



April, 2013

2013 Officers

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Vice President – Phil Carroll

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Sunshine – Sue Harwell

Membership – Jan Gibson

Education and Clinics – Nya Bates, Sandy Young

Ways and Means – Shawnda Kasma

Newsletter– Margaret Carroll

Website, Calendar–Margaret Carroll, Barb Recla

Liability Insurance – Nya Bates

This and That

- ✚ Lawrance Valdez Clinic, April 6-7, Al Birt Arena
- ✚ Next meeting, April 8, at Sunrise Café, Middleton
- ✚ Tack Sale, April 13-14 Shawnda Kama's home in Parma
- ✚ Expo, April 19-20 – Southern Comfort will perform.
- ✚ Spotlight for April - [Lois Murphy](#)
- ✚ Updated calendar, Please send me any dates for the calendar in the newsletter and on the website. **I have listed Trail Rides according to John's schedule but some may be combined with other rides as time goes on.**

Welcome New Member Michele Hart

Next Meeting



April 8, Sunrise Café
Middleton, Idaho,
200 E. Main St. 585-
9700.

Meeting at 7:00 PM,
come earlier if you
want to eat.



Several members of the club will be participating in the Horse Expo, 10:00 am on Friday, April 19th and 9:00 am on Saturday, April 20th. Come and join the fun!

Happy Birthday
April 19 – Laurie Knapp
April 23 – Gabe Recla

Idaho Horse Council Presents the 27th Annual
IDAHO HORSE EXPO 2013
April 19, 20 & 21, 2013
Friday 10 am - 9 pm • Saturday 9 am - 9 pm • Sunday 9 am - 6 pm
at the Idaho Horse Park, Nampa, ID

OUR STARS

Barrel Racing • Horse Driving • Seminars • Clinics
Private Treaty Horse Sale • Stallions on Parade
Vendors from around the Northwest
Breed Challenge (Fri. & Sun.)
Queening (Miss Rodeo Idaho)
Dressage • Reining • Clinicians
Cowboy Race (Sat.)
Ranch Pleasure (Sun.)
Mounted Shooters (Sat.)
Horse Dancing Disciplines, Western meets English (Sat.)
4-H Kids Camp • Hippology Contest • Youth Activities
1st 100 Youth get in free,
thanks to the Appaloosa Horse Club

BOOT BARN

Idaho Horse Council
www.idahohorsecouncil.com
1-208-465-5477

Erica Greenwood, Jeff Spencer, Alice Trindel, Henry Nabel, Shannon Allison, Matt Rockwell, Jake Telford, Megan Pugh, Linda Kay Jones, Dee Craig, Katie Davis, Matt Zimmerman



Lois Murphy & MaiTai

1. Tell us about your first horse? Breed? Age? Your Age? (Child, Preteen, Teen, Young Adult, Mature,)

I was 45 years old when I got my first horse, he was 22 years old, been there done that quarter horse. Husband said I didn't have time as I was a business owner, but he was the best and I found the time. Let's just call me older than 50. Nine years later my husband and I live on a ranch and we both have horses.

2. How did you get involved with gaited horses?

When my gaited horse was given to me as a gift last summer.

3. What are your favorite types of riding? What is your favorite event to participate in with your horse? Your favorite Southern Comfort Event?

Trail riding and anything involving water (I hate cliffs). New to SCGHC, so haven't been to an event yet, but my husband and I both belong to two Back Country Horsemen chapters and I have joined another club too to play with my Pony.

4. How long have you been a southern Comfort Member? Why did you join?

Brand spanking new member and I want a chance to gait with other horses.

5. How many horses own you? Tell us something about them we have not heard before.

Between my husband and I we own 4 horses, Mai Tai, a 6 yr old Belgium/Thoroughbred cross, a 16 yr old quarter horse, a 10 yr old paint broodmare and a brat pony (we have thinned the herd down from 7 total). One 31 yr old I had to put to sleep just before Christmas (never had to do that before) and an older mare that I gave to a just starting out 4H rider. I have never paid more than \$500 for a horse (basically we have adopted rescues and train or rehabilitate them, except for Mai Tai, so she is special, she has no issues).

