



Recommendations of the
**New York State Task Force on
Retired Racehorses**

Members of the Task Force on Retired Racehorses:

Darrel J. Aubertine, Commissioner, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

John D. Sabini, Chairman, New York State Racing and Wagering Board

Karin Bump, Ph.D., Equine Professor (Cazenovia, Madison County)

Fiona Farrell, Attorney who focuses on equine matters; rider, hobby farmer, former breeder and current owner of retired Thoroughbreds (Saratoga, Saratoga County)

William Hopsicker, Thoroughbred Owner (Oriskany Falls, Oneida County)

Jackson Knowlton, Thoroughbred Owner (Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County)

Dr. Christopher Nyberg, Dean, School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Morrisville State College (Morrisville, Madison County)

Liz O'Connell, Thoroughbred Owner and Professional (Red Hook, Dutchess County)

Margaret Ohlinger, DVM, Equine Veterinarian (Bloomfield, Ontario County)

Diana Pikulski, Director of External Relations of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County)

Martin Scheiman, Esq., Thoroughbred Owner (Sands Point, Nassau County)

Alice Calabrese Smith, President & CEO of the Humane Society of Greater Rochester (Webster, Monroe County)

Past Members:

Daniel Hogan, Former Chairman, New York State Racing and Wagering Board

Patrick Hooker, Former Commissioner, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

Grace "Jean" Brown, Standardbred Farm Director (Wallkill, Orange County)

The Task Force wishes to acknowledge the following individuals for their contributions to this report:

Patrick Hooker

Daniel Hogan

Daniel Toomey

Joseph Mahoney

Jacqueline Moody-Czub, Assistant Secretary for Agriculture & Markets, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

Bennett Liebman, Deputy Secretary for Gaming and Racing, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

Ron Ochrym, NYSRWB

Joel Leveson, NYSRWB

Matt Morgan, NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

Tracy Egan, New York State Thoroughbred Breeding & Development Fund

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Ann McMahan

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Report compiled and edited by Lee Park, Director of Communications, NYS Racing & Wagering Board, with assistance from John Googas, NYSRWB

Executive Summary..... 3

What is a Retired Racehorse?..... 7

The State of Retired Racehorses in New York..... 9

The Cost of Retired Racehorses..... 11

Current Track Involvement..... 12

Second Careers for Retired Racehorses..... 13

Increased Funding for Retired Racehorses..... 15

VLT Agent Commission Revenue/NYRA & Resorts World Casino New York City..... 17

Additional Funding Streams..... 19

Required Training for Licensees/New Owner Seminars/Educating and Engaging the Betting Public..... 21

Therapeutic, Medical, Psychological, Rehabilitative Care & Correctional Settings..... 23

Altering Training Regimens so that Horses can be More Readily Retrained for Other Uses..... 27

Creating an Increased Market for Retired Racehorses..... 28

Supporting the Performance Horse Registry..... 30

Increasing Communication between Owners & Potential Adopters..... 31

Supporting Existing or Creating New Adoption Programs..... 32

Encouraging Colleges and Universities to use more Retired Racehorses..... 33

Study the Feasibility of Installing Artificial (Synthetic) Turf at Race Tracks to Reduce Injuries to Horses & Jockeys..... 34

Appendices..... 37



Scooter, a retired lead pony pushing 30, is a great ride for occasional light use. Photo courtesy of Ann McMahon.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New York State Task Force on Retired Racehorses was created by the New York State Legislature and tasked with identifying “productive . . . and beneficial, to both horse and human, uses for retired racehorses and to increase the number of retired racehorses made available for such uses. . . . Moreover, the Task Force shall develop and identify new and innovative ideas and methods that can utilize private and public funding sources to place retired racehorses in such productive and beneficial uses, and to increase both the number of horses so used and the scale of variety of such uses.”

In accordance with this charge, the Task Force’s recommendations seek to improve the successful transition of horses from the race track to a second career. The recommendations in this report address a multitude of “uses for retired racehorses.” The points that follow include an overview of the significant recommendations of the Task Force on Retired Racehorses.

