

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

P.O. Box 2326 Loomis CA 95650

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DECEMBER 2019

Newsletter

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Liz Daffner

Howdy!

Merry Christmas! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family. LBHA had a full year as always. Our Christmas party will have lots of pictures from 2019. It's a great time, I hope you can join us!

My husband and I have an annual traditional of traveling to Idaho to visit my parents. This year it was a frosty adventure navigating the roads. It's barely December and I've gotten my fill of snow for the year!

The week before we were in Nashville, TN and Louisville, KY. It's interesting to see the different horse cultures. Fencing and barns are painted with a black creosote paint. They age into a charcoal grey with some having a bluish tint. We travelled through beautiful rolling pasture land with Thoroughbred breeding farms. It's a culture of Saddlebreds and English riding based on the tack stores we popped into.

We're looking forward to a quiet December at home. I can't wait for a break in the rain so I can hit the lower trail at Sterling point. Being away from home and the horses sure makes us grateful for what we have.

Liz Daffner



SUPPORTING LBHA HELPS SAVE AND MAINTAIN OUR TRAILS, THE ARENA AT THE PARK , TRAYLOR

2019 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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VICE PRES:	Greg King	916-804-5659
TREASURER:	Janis Rau	916-652-0894
SECRETARY:	Maureen Henderson	916-663-9362

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Joe Warlow	530-551-6693
Denise Howell	916-207-2543
Kathy Dombrowski	916-652-5204
Kate Johnson	

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Trail Info.	Robert Sydnor	916 335-1441
Trail Maint.	OPEN	
Historian	Donna Kelly	916 956-6248
Publicity-	Laurene Davis	916-708-1244
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Newsletter	Denise Howell	916-207-2543
Arena	Kathy Dombrowski	916 652-5204
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PLACER COUNTY AG COMMISSIONER

Joshua Huntsinger 530 889-7326

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 Paul Perez (trails maint super) 916 240-7198
 State Parks Dispatch 916 358-1300
 (Call above number for incidents in State Parks)



TRAYLOR RANCH NATURE RESERVE

Hello Traylor Ranch Nature Preserve Fans. July 27 marked our last standard workday this year.

You can thank the small group of dedicated people who come out pretty much every month to help, Jennifer, Mary, Maureen, Nicola. They come even though there are other projects they could be doing on their property but believe in helping to keep Traylor Ranch the special place that it is.

Note, that I have a couple of Special Projects I'd like to pursue in the Fall so stay tuned. But for now, we are signing off until then.

A big thank you to everyone who has volunteered this year.

Stay tuned to the Traylor Ranch Facebook page for any park updates.

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Hector Road Trail Now Open

MINUTES
LBHA General Meeting
November 20, 2019

The general membership meeting was held at Round Table Pizza in Loomis. The following Board members were present: Bruce Renfrew, Kate Johnson, Kathy Dombrowski. Maureen Henderson, Janis Rau, Greg King and Joe Warlow. Liz Daffner and Denise Howell were not present.

Greg King presided. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Maureen gave a brief report on the Hidden Falls Expansion and improvements made by the County at Traylor Ranch.

Greg announced the next order of business was nominations of officers and directors for the upcoming year. Maureen nominated Liz Daffner to act as President for another year. The nomination was seconded and unanimously passed.

Greg, Janis and Maureen stated they are willing to continue in their current positions for another year. That is Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Kathy, Joe, Bruce and Kate stated they are willing to continue as Directors for another year. Melanie Warlow stated she is willing to run for a board position.

There were no other nominations from the members present. Nominations were then closed.

The next order of business was a location for our annual holiday party. The first choice is the Loomis Round Table, the 2nd choice is the Elm Street location. Kathy will check on availability and make the reservation.

The members were reminded that membership renewals are due.

The meeting concluded at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Maureen Henderson, Secretary



How to Get a Horse's Coat to Dapple

A dappled coat has long been a sign of optimum equine health and good nutrition, but the reality behind dapppling is more complicated. Our equine nutritionist offers advice on bringing out the bloom in your horse's coat.