6. Tell about one of your favorite horses. What makes him or her special. Describe the horse. Size? Color? Age? Breed? Sex? What does the horse do well?

Zorro's Mai Tai, TWH is my favorite horse, she has a quarter horse look to her and is spayed (I haven't heard of too many mares being spayed). She does everything well and is teaching me.

7. If your horse could describe you what would (s)he say? What makes you a good human? What would your horse want you to do more? Less?

"I like living with the Murphy's I get plenty of exercise and food on the ranch. I loved living with my previous owner but he wasn't able to ride me like he wanted to anymore so he found me this special home. I love to go and go so I will teach this rider what I am all about, she likes to chase cows so I am learning that" My owner is easy going. "

8. If you could ride anywhere in the world, where would you ride? Why?

I would ride on the beach. I am a beach girl at heart, but don't like the crowds.

9. Your name Lois Murphy, nick name "Lo"

10. Occupation: When I am not riding, I am selling real estate.

Calendar

April

- 6 Tough Sucker Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID
- 6-7 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena
- 8 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 13 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 13-14 Southern Comfort Tack Sale
- 17 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 19-21 Horse Expo, Nampa ID
- 25 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 27 IMO Training Ride TBD
- 27 Tough Sucker II Endurance Ride, Oreana,
- 27 Blackstock 4-H Club Poker Ride, Wilson Creek Area

May

- 4 IMO Zipper Lips TBD
- 11 Eagle Extreme, SWIT & DR, Eagle Foothills
- 12 Southern Comfort Playday and Gait Clinic, Al Birt Arena,
- 13 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 18 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 18 IMO Too Much Fun TBD
- 18-19 Novice Idaho Mountain Trail Challenge, Thistle Creek Ranch, Wilder
- 19 Diabetes Trail Ride, Eagle Foothills
- 22 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 24-26 Owyhee Fandango, Endurance Ride, Oreana, ID
- 30 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

June

- 1 IMO Wildcat Springs Marsing Area, TBD
- 1-2 Open Idaho Mountain Trail Challenge, Thistle Creek Ranch, Wilder
- 8 Buckskin Challenge, SWIT & DR
- 8-9 Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena
- 10 Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
- 15 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 19 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
- 22 IMO Jump Creek Marsing Area
- 24-28 Southern Comfort Trail Ride Camping Exploratory, McCall
- 27 Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

July

6	Southern Comfort Orienteering Ride, Horseshoe Bend, Info, Lois Murphy
8	Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
9-14	Southern Comfort Trail and Camping, McCall, Info Anne Martin
12-13	Eagle Fun Days
13	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
17	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
20	IMO Banner Creek, TBD
25	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

August

6-10	City of Rocks, SWIT&DR
12	Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
16-18	Southern Comfort Trail and Camping, Cowboy Campground, Idaho City
17	IMO Dry Buck Sweet Area TBD
21	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
29	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

September

Aug 31-1	Old Selam, SWIT&DR, Centerville, ID
7	IMO TBD
9	Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
14	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
18	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
21	IMO TBD
26	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
28-29	Natural Horsemanship Clinic with Lawrance Valdez, Al Birt Arena

October

	Roughriders Poker Ride TBD
	Blazer Poker Ride TBD
6	Southern Comfort Poker Ride TBD
14	Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
19	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
23	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
31	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

November

2	Playday, Al Birt Arena
11	Club Meeting 6:30 Social & 7:00 Meeting, Sunrise Café, Middleton
16	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD
20	Southern Comfort Trail Ride TBD

December

Christmas Party, TBD

Dr. Steve Hardy, H Bar H Veterinary was kind enough to send two articles for our newsletter.
Scratches by Dr. Steve Hardy

A nasty, fairly common, dermatologic condition of the skin on the pastern, fetlock and even cannon region. More commonly affects white haired legs (pink skin) but can also affect other coat colors. This term, along with other pseudonyms such as pastern dermatitis, grease heel, or mud fever really doesn't point to a single causative agent or disease but rather to clinical symptoms that can be caused by a number of different etiologies (or causes). So let's start with what it looks like.