Responsible and Humane Retirement of Racehorses: Of utmost importance to the Task Force is the responsible retirement of racehorses. The healthier horses are when they conclude their racing careers, the easier it will be to transition them to new careers. The Task Force encourages an awareness effort geared toward owners and trainers to instill a responsibility that they must consider a horse’s well-being for their entire lifespan – not just their racing career – when making a decision on how long and under what conditions they will race. The Task Force calls for requiring the completion of an online training course detailing the responsibilities of the owner and trainer as a condition of licensure by the state Racing and Wagering Board. The Task Force also identifies multiple marketing and education initiatives to increase awareness of responsible retirement practices to assist in retraining and ownership of retired racehorses.

The Industry Must Ensure Appropriate, Productive and Beneficial Uses of Retired Racehorses: The Task Force has the opinion that New York’s horse racing industry and its participants – not the betting public or taxpayers – must take primary responsibility for the after care of retired racehorses. Industry stakeholders, including owners, breeders, race tracks and trainers must address the fiscal challenges of ensuring quality aftercare for racehorses.

Financially Responsible Retirement: The Task Force also encourages racehorse owners to be prepared to financially support a transition, retraining and placement program for at least 6 months at a cost of \$400 per month, if not longer.

The combination of responsible retirement practices and the encouragement of 6-months of post-retirement care by the owner will reduce the number of racehorses at retirement facilities and rescues. However, these alone will not fully address the retirement needs of New York State’s racehorses.

Establishing Significant New Funding Streams for Retired Racehorses: To ensure that resources and viable options exist for retired racehorses, the Task Force identified multiple new possible revenue streams to meet retirement and retraining needs.

Primarily, the Task Force calls upon New York’s tracks and Resorts World Casino New York City to collectively dedicate at least one-half of one percent of commissions from video lottery gaming revenue to Racehorse retirement efforts. This could total more than \$3.13 million annually (based on 2010 agent commission revenues to harness tracks and Finger Lakes, future estimates for Resorts World Casino New York City and NYRA revenues from Resorts World Casino New York City).

The Task Force also recommends dedicating one-half of one percent of all purses at New York race tracks to retirement efforts, resulting in more than \$1.1 million in annual revenue based on 2010 purse totals.

Combined with a series of additional funding streams identified in the report, these recommendations total more than \$5 million annually to help ensure retired racehorses have viable options once they leave the track.

Establishing an Industry-Controlled Retired Racehorse Fund: To ensure responsible oversight of these funds, the Task Force calls for the establishment of a Retired Racehorse Fund, overseen by a 13-member, industry-comprised Advisory Board. The Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board would be responsible for overseeing the distribution of funds based upon a ratio proportionate to the numbers of retired Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds in New York state and ensuring that the charitable organizations receiving funding are in good standing.

The Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board would consist of representatives from The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA), Finger Lakes Racetrack, the state's harness race tracks, the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (NYTHA), the Finger Lakes Horsemen's Association, the Standardbred Owners Association of New York, New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Inc., Harness Horse Breeders of New York State, and include a New York-based representative of the Jockey's Guild, a professional harness driver/trainer, and an equine veterinarian from a New York-based land grant university. The Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and Chair of the New York State Racing and Wagering Board would serve as ex-officio members.

Better Tracking of the Number of Retired Racehorses: The racing industry as a whole must make a better, more coordinated effort to accurately tally and track the number of Racehorses that are retired each year, along with the classification under which their racing careers conclude. These figures are critical in determining what resources are needed to support the retirement of Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds, and the benefits to New York state of doing so.

Involving the Betting Public: The Task Force finds that racing fans and track attendees who benefit directly from the racehorse population would willingly and readily contribute to retirement causes. Track operators should identify and create marketing strategies to educate attendees on where horses go after they leave the track, coupled with efforts to spur community involvement. The newly formed Racing Fan Advisory Council should consider retired racehorse promotions in its efforts.

Investigating Increasing and Expanding Retired Racehorse Programs at Correctional Facilities: The Task Force recognizes that these programs, like New York's Wallkill Correctional Facility where supervised inmates are tasked with caring for horses, may be a cost-effective option for retired racehorses. The parole division of the newly merged Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) should survey – at no cost to the state – inmates and parolees who completed the Wallkill program to determine parolee post-release job placement, their attitudes about the program and establish a success and recidivism rate. Using this information, the DOCCS can determine the viability and course of further expanding these programs.