Dapples on non gray horses are interesting. These irregular spots where the coat appears as a slightly different shade are seen on some horses but not others. Horses might only get them at certain times of the year. In the winter some horses have them, but when you clip them the dapples disappear. And as you have observed, dapples often appear to be condition-dependent. Traditionally, they are thought to be a sign of good health, so that would somewhat explain the condition connection.

While there does seem to be a nutritional component to horses having dapples, there is far more to it than that. As with all coat colors, dapples are, in part, controlled by genetics. Dapples result from variation in the patterns of red vs. black pigment along the hair shaft, rather than changes in pigmentation across the skin. This is why they disappear when you clip a dappled horse. Genes that respond to changes in nutrition control the deposition of black pigment along the length of the hair. Chestnut horses and those with colors in the chestnut family lack the ability to create eumelanin and, therefore, do not display strongly pigmented dapples. However, they may still have the variant responsible for dapples, which they can pass to their offspring.

You will need to work to create the optimal conditions for dapples to occur. This is where condition, management, and nutrition come in.

Your best chance of having dapples occur is to ensure all the horse's dietary needs are met, his diet is balanced, and his coat is well-looked-after. Start with your forage. Feed the best-quality forage you can, and make sure your horse is getting enough. Stomach ulcers can wreak havoc on coat quality, so feeding plenty of forage to keep the digestive tract happy is an important component.

Make sure your horse's diet is providing adequate quality protein and the amino acids lysine and methionine, which are the most limiting. Some old-time horse managers swear that protein is crucial for dapples and that it will put bloom on the coat. Fatty acids will help improve shine, too, so consider feeding a small amount of oil or high-fat seed meals such as flax. However, stay away from oils high in omega-6 fatty acids in favor of those high in omega-3 fatty acids, which might help reduce itching and improve skin quality.

Trace mineral levels should also meet requirements. For instance, zinc and copper can be low in forage-based diets or when commercial feeds are fed incorrectly. Both these trace minerals are needed for melanin production, so they directly impact coat color. Seek help from a nutrition professional if you are unsure whether the existing diet is meeting these needs.

Beyond diet, grooming practices are vitally important for coat quality. So often we are in a rush when we get to the barn and take barely a minute to flick our horse's coat off before tacking up, but try spending at least 10 to 15 minutes grooming your horse at least several times a week, and you will see the benefits. Start with a rubber curry to stir up all the dirt, and then remove it with a stiff brush. In the summer, or if your horse is clipped, finish off with a soft brush. Going through these stages brings the natural oils to the coat's surface, creating an amazing natural shine that no amount of bathing can produce. Clean your brushes frequently so you aren't just putting the dirt back on the horse. Grooming this way has the added advantage of raising your heart rate and warming you up to ride.

If you take all these steps and still do not see dapples, don't be disappointed. Genetics might not be in your favor, but your horse will still look stunning. And who doesn't love a horse with a mirror like coat and show ring bloom?



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MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your membership.

If you are not getting e-mails from LBHA, we may not have the correct e-mail or you are blocking LBHA. The Newsletter goes on line the first week of each month, so if you do not get a notice, just check the webpage and then get the correct e-mail to LBHA.

All Memberships NOW renew every January 1 so those of you that have memberships that expire in June have an extension to December 31st. Pay on line the easy way!

Being an LBHA Member is a great way to give back to our community.

We thank you in advance.

AD FEES For LBHA Members
(Non-Members add \$10 to below fees)

NEWSLETTER ADS Deadline is the 25th of the month
 ½ page: 1year \$60 Includes Business card on Website.
 ½ page: 6mos \$30 one time \$5 Full page one time \$10
 Business Card Ad per issue: \$10 / issue
 Business Card Ad/year: \$40/year includes card on Website

DIRECTORY ADS Deadline for Directory ads is March 1
 Full Page Ad: \$25
 ½ Page Ad: \$15
 Business Card Ad: \$10 - Free for **LBHA Business Members**