The skin is flaky, reddened, sensitive, and often swollen. Many times it is first noticed when plaques (or areas) of raised, crusty, scabby lesions are present. Removing these scabs is often painful (sometimes requires sedation) and the underlying tissue appears raw and ulcerated, is oozing, red and swollen.

As stated above, there are numerous causes for this clinical picture. Perhaps one of the most common underlying causes is a severe chapping of the skin. This chapping can be brought about by several common environmental situations. Wet, as in wet dewey grasses, muddy mucky paddocks, manure and urine soaked shavings in stalls all seem to set some horses up for getting this chapping. Photosensitivity, as in UV rays from sunlight can also damage the skin and set it up to become inflamed. There are, in fact, chemical substances in many grasses and even in alfalfa that can increase a horse's susceptibility to UV radiation. Not all cases of scratches start out this way, but a vast number that we see, do. There are other, more rare causes such as pemphigus (auto immune), habronemiasis (parasitic), sporotrichosis (fungal), chorioptic mange (ectoparasitic), dermatophytosis (fungal ringworm), dermatophyidosis (rain rot bacteria infection), photosensitivity vasculitis, bacterial folliculitis or even contact dermatitis (reaction to direct contact with substance that is allergic or

irritant). Because there are so many "other" causes, it sometimes becomes necessary to search for the diagnosis with cultures, even biopsies of skin. But, typically most cases can be treated as if they were a chapping of the skin that may have gotten a little out of control.

So to start with, when we have a case of scratches we may try treatment and see if we get a favorable response prior to spending money on diagnostic tests that may not be needed. (And may not reveal a true etiology). Our first priority would be to remove the causative condition . . . i.e. if we feel "wet" is a problem – remove it. Sometimes that means not turning the horse out on wet dewy pasture in the AM, you may need to wait until the afternoon when the dew is gone. You may have to reduce or even eliminate certain horses from being out on the pasture entirely. If it is a paddock mucky scene – clean manure daily, provide good drainage, put in raised dry areas that are matted. Clean stalls regularly and see if horse can get out of damp stall settings (even well cleaned stalls tend to get "damp" and oftentimes you can smell urine – urine will irritate pastern skin as well).

Once you have gotten rid of the "cause," you can begin to treat the actual damaged skin. We like to clip the hair from the affected area so that the oozing serum (coming from the damaged skin barrier) doesn't cling or cement to the hair which is painful and harder to clean. We then like to gently clean and debride this raw skin with an antibacterial soap (actually anti viral and anti fungal as well; in case there is any secondary infection from any of these agents.) Gentle persistent cleaning and removal of scabs with Chlorhexidine is the easiest on the skin (we stay away from betadine or povidone iodine based shampoos, as it is a great antibacterial agent but a little hard on skin on a repeated basis).

(Continued)

Once the skin is clipped, cleaned, debrided, and washed with Chlorhexadine we rinse, rinse, rinse until all the soap residue is gone and then dry thoroughly. This whole process is aimed at decreasing the number of potential secondary infectious agents. Also, it will allow the skin to “breathe” briefly. Many times if you are left with raw, sensitive and swollen tissue -- it is best to bandage these areas until you get ahead of the pain and the skin begins to repair. (This can actually take repeated bandage changes until it can go into the "open air" again .)

We use a couple of different ointments on non-adherent telfa pads as follows. (Please note that there are many different “medicines” or treatments that have and can be used as well.) We like Dermalone because of its antibacterial/antifungal and anti-inflammatory properties mixed with a zinc compound to encourage healing. Bandages also serve to keep U/V light from bothering this tissue for a while. Once you see progress you can sometimes move to

a couple of shampoos a week, keep dry and +/- with topical medications.