Improving Training Regimens to Accommodate Responsible Retirement: The Task Force recommends that race tracks and regulators take specific steps to allow for horses to be retired optimally, and therefore more efficiently retrained for other purposes. These include developing a track-side triage program for placement of post-racing horses, encouraging the publication of a database that includes discloseable

disciplinary enforcement actions, monitoring each track's "start per stall" policies for potential abuse of lower-level runners, as well as recommending that the Racing and Wagering Board increase transparency for data relating to equine injuries and review claiming rules to prevent compromised horses from being put in jeopardy.

Increasing Access to the Retired Racehorse Marketplace: The Task Force also recommends several ways in which the responsible marketing of retired racehorses can be improved, particularly through increased participation in the Performance Horse Registry and increased opportunities for potential adopters.

No Mandate for Synthetic Surfaces at New York Tracks: The enabling legislation for the Task Force on Retired Racehorses was amended in 2007 to include the charge of studying "the feasibility of installing artificial turf at race tracks to reduce injuries to horses and jockeys." After conducting a groundbreaking seminar in 2008 on synthetic surfaces with industry mainstays (trainers, field veterinarians, jockeys, track operators and research veterinarians) participating and reviewing the issue of synthetic surfaces, the Task Force does not recommend any state mandate requiring the installation of synthetic surfaces at race tracks in New York state.

In conclusion, the Task Force recommends enacting relevant legislation and regulations relating to the New York State Racing and Wagering Board, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund and the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund in order to implement these recommendations.



Photo courtesy of USTA



Rescued horses reside at farm in Gansevoort, NY. Photo courtesy of Tracy Egan.

WHAT IS A RETIRED RACEHORSE?

The legislation that created the Task Force on Retired Racehorses states: "The term 'retired Racehorses' shall be broadly construed to include those horses that were actually used in racing and those that were bred and intended to be so used but were not so used." The Task Force recognizes that the term "retired racehorse" has multiple applications that vary from audience to audience. To clarify:

Newly Retired: Horses that have stopped racing and have left the track for up to six months. Horses leaving the track should be evaluated for physical and behavioral soundness by the professionals associated with the horse (trainer and veterinarian) to determine the Initial Retirement Classification.

Initial Retirement Classifications:

- **Performance Sport retired:** A horse whose racing career has concluded but who has been determined to be physically and behaviorally suitable for second performance based careers in riding or driving activities, whether they be high performance competitive or demanding pleasure sport use.
- **Pleasure Sport retired:** A horse whose racing career has concluded but who has been determined to be physically and behaviorally suitable for second performance-based careers that are less demanding such as pleasure sport trail riding, riding lessons and therapeutic riding use.
- **Companion retired:** A horse whose racing career has concluded and has been determined to be physically and behaviorally suitable for service as a companion animal. This service may include limited light riding at the walk but is often confined to pasture animal companion status and/or service such as non-riding therapeutic activities. Companion retired horses can live productive lives but may well require management care (medical and/or nutritional) that makes them unsuitable to performance or pleasure sport use.
- **Fully retired:** A horse whose racing career

has concluded and has been determined to be physically and behaviorally unsuitable for performance or companion retired status. Fully retired horses may still live productive lives if pasture sound in full pasture retirement but may require management care for behavioral, physical and/or nutritional challenges.

Former Racehorse: A horse whose racing career has concluded at least 6 months prior and who will not be racing in the future.