WEB ADS
 Business Card Ad – one year Members \$40
Free to Business Members
 Classified Ads- Free to Members

NOTE add \$10 to fee for Non-LBHA members



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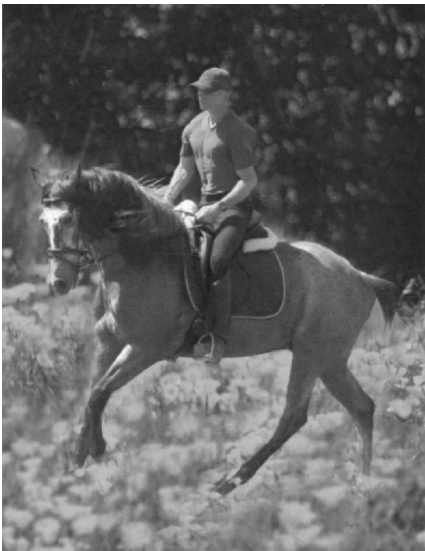
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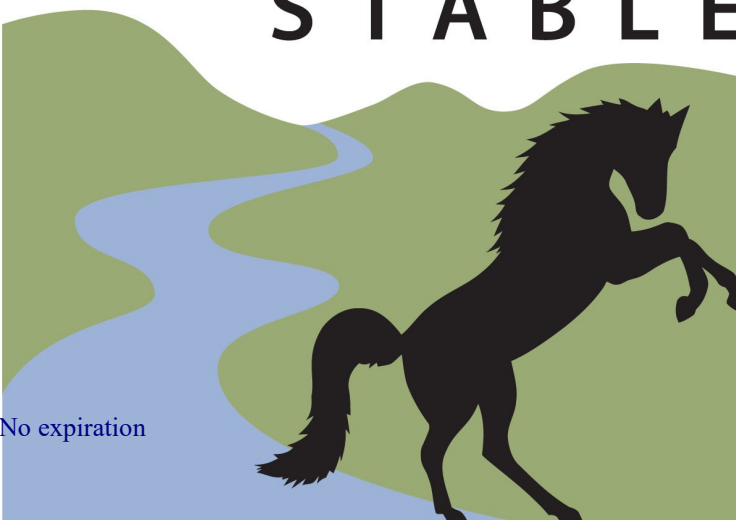
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Managing Horse Wounds Without Antibiotics

Posted by [Alexandra Beckstett, The Horse Managing Editor](#) | Nov 5, 2019

As concerns over [antibiotic resistance](#) grow, equine veterinarians look for ways to treat wounds without reaching for these powerful drugs. At the 2019 British Equine Veterinary Association Congress, held Sept. 11-14 in Birmingham, U.K., Dean Hendrickson, DVM, Dipl. ACVS, described ways to do just this, ranging from debridement to stem cell therapy.

Debridement

The best way to deal with bacteria is to get rid of them, said Hendrickson, a professor in the Clinical Sciences Department at Colorado State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital, in Fort Collins.

"We have a tendency in veterinary medicine to want to kill the bacteria *in situ*, but I'm going to encourage you to remove them and throw them away and don't let the patient have to deal with them at all," he advised the audience.

Veterinarians can remove bacteria through debridement (removing the affected tissue), of which there are several types:

Autolytic debridement. This process uses the body's own enzymes and moisture to liquefy and remove necrotic (dead) tissue. Hendrickson said it's the most selective way to remove bacteria and dead cells while leaving healthy cells.

"All you're doing is leaving the healthy wound exudate (liquid the body produces in response to tissue damage) in contact with the wound bed to accomplish this," he said. "The normal white blood cells and proteolytic enzymes that occur in wound exudate are your best friends with regard to removing small doses of bacteria and small amounts of necrotic tissue."

To achieve autolytic debridement, you must keep the wound environment moist (but not soupy), which you can do using dressings. If the wound has a lot of necrotic tissue, however, then you'll need to use a more aggressive form of debridement, said Hendrickson.

Biological debridement. This method involves using an organism, such as maggots, to remove dead tissue.