If this type of protocol is not working well, you can go to further diagnostics – such as biopsy. You must be flexible when treating scratches because it can be simple to very complex on each individual horse. Some cases may require systemic antibiotics and/or steroids.

Once again, like most things in life, prevention is real important (once you have gone through treating a nasty case in both time, effort and expense). Avoid the wet, keep legs clean and dry; keep bandages, shipping boots and grooming instruments clean. Inspect legs frequently for early signs of flaky, crusty lesions that might tip you off to an early case. Heavily “feathered” legs where the skin can’t breathe because of long thick hair covering them need special attention. (If you can’t clip feathers off – inspect, clean and dry regularly). Some people even go so far as to avoid all that “chrome” (white lower legs.)

Laminitis/Founder by Dr. Steve Hardy

I have frequent conversations with clients and students regarding this devastating disease. It is the number two cause of death in horses, being beat out only by colic. Fifteen percent (15%) of horses will have a “bout” of laminitis in their lifetime. So we thought a review of current information would be in order.

In order to understand this disease process it is necessary to have an awareness of normal hoof anatomy and physiology. Inside the hard, normally protective hoof wall there is a bone called P3, the coffin bone or the pedal bone. This 3rd phalanx is attached to the inside of the hoof capsule by hundreds of thousands papilla called laminae. Laminae from the bone surface interdigitate with laminae from the inside of the hoof capsule much like “velcro.” These little laminae have a huge job in carrying the entire weight of the horse on their “shoulders” ...so they require large nutrition and oxygen delivery-through vast numbers of blood vessels. The Deep Digital Flexor Tendon (DDFT) attaches on the bottom of P3 and runs behind the navicular bone and when muscles above the knee contract - this flexes the foot. This tendon pull becomes important with all these parts in the laminitis story we will discuss.

The back of the foot starts from the ground side with the frog which is a rubbery material that is the first part of the shock absorption apparatus of the foot. It is connected to the deeper digital cushion (fibrocartilage and fat) which continues to absorb shock and dissipate it as the foot is loaded. The final part of this shock system – involves the collateral cartilages on both the inside and outside (medial and lateral) sides of the digital cushions. As load transmits to the back of the foot the frog pushes up,

the digital cushion bulges out sideways (med and lat) and the collateral cartilages bow out and the large blood plexus (network of blood vessels in these cartilages) squirt blood up and out – further absorbing shock and concussion (like a built in “hydraulic shock”).

The sole protects the bottom of the P3 and also prevents compression of the main feeder blood vessels that course under the foot from behind as they deliver blood up and around the coffin bone to the very important laminae.

All of the aforementioned structures work together to keep the horse sound as he or she does their job. If they are built really well and if we take care of them really well we can keep that horse sound for a lifetime.

With laminitis these structures can have problems and fail. The word laminitis refers to simply inflammation (heat, pain, swelling, redness...etc) of the laminae. Each hoof has approximately 600 primary laminae with up to 200 secondary laminae in each primary laminae. They provide shock absorption as well – due to their strength and flexibility during locomotion.

They also hold the coffin bone and the upper “tower of the body” on this amazing base of scaffolding. They also have a unique ability to release attachment normally in very small localized zones to ratchet down new wall growth and immediately reattach. All these laminae are attached to their opposites by simple chemical bonds (so the entire weight of the horse is held up by chemical bonds). When these laminae become inflamed, together with the weight of the horse and the pull of the DDFT, and the movement of the horse...these structures can fail and pull apart from one another. The bone can then rotate or sink inside the hoof capsule (pull away from the normal attachment – just like pulling velcro apart). When enough of the laminae fail to cause rotating or sinking of P3 we call this “founder.” Blood vessels and nerves are traumatized; the blood supply running under the foot is compressed; the sole can be damaged and so on. It is very, very painful. Usually the front feet are more affected simply because the horse bears 65% of its weight on the front feet, but hind feet can also be affected enough to be painful.