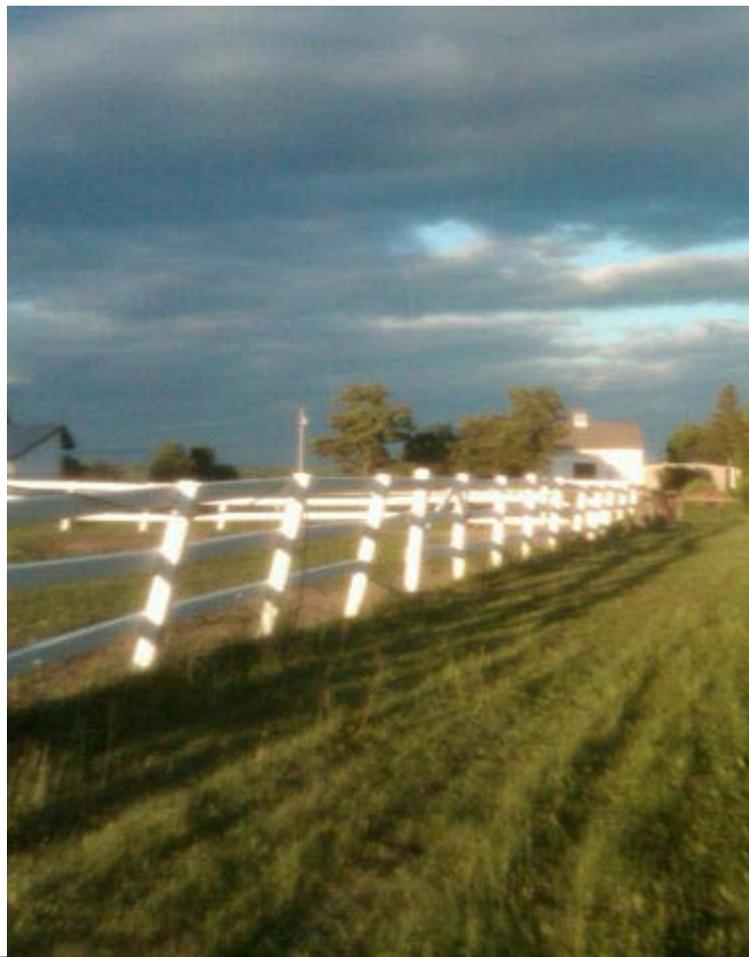
Unraced Horse: A racehorse that was bred to race but never competed in a race. It may have been in race training and failed to show ability or suffered an injury before or during training. Another common scenario is the horse was bred with intent to race but circumstances prevented it from entering training. For instance: the owner or breeder lacked the resources to put the horse in training, or the young horse may have had an injury precluding it from a racing career but not from alternative pursuits.

Racehorse Transition Program – Transition/Retrain/Placement (TRP): A three phase program:

- **Transition/Rehabilitation:** The time period required for a newly retired racehorse to leave the track and become behaviorally and physically suitable to begin a second career. For some horses, this transition may include rehabilitation that may be a matter of weeks but for the majority it may take up to 6 months. In some instances, the transition period may be longer.
- **Retrain:** The phase in which a retired or newly retired racehorse is evaluated for potential second career options and then begins training for that career in order to be placed with a new owner or adopter.
- **Placement:** The movement of a retired racehorse to a new owner or adopter. This may occur directly from the track if the transition period required is minimal and the second career opportunities are immediately

appropriate and available. However, the ability to successfully place a retired racehorse will most commonly follow a transition period and retraining phase.

Owners are encouraged to retire their horses responsibly. Additionally, owners of newly retired racehorses are encouraged to be prepared to financially support the TRP program for at least six months at a projected cost of \$400 per month. Owners are encouraged to consider financial support for longer time periods for horses that are unable to complete the TRP program within six months. The physical and behavioral soundness of the newly retired Racehorse plays a major role in the nature of each horse's TRP program. As such, owners and trainers are urged to plan the eventual TRP program for each of their horses and retire horses prior to behavioral or physical challenges that will lengthen the TRP program.



Photos courtesy of Tracy Egan.

THE STATE OF RETIRED RACEHORSES IN NEW YORK

The racing industry does not maintain statistics on the number of racehorses – Thoroughbred or Standardbred – that are retired each year, making it difficult to determine the overall costs to care for retired horses.

The Equibase Company, LLC, maintains a database of Thoroughbred racing information and statistics. The company provided the Task Force the number of horses that stop racing in a given year. The Task Force termed this the attrition rate of horses and used it in estimating the number of horses that had raced and retired each year. The Task Force did not include in its figures the number of retired racehorses that were retired prior to their racing careers or prior to their first race.

- Of the 71,662 horses that started in at least one race during 2009 in the U.S.A. and Canada, 27,948 did not have a start in a race from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 (38 percent.)
- Of the 68,235 horses that started at least one race during 2010 in the U.S.A. and Canada, 27,186 did not have a start in a race from January 1, 2011 through November 20, 2011 (39.8 percent.)

Therefore, the Task Force has applied an estimated annual attrition rate of 39 percent to New York racehorses, both Standardbred and Thoroughbred.

The Task Force examined two surveys. The first, initiated in 2005 by the Department of Agriculture and Markets and conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service, surveyed all horse owners in the state. A subsequent survey of racehorse owners licensed by the New York State Racing and Wagering Board was coordinated by the Task Force in 2007. Copies of both of these surveys are included in the appendix.

While these statistics are several years old, they provide the most recent data to capture a snapshot of the New York equine agricultural and racing industry.