"It still amazes me how effective maggot debridement is and how rarely we actually use it," said Hendrickson. When a horse comes into the clinic with maggots in its wound, he said people tend to get squeamish and try to remove them, but "these guys are doing their job—they're getting rid of the necrotic tissue (and pathogenic bacteria). There's a lot of value to that, and it's very rapid and selective."

Enzymatic (chemical) debridement. With this method, veterinarians apply manufactured proteolytic enzymes to the wound to break down devitalized tissue.

"This is another great way (to debride wounds), but we don't tend to use it very frequently in veterinary medicine because of the cost of the enzymes," said Hendrickson. "Studies have found it to be very effective at reducing bacteria but not as good as autolytic debridement. So the body in and of itself is the best way to go if you have low levels of bacteria."

Mechanical debridement. This technique involves using force to remove tissue. Examples include wet-to-dry dressings and wound irrigation. "It's something we do really well in veterinary medicine, almost to a fault," he explained. "We scrub, we lavage, and we cause a significant amount of trauma to the wound bed."

On the plus side, mechanical debridement is inexpensive and effective. The downside? It can "cause shear stresses to the underlying granulation (scar) tissue, which can lead to further problems down the road," Hendrickson said.

He recommended using the minimal amount of force and pressure necessary.

Sharp debridement. This method involves using tools such as scalpels or curettes to physically remove tissue. It's the most aggressive form of debridement and the most effective way to remove large amounts of bacteria and necrotic tissue, said Hendrickson.

"There's a lot of value to wound debridement—that should be your first step toward reducing bacteria numbers and necrotic tissue," he said. "We should not be bathing them with local or systemic antimicrobials. Remove the infected tissue that's there."

Debridement Dressings

Veterinarians can use a variety of debridement dressings to help remove bacteria and dead tissue. Ones Hendrickson said are useful include:

Hypertonic saline. This solution comprises 20% saline, which you can buy commercially or make yourself using salt and water.

"The idea is the hypertonic environment created by this saline will kill the bacteria because they're unable to deal with that environment, and it will also remove the necrotic tissue," Hendrickson said.

While these are highly effective, he said they're less selective than autolytic, biologic, or enzymatic dressings. He also cautioned against overusing them, because they have the potential to be toxic.

Honey. This substance is both hypertonic and antimicrobial. It can help heal burns, for instance, faster and with fewer adverse effects than other dressings, said Hendrickson.

Researchers have performed a variety of studies confirming the efficacy of honeys such as manuka honey. Further, said Hendrickson, "there's some recent evidence out there that shows that local raw honey is more effective at killing local bacteria than medical grade honey."

Polyhexanides (e.g., polyhexamethylenebiguanide, or PHMB). Certain sterile antimicrobial dressings are very effective at killing bacteria, even multidrug-resistant varieties. They're not antiseptics and should not be confused with them, said Hendrickson.

Antibiotics

He then provided the audience with smart antibiotic use tips for when they do need these drugs to combat infection, starting with a sensitivity culture to identify the specific bacteria.

"Whether it's systemic or local antibiotic therapy, do a culture to know what's happening, then always use the simplest, lowest level of antibiotic possible," he said. "While your first dressing might require using an antibiotic you can't pick because you don't know what's there, at least try to get a culture so you can make the decision later on."

Only use antibiotics for short periods—two weeks or less, he said.

As for topical antibiotics, he recommended using silver dressings or, preferably, triple antibiotic, which hasn't seen much resistance over the decades it's been in use.

Hendrickson also reviewed promising studies looking at mesenchymal (embryonic connective tissue) stem cell use in wound treatment: "The one place there is evidence for stem cells is in the reduction of bacteria numbers in wounds."

Take-Home Message

"There are lots of ways to reduce bioburden (number of bacteria) in wounds," said Hendrickson. "I think wound debridement is the best way to accomplish that. Get rid of the necrotic tissue, and don't use antiseptics in your wounds, because they just create more necrosis, thereby encouraging the number of bacteria forming."

And if you do have to resort to antibiotic administration, choose your antimicrobials well, and use them sparingly, he said.



Getting a New Truck Ready to Tow – Setting up a new truck for safe horse trailer towing – one person's experience can help you too.

I got a new to me truck! She's a 2019 Ford F450, diesel, 4x4 crew cab, long bed, and I'm finding out that much of the equipment from my old truck (2008 Ford F350, diesel, short bed) doesn't swap over to the new vehicle. Even with all the factory installed towing options I've learned that there's a lot more to Getting a New Truck Ready to Tow than pulling out of the dealership and hitching up. My animals are depending upon me getting this right for the many trips we have planned!

My initial Challenges in Getting a New Truck Ready to Tow:

- New truck came with a factory gooseneck package. The ball may be removable (via a nasty greasy latch on top of the ball) but neither it nor the factory safety chain loops inspired confidence.
- With the trailer attached I cannot open the tailgate. It hits the trailer jack's hydraulic pump housing. This was not a problem before but the new tailgate is a fraction taller than the old. I'd like to be able to drop the tailgate to load and unload hay and water when still connected to the trailer.

The new truck's rear bumper pull hitch receiver is much larger than that on the old truck. (3 inch square vs 2 inch).

What I thought were 3 easy questions soon turned into a rabbit hole of new queries and concerns, and the thought of messing it up was keeping me up at night. I'm not a truck guy, and have never been mechanically inclined, so I started searching for answers from experts. Real experts in the field, not the keyboard warriors you find across the internet. My investigations led me to Beth Barlow of B&W Trailer Hitches in Kansas. Beth was able to help me sort through the most important considerations for my situation.

It's all about Weight

Understanding your vehicle's weight ratings are paramount and the first step to enlightenment. Unfortunately deciphering the various acronyms is similar to learning a new language. Here's what Beth has taught me.

For those of us that are hauling horses (or mules) the most important four letters are GCWR. This stands for Gross Combined Weight Rating, and refers to the weight not only of the vehicle, including passengers and cargo, but also the trailer and its load (horses, water, feed, etc.). This number is determined by the truck manufacturer to be the maximum safe weight that a vehicle can tow all-in, so it's important not to exceed this guideline. That magic number is NOT found on the GVWR sticker in your door frame. With the B&W calculator I was able to do the following calculations:

- My truck's GCWR is 41,700lbs
- The fully loaded trailer weighs (including 3 animals, water, and feed) 18,620 pounds.
- My truck weighs 8,905 lbs with passengers, fuel, and assorted stuff
- 27,525 lbs total weight

$41,700 - 27,525 = 14,175$ lbs of excess capacity.

All of this means that I have plenty of towing capacity remaining, which to me equals a larger margin of safety.

There you go. My adventures in Getting a New Truck Ready to Tow. Ensuring that our trucks are ready to haul our critters makes for great, and uneventful trips!





Monte

Liz

Brad

Wally



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Next Meeting

**December 18th
Christmas Party—Free Pizza**

Round Table Pizza 6111 Horseshoe Bar Rd, Loomis, CA 95650
Eat 6:00 pm, Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm



Reminder!

LBHA has an electronic Membership form available on our website that let's you pay your renew-als through paypal if you choose. Find it under the JOIN tab.

Arena

Please NO TRAILERS or HORSES on the asphalt parking lot. No barrels, poles or other equipment may be used in the arena. Small Orange cones allowed. Trainers must have an Arena Use form submitted annually as well as the proper insurance naming LBHA and Placer County as "Also Insureds." If Insurance is cancelled 2 times or more, the permit is no longer valid. Trainers MUST contact LBHA with the time and number of students that will be in class, 24 hrs before the lesson. (All Forms are on LBHA Website at LBHA.us)



Merry Christmas!

From the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association



ABOUT LBHA

The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association founded in 1984 is a non-profit 501 (C) 3 information and awareness organization dedicated to the South Placer County Trails, Traylor Ranch, the Arena at the Loomis Basin Community Park and the Preservation of the Rural Lifestyle.

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

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We're on the Web!

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