The horse will be reluctant to walk, may lean back and try to load only the heel portion of the hoof. They get real painful when forced to turn. They might shift weight from one foot to the other. The hind legs often will be “camped under” to pick up some of the load off the front end of the horse (as well as load the back part of the hind feet). They will have a higher digital pulse intensity at the fetlock or pastern.

They can have many more symptoms of pain such as a higher heart rate, sweating, a stiff, pained look in their face and eyes. Sometimes their lower legs might swell from inactivity and immobility. The degree of laminae damage will correlate to some degree with the severity of pain signs, the amount of tearing, rotating and/or sinking as well as the final outcome or prognosis.

The problem is that lots of the laminae damage and tearing occurs often times days before the actual pain symptoms occur. This is why it makes it so hard to treat...we don't have a chance to start medicating and preventing early enough!

Now let's talk briefly about the causes of laminitis, as we know them today:

- As I mentioned earlier in this newsletter - endocrine problems such as EMS or PPID are probably the most common causes
- Spring or even late fall pasture associated laminitis may have an endocrine basis as above
- SIRS - Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome. Simply means response to toxemic insult as in grain overload, or retained placenta infection in foaling mares, or severe illnesses such as colic or enteritis/colitis etc.
- Black walnut extract ingestion or contact
- Supporting limb laminitis – as in “Barbaro”. A horse cannot stand on 3 legs for a prolonged period of time. If they are forced to, the greatest risk is usually in the “good leg”
- Road founder – excessive concussion to foot or hard ground (rare in my experience.)

Treatment, as mentioned earlier, can be “too late” -- some damage is often already there before the horse tells us about it. Treatment does need to be early and aggressive and flexible. We try to determine the cause, if possible, so we can stop further insult from that cause whether it be a primary infection, an endocrine disease, excessive carbohydrate consumption....etc. We will do a physical exam, possible blood tests, hoof examination, including radiographs. We will use hoof support measures such as foam posterior foot booties and eventually specialized shoeing. Of course, anti-inflammatory drugs are an integral part of medicating. Cryotherapy is utilized if you are fortunate enough to be aware of current laminae tearing (early on). Then stall rest until stabilized to avoid further tearing of these inflamed, damaged structures.

Supplements such as Biotin/Methionine can be helpful. Addressing primary cause is critical! Many types of specialized farrier care have been utilized.

Treating laminitis/founder is a big commitment – that can go on for a year or for the rest of the horse's life. Much more prudent to try to avoid this horrid disease...prevention is indeed worth tons of cure.

The more you know -- the better at prevention you can be for your beloved friend...your horse!



SCGHC is hosting a **Huge Used Tack Sale out in Parma on April 13-14.** To participate we are charging a 5% fee to club members and 10% to non-members to cover cost of advertising. Please call SandyYoung at 867-4084 or Nya Bates 559-2755 to sign up to participate in it. If you just want to come buy things, it's for anything that is horse oriented, western and English, all breeds all kinds of tack, show clothes boots, horse stuff!!!. 9-5 on each day. It will be at Shawnda Kasma's place.

Her home is located at 26780 Hwy 20-26 just before Parma and the Post and Pole business. West on I-84, take exit 26, then 12.8 miles on 20-26, home is on the right, watch for signs and balloons.

SCGHC COMBINED TACK SALE April 13-14, 2013

Anyone desiring to participate in the tack sale is welcome to do so. Invite people. The more the better. Tack and horse items only!!! This is not a garage sale. So saddles, bridles, bits, halters, blankets, horse books, horse jewelry, show clothing, boots and hats, horse art, buckets, brushes, etc. are all welcome.

Since we are advertising this event we ask that a percentage of sales be given to the club to offset those costs (5% for members and 10% for non-members). We will post signs, be in American Classifieds, Just Horses, Craigs List, Just Horsin Around Meet Up Group website, SCGHC website, email announcements sent out, flyers put up and so on. Word of Mouth and your help posting flyers will be a huge help.