Out of a total statewide horse population in 2005 of 195,500, approximately one quarter were considered racehorses (50,200). Of these, 33,300 were Thoroughbreds and 16,900 were Standardbreds.

Using data compiled by the New York State Racing and Wagering Board in 2007, the Task Force surveyed 4,012 licensed racehorse owners with addresses in New York state to gauge their opinions, attitudes, and actions regarding the retirement of Thoroughbred and Standardbred racehorses. More than half of those surveyed responded, with 2,095 questionnaires tabulated.

Results showed that 1,845 New York racehorses were retired in 2007 by 1,108 owners (1.7 horses per owner retired in 2007). Of those horses that were retired:

- 79 percent were retired in New York and 21 percent were retired out of state.
- 28 percent were still sound for racing.
- 2 percent were considered unsound and needed to be euthanized.
- 46 percent of the retired horses were geldings, 23 percent mares, 21 percent fillies (females 4 years old and under), and 10 percent colts (males 4 years old and under)
- 73 percent of the horses were from 3 to 6 years old.
- 49 percent of the retired horses had lifetime earnings of less than \$25,000 and 73 percent had 2007 earnings of less than \$25,000.
- 48 percent of the respondents would pay to retire a horse and 65 percent would support a voluntary payment fund to retire horses.

According to the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund, 1,585 Standardbred mares were bred in 2010 and 1,613 mares bred in 2011. According to the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund, 2,121 Thoroughbred mares were bred in 2010 and 1,786 were bred in 2011. An increase in Thoroughbred breeders awards is expected to



Photo courtesy of Ann McMahon.

lead to an increased number of Thoroughbred racehorses bred in New York.

The 2007 racehorse owner survey contains a detailed breakdown of horses owned and related statistics. However, it failed to divide the overall number of horses retired as being either Thoroughbred or Standardbred. This makes it difficult to gauge trends and statistics between the two distinct sectors within horse racing in New York.

The equine industry as a whole must make a better, more coordinated effort to accurately tally and track the number of racehorses that are retired each

year, along with the classification under which their racing careers conclude (using the aforementioned retirement classifications). These figures are critical in determining the resources needed to support the retirement of Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds.

The New York field office of NASS in its annual census of agriculture and other survey data should seek accurate numbers of Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds in New York.

THE COST OF RETIRED RACEHORSES

Based on an average lifespan of 30 years, the American Veterinary Medical Association estimated in 2008 the average cost of unwanted or at-risk horses of all breeds at \$1,825 annually (\$5 per day) without factoring in the then-recognized increased cost of feed and hay. This estimate is consistent with 2011 costs reported by The Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation.

Little Brook Farm, a horse rescue and sanctuary in Old Chatham, NY, estimates their costs for a healthy young horse in a pasture retirement scenario at approximately \$2,500 annually (\$6.85/day) for feed and hay. This does not include veterinary or farrier care.

ReRun, a national thoroughbred rescue and retraining organization with a chapter in Fulton, NY, factors \$10/day (\$3,650 annually) as a baseline cost for feed, hay and stall (if needed) for a retired racehorse awaiting adoption.

The Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation estimates that it costs an average additional \$5 per day per horse in rehabilitation and retraining for adoption.

Cost comparisons across the country:

- Tranquility Farm, based in Tehachapi, California, spends \$3,000 annually for each permanently retired racehorse at its facility. This includes full maintenance except for veterinary and farrier expenses.

- Angel Acres Horse Haven Rescue in Glenville, Pennsylvania spends \$2,500 per horse for feed and hay. The rescue spends \$3,600 per horse with special needs.

For the purposes of these recommendations, a preliminary budget is included in the appendix. It accounts for 1,624 retiring horses (Standardbred and Thoroughbreds) per year. The costs assumed are \$7.75 per day per horse, inclusive of basic veterinary and farrier costs for retired horses, and \$12.75 per day for six months for horses in rehabilitation and retraining for sale or adoption. The budget also assumes an annual decrease rate in the total number of horses of 5 percent to account for horses that die naturally or are humanely euthanized by a veterinarian. The budget also assumes that 40 percent of the horses may be sold or adopted within six months after retirement. This leaves 893 horses for long-term or permanent retirement each year.

The Task Force recognizes and applauds that there are retired racehorses that find homes that do not require financial support.

