with Dying, has been actively providing crisis intervention counseling and education since 1970. She focuses on the dynamics of loss, illness, crisis, and grief. As a founding member of the Centre, Janet has worked with thousands of individuals, groups, and professionals, dealing with traumatic loss and death of a loved one, pets included. The Centre is an international bereavement counseling program - the most comprehensive of its kind in the country. Come meet and listen to Janet at our next member meeting.

Fox Equine Rescue Needs a New Home ASAP!

After five wonderful years at the Parker Ranch, Fox Equine Rescue has received notice that their landlord has decided to not renew their lease. They must move at the start of the New Year, and are in search of another horse property where they can operate their rescue and lesson business. They would like to stay within 10 miles of their current location on Miller Hill Road and need 5+ acres with at least 1 acre or more of flat land for stalls or paddocks. They can build as needed. If you have or know of anything that might work for us, please contact them right away!

www.FoxEquineRescue.org

Fundraiser: <https://givingtuesday.mightycause.com/story/Foxequinerescue>

Trading Post

Horse Boarding: at my home on Empire Grade in Bonny Doon. I have space for a horse or two at my home. Horses live together as a small herd with the freedom to run and move at all times. Round pen and small arena. Personalized care, peaceful clean environment, option to clean to effect board cost. Full care is \$450/month. Call Lisa 921-918-2275

peaceful clean environment, option to clean to offset board cost. Full care is \$450/month. Call Lisa 831-818-3375.

Horse for Sale: Sweet TWH mare, 17 years old, black, 14.2 or 14.3. Smooth and forward, does everything you ask. Excellent trail horse. Natural horsemanship, trailers, ties, trims, bathes, no issues. She's a family member's horse; I'm helping out. I have too many horses or I'd keep her for sure. She can be leased and boarded at my home, or adopted to the right situation. Give me a call: Lisa 831-818-3375.

Looking to buy: portable corral panels for camping with the Club.
sccowgirl@sbcglobal.net or text 831-212-4635.

18-month AQHA gelding has it all: *Luken For An Invite (Flynn)*, Flashy dark brown 2018 gelding Reg#5873080 (photo on right). Bone, substance, and breeding for an all-around prospect. 5-panel DNA test N-N. 15.1 hands at 16 months; should mature 16+ hands. Healthy, correct conformation, and great disposition. Would like to find someone experienced with young horses, preferably knowledgeable with natural methods. Flynn will make be a special partner, whatever your discipline. For price, videos, or more information, please contact: palmviewfarm@comcast.net

For Sale: *Lauriche Dressage saddle* 18", black, made in England, 2500.00 OBO. *Multiple snaffle bits:* french key, regular, gag style, 5.00 each. *Courbette leathers* : 30.00 black. English irons- 2 pairs 10.00 each. *Dressage girths* (black) Wintec 15.00, Leather 42/44" 40.00. *Misc:* A/P saddle pads, dressage pads available. Ursula can be reached at 831-818-9866 or alamarana00@gmail.com Sorry, no texting available.

For Sale: SR endurance saddle from Steve Ray in OR. Mint condition, 15" seat. Doesn't fit my new horse. Steve can adjust it for your horse. Asking \$2,000 OBO. Text Shahla for photos: 831-535-8070.

For Sale: Schleese saddle, HK model, mint condition. 17 1/2" seat, black, custom cover, adjustable tree. Minor adjustments can be made by Schleese Company for your horse. The visit our area often. Paid \$6,000, asking \$4,500. Text Shahla: 831-535-8070.

For Sale: 10 year old Rocky Mountain mare. 14.3H, gentle, very good with kids, sure-footed on trails and creeks. Easy trailering, natural healthy foot trim, never had shoes. Has been to three Linda Tellington clinics (her favorite mare for demo). Likes camping, has been to Jack Brooks, Roaring Camp. Very sound, UTD on all shots and dental. Looking for special home with room to roam. \$11,000 OBO. Text Shahla for video and pictures: 831-535-8070.

*Next Member Meeting:
November 19, 6:30 p.m
at the Clubhouse*

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Karen crossing the river on Sarah.

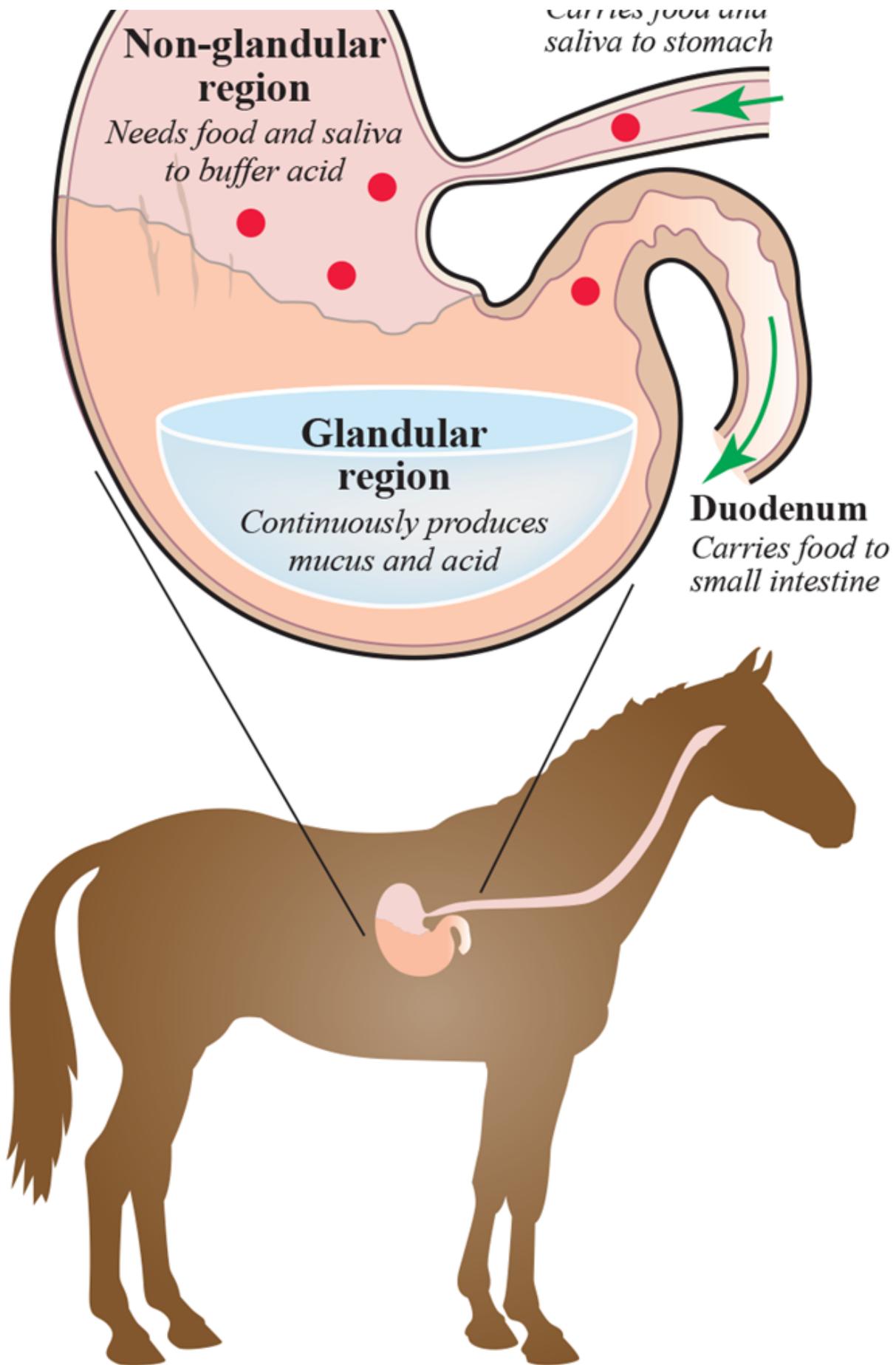
The Equine Stomach

- Areas where acid can cause painful ulcers when not buffered with food



Esophagus

Carries food and





Gastric Acid - 12 Facts You Need to Know

Thanks to Bonnie Stoehn, SCCHA Secretary, for contributing this article!

Send us photos of your horse and his or her favorite slow feeder! Next month we'll publish readers' tips on keeping their horse's tummy happy!



Backstretch Rescue's Harvest Festival included fun, games, and two beautiful BLM burros decked out for the event:





The wagon ride team gave visitors a tour of the seventy-seven lucky horses at Backstretch Rescue:





Give Dennis and Janece a call, and see what you can do to help this great rescue! 831-245-0458



Gale McCreary and Michael Trionfetti submitted this great shot for the Trail Vision competition:





Margaret Ingraham assembled a trail posse for the Trail Vision competition:



Contact Jan and show your support for more fun and learning with the Juniors program!







Janet Childs, Dir. or Ed., Centre for Living with Dying: "Grief is not something you complete, but rather, you endure. Grief is not a task to finish and move on, but an element of yourself: An alteration of your being, a new way of seeing. A new definition of self."





December 2019 Newsletter:

Let's make this a fun issue! Send in photos of yourself and your horse. Tell us about your favorite equine. Include your favorite tips on horsekeeping, your best ride this year, or your riding plans for 2020, or...??? Your editor is waiting to hear from you:

palmviewfarm@comcast.net

Flynn: Now 18 months and this beautiful, sweet boy is waiting for you to bring him home!





November 2019 Events

Nov 05	Redwood Riders Board Meeting	Kathy Rodoni
Nov 19	Member Mtg: Crossing the Rainbow Bridge	FloresLorraine@gmail.com
Dec 08	SCCHA Holiday Party (✓your calendars!)	info@sccha.org

★ For more details and a complete list of 2019 events, see SCCHA website.

Ideas? Suggestions? Stories? Photos? Want to advertise?
Please contact us:
santacruzhorsemens@yahoo.com or palmviewfarm@comcast.net

2018/19 Board of Directors

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