Tack should be displayed on a table, saddle or bridle rack provided by you to display your items. You can get creative with your display if you like. Each seller's items will be kept together rather than comingled with others items. Be sure to use your assigned color to label.

Please be set up no later than 8:30am on Saturday morning with all items properly tagged and your item sheet filled out for the cashier. You may set up earlier on Thursday or Friday. The building is enclosed and able to be locked when no one is around. Set up a time to do it with **Shawnda 208-989-0718**. Maybe you can car pool with someone for the ride out to her place in Parma. She is on the main highway just before you get into town. Once the sale is over, you will need to pick up any of your items left there within 2 days or make arrangements with Shawnda. If anything is left more than a week, the club reserves the right to sell the items. This is the Kasma's home and we should not assume it's OK to leave things there.

You are welcome to stay and help monitor the sale. **Call/text Nya Bates 208-559-2755** to schedule a time to help out. There will be a couple people scheduled to be there to watch and a cashier to check people out. But we can always use more help.

Mark each item with **string tags**. Do not use stickers. They come off too easy. We will be removing the tags at check out and taping to your item sheet to help keep track of the items sold. Label the tags with **the color** you have been assigned and on one side put your **initials and item number**, and on the other side **the price** you would like to sell it for. This information will coordinate with your item sheet that the cashier will use to track your sales. You will notice on the item sheet that there is a column for you to list your **reserve price**. Use this to list the minimum amount that you will accept for the item in case a customer makes an offer on your item. We need your phone number to be able to call you in case the customer wants to ask you any questions or make another offer. You may want to put specific info on some items in order to give customers answers to the most commonly asked questions, such as, what size seat does the saddle have, how old is it, what size mouth piece on the bit, note if the bridle and reins are a set (if so then tie them together with some twine so they stay together), what size are the boots or clothes, and so on. This will save you getting a lot of calls and make it easier on the people keeping an eye on things.

A list of all of each sellers tack should be marked with a number, description, price (with a reserve) the owner's name, address and telephone number in case of an offer for said item (please see example below). Forms will be emailed to club members.

Item #	Description & Notes	Price	Reserve	Sale Price
SY1	Zaldi All Purpose English saddle, 17.5" seat	\$300	\$250	\$275
SY2	English bridle and reins	\$30	\$30	\$30
SY3	Simco Barrel Racing Saddle, 15" seat	\$200	None	\$150
SY4	Grazing Bit, 5" mouth	\$10	None	\$7

GIVE AWAYS: If you have items you wish to give away for FREE, you can bring them and we will put them all in one location and people can sort thru them and take what they want. Please tag them as FREE. Anything left over might be donated some place or thrown out.

You will be paid for your sales within 3 days of the conclusion of the Sale, minus the 5% or 10% fee. Be sure we have your address and email address so we have a way to reach you.

My Color

[illegible]

Consignee's color: _____ Initials to be used: _____

I am a member of SCGHC: ☐ I am NOT a member of SCGHC: ☐

_____ Initial to indicate you have read and understand that: SOUTHERN CONFORT GAITED HORSE CLUB AND/OR SHAWNDA KASMA & FAMILY WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE TO, THEFT OR LOSS OF TACK & OTHER SALE ITEMS DURING THE SALE OR WHILE STORED AT THE KASMA RESIDENCE. My participation in this sale is an indication that I understand and accept this.

***Mark all your items with a tag on a string and on one side include your initials and item # and on the other side the price you want to get for it. Be sure that the tag is colored with your assigned color to make it easier for us to know who the item belongs to so you get proper credit for your sale. We will be removing the tags and attaching to this sheet. Do not use stickers. They come off too easy. You will receive payment for your sales, less the 5 or 10% fee, within 3 days of the conclusion of the sale.

[illegible]

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Purina® Hydration Hay™ ORIGINAL Horse Hay Block is a premium blend of quality grass and alfalfa hay that has been compressed into a convenient, lightweight block. Simply drop the block into a bucket with 5 quarts of water, and it will quickly expand into moist, palatable hay. Recommended for all horses at all life stages.

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