Therefore, as detailed in the recommendation that owners budget for at least the initial six months of TRP for any horse they own, the Task Force establishes an average minimum cost of \$400 per month per horse for transition from the track followed by foundational retraining to assist in successful placement in a second career. The inability of an owner to pay this amount does not preclude a retired racehorse from entering a TRP program.



Photo courtesy of Ann McMahan

CURRENT TRACK INVOLVEMENT

Through an informal survey of New York State Thoroughbred and harness track operators, the Task Force gauged the current programs and outlook for retired racehorses. The findings show:

- **Finger Lakes Race Track:** Since its founding in 2006, the Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program (FLTAP) has found homes for nearly 500 horses. Located on property donated by the Finger Lakes Racing Association (owned by Delaware North), the FLTAP Purple Haze Center houses a maximum of 16 horses that are available for adoption. Each year, the FLTAP places between 60 and 75 horses in new homes, including horses donated to the program and those that are promoted directly to interested and qualified horsemen. The Finger Lakes Racing Association donates \$2 per start to the FLTAP, which is matched by the horsemen. This program serves sound and ready-to-be-adopted horses, and does not have a rehabilitation component. *(Peggy Hendershot, "Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services," April 29, 2011. Unpublished National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) report prepared for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA))*
- **NYRA (Saratoga, Belmont & Aqueduct):** In the past three years, NYRA has donated more than \$65,000 to the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, more than \$15,000 to the Exceller Fund and more than \$15,000 to Old Friends. NYRA also provided an emergency contribution of \$7,500 to Peaceful Acres to help restore a barn that was destroyed by Tropical Storm Irene. NYRA has coordinated two Thoroughbred Retirement Days at Saratoga Race Course to showcase retirement organizations, including ReRun. Additionally, NYRA is a participant in the Ferdinand Fund, where horsemen voluntarily contribute at least \$2 per start. Total contributions have been decreasing each year (2008: \$20,884; 2009: \$16,246; 2010: \$14,077; 2011 (as of November): \$10,981). *(Joanne Adams, Director of Community Relations for NYRA)*
- **Batavia Downs:** Batavia Downs currently does not have a specific program for retired horses. However, for 2012, the track is considering holding a fundraiser to raise money for the Standardbred Retirement Foundation. In addition, the track does have a record of placing horses with new homes once learning they could be subject to slaughter. *(Todd Haight, General Manager of Live Racing at Batavia Downs)*
- **Buffalo Raceway:** Buffalo Raceway currently does not have a specific program for retired horses, leaving the issue primarily to the horsemen themselves. Track management notes that members of the Amish community regularly come to the track and purchase horses at a low price for use as work horses. *(James Mango, Chief Operating Officer of Buffalo Raceway)*
- **Monticello Raceway:** Monticello currently does not have a specific program for retired horses. However, track management has indicated that it is willing to help address the issue. *(Shawn Wiles, General Manager of Monticello Raceway)*
- **Saratoga Casino and Raceway:** Saratoga Casino and Raceway currently does not have a specific program for retired horses. *(John Matarazzo, Director of Racing Operations at Saratoga Casino and Raceway)*
- **Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs:** Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs both make annual donations to both the Standardbred Retirement Foundation and the New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program, based in Delaware, Ohio. *(Jason Settlemoir, Vice President of Racing and Simulcasting at Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs)*
- **Yonkers Raceway:** Yonkers Raceway makes a donation every year to the Standardbred Retirement Foundation. Beyond that, Yonkers primarily leaves the placing of horses and finding them homes to the horsemen. *(Robert Galterio, Vice President and General Manager, Yonkers Raceway)*

Aside from contributions to the listed retirement organizations, the majority of the tracks do not have significant or dedicated programs or procedures for helping racehorses once they leave the track.

SECOND CAREERS FOR RETIRED RACEHORSES

While retired racehorses need to go through a period of transition and retraining once they have finished racing, the ability of a racehorse to adapt and transition to alternative tasks beyond the track portends well for a second career. Both Standardbred and Thoroughbred horses are acclimated to being around large groups of people and loud noises. They also develop a level of patience and understanding with people, have had more exposure

to traveling in vans and trailers and to working in unfamiliar surroundings. They are also accustomed to being handled, stabled, groomed, bathed and shod.



Therefore, the effort, time and financial investment in transition and retraining can be expected to result in the likelihood of a retired racehorse to successfully adapt to a new career.

Retired racehorses of sound physical health and temperament are prime candidates for retraining for second careers. The