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Meeting equine's winter nutrition needs

Winter is on the way. Take time now to think about what your horses will need to thrive during the colder months. We're lucky our horses don't have to deal with temperatures that consistently dip into the negative digits. However, do you consider your horse's nutritional needs and how they change even with mild Kentucky winters? Here are some ideas to consider when feeding your horses this winter.

According to UK Extension horse specialist Bob Coleman, the first thing every horse owner should do is assess your horses' body condition scores, or the amount of fat they are carrying. This is simple numeric system, ranging from 1 to 9 that will help you adjust your horses' diets so they are carrying the perfect amount of body weight. If you need help with this, the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service published a fact sheet titled, "Condition Scoring Your Horse," and you can contact someone here at

the Estill County Extension office to look for ASC-145. Using this system will help you keep feed costs down and your horses' health and well-being in top shape.

No matter your horses' body condition scores, one of the most important aspects of feeding horses during the winter is being able to provide a source of good-quality forage. Without question, this is a difficult task considering the current availability of affordable, good-quality hay. But unless you have a well-planned rotational grazing system in place and have stockpiled forage that will last until spring, purchasing hay is essential. Square or round bales are perfectly acceptable when correctly managed; however, you will have a better idea of how much hay your horses are eating when providing them with square bales on a daily basis.

Unless you are raising broodmares or growing horses, most horses should be fed at least 50 percent of their total daily diet as forage. For an average 1,000-pound horse fed at 2 percent body weight per day, that would be at least 10 pounds of hay per day. In addition to providing nutrients, hay also supplies heat to the horses through the digestive process.

It's best to provide hay in some sort of feeder when you are group feeding your horses outside. In most situations, a hay feeder will reduce the amount of

wasted hay by 20 percent or more. Horse owners have a couple of other forage alternatives to hay such as hay cubes or complete feeds that contain a high level of fiber, such as beet pulp. These may be more expensive in the long run, but they offer another way to provide a source of fiber to your horses.

If your hay is of high-nutritive value and your horses are maintaining their body condition scores throughout the winter, you may not have to provide a source of grain at all. However, if your horses are not meeting their nutritional needs with hay alone, you can add grain to their diet. Remember, grain should supplement a horse's diet as a majority of their nutritional needs should be met by the forage source.

Water is an essential nutrient that you need to monitor very carefully during the winter months. In general, horses tend to increase their consumption of water when consuming more dry matter or harvested forages. But, they tend to not want to drink really, really cold water. Therefore, it's important to make sure you provide fresh water daily on a free-choice basis. When the temperature dips into the 30s and below, water tanks may freeze up. Be sure to check them at least twice a day and break the ice up if needed so the horses can drink. You can also install a water tub or bucket heater

to keep the water from freezing. When installed properly and monitored closely, these can be helpful tools to always keep fresh water available for your four-legged friends.

Make sure you especially monitor older horses that have trouble keeping weight on during the year. They may need some special attention to keep them in good weight throughout the winter.

Using these simple tools can help you and your horses make it through the winter in good health and body condition. If you have questions about your horses' diet, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

FARMER TAX SEMINAR

Attention farmers. Cooperative Extension will host a farmer tax seminar on Monday, November 12th, 6:30 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office, 76 Golden Court (off Stacy Lane Road). Come learn about federal and state tax law changes and how those changes can impact filing tax returns for your agricultural operation. Jonathan Shepherd, UK Farm Management specialist, will be our guest speaker. Please let us know if you plan to attend by calling 723-4557.

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Wishing Well®

3	6	8	6	3	6	8	3	7	5	4	8	2
U	A	Y	M	S	B	O	E	A	G	A	U	B
6	7	8	2	8	7	4	5	8	4	8	2	3
I	D	R	E	W	V	L	I	A	O	N	C	C
8	7	3	4	6	4	7	8	7	5	6	7	4
T	I	O	V	T	I	S	S	E	V	I	O	N
8	7	3	6	5	6	7	4	6	8	7	3	5
A	T	M	O	E	N	H	G	P	R	E	M	T
6	8	6	7	6	3	2	3	5	4	8	5	4
A	E	Y	R	S	O	O	N	O	E	M	O	V
6	7	2	3	8	6	2	6	3	4	2	5	3
O	S	N	S	E	F	T	F	E	E	E	T	N
2	4	2	8	3	5	2	5	2	3	5	4	5
N	N	T	T	S	H	E	E	D	E	R	T	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: X equals P

PZ FS USNBWNYH IKPVG-
HGPSSUA WFWWFT HXUFGH
BFHKTJ, VNYTA JNY HFJ PI
HKNNIH ZBNW IKU KPXXN?

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

JEZ'K KAR KE NYBU

XFTPJAUZ HAES DQ PTBU
RED, EA KFUR NYR JE TK.
- ADLLUPP VYBUA

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Parsley is native to Southern Europe. Cultivated for more than 2,000 years, it was used medicinally and also as food. The ancient Greeks held it to be sacred, using it to adorn athletic champions and to decorate the tombs of the dead. Ancient Romans used it in cooking, and Charlemagne grew it on his estates. Fool's parsley, a poisonous weed, is sometimes mistaken for the edible flat-leaf parsley.

- Brenda Weaver

Source: www.whfoods.com

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BIRD Gratitude

B is for the unique Beauty every bird has.

I is for the Interesting calls they have and the songs they sing.

R is for Red birds that faithfully come to our yards.

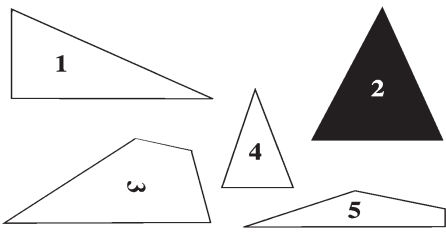
D is for our joyful Days because we love birds!

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com
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Stickeler's Puzzle



These pieces can be assembled into a square. Make a copy of this page, cut out the 5 pieces and see if you can make the square.



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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

Katherine's AUCTION SALE

628 Main Street - Ravenna, Ky.
Friday, Nov. 9th @ 6:30pm

New, Old, Used, Lots of Furniture,
Lots of Halloween Stuff
Consignments, Packaged Foods
Car Tools, Anything & Everything

LICENSED AUCTION HOUSE
Auctioneer Wade Richardson

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Open Mon.-Sat., 9-6, Closed Sunday & Holidays

- New & Used Clothing from Newborn to Adult 4x
- Furniture • Jewelry • Electronics • Toys • Appliances
- Tools • Housewares • Beauty Products • And more

We now accept VISA and MASTERCARD!

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1.5 miles south of Booneville, KY on Hwy. 11
in the Lone Oak Industrial Park

Puzzle Answers November 7, 2018

Puzzles4Kids

Answer
Why can't you eat fish on Thanksgiving?

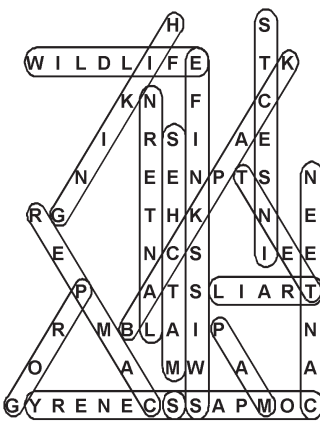
Because Thanksgiving never falls on a fry - day.

Letter Box

Solution

E	A	N	L	O	U	C	I	T
U	O	T	E	C	I	L	N	A
C	I	L	T	A	N	E	O	U
I	N	O	C	U	L	A	T	E
A	U	E	O	I	T	N	C	L
T	L	C	A	N	E	O	U	I
O	C	U	I	L	A	T	E	N
L	E	I	N	T	C	U	A	O
N	T	A	U	E	O	I	L	C

CAMPING



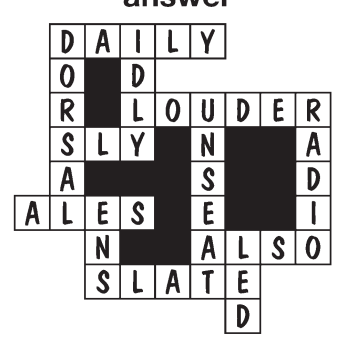
CryptoQuip

answer
If an enormous thick-skinned mammal speaks rashly, could you say it shoots from the hippo?

CryptoQuote

answer
Don't try to make children grow up like you, or they may do it.
- Russell Baker

FEAR & KNOT



Even Exchange

- answers
- Carson, Carton
 - Aaron, Baron
 - Patch, Parch
 - Danger, Dagger
 - Salty, Sally
 - Easel, Edsel
 - Bauble, Babble
 - David, Davis
 - Lodger, Dodger
 - Nurse, Norse

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

3	7	5	9	6	2	1	8	4
9	2	4	8	5	1	7	3	6
1	6	8	7	3	4	5	2	9
7	8	2	6	4	9	3	5	1
5	3	9	1	2	7	6	4	8
4	1	6	3	8	5	9	7	2
2	9	7	4	1	3	8	6	5
6	5	3	2	9	8	4	1	7
8	4	1	5	7	6	2	9	3

King Crossword

Solution time: 21 mins.

R	A	T	S	P	I	C	D	A	M
P	L	O	W	I	R	A	A	G	A
M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R	N	O
V	P	S	T	D	O	G	G	I	E
A	T	S	E	A	B	I	K	E	
H	O	W	L	M	I	N	A	R	E
E	R	A	S	A	T	A	Y	L	I
M	I	N	S	T	R	E	L	B	A
W	O	K	S	T	E	N	T	S	
T	R	O	O	P	S	O	W	E	
H	O	B	O	A	C	T	I	O	
A	T	O	P	A	C	T	O	L	I
T	E	E	S	N	E	O	E	R	O

Bible Trivia Answers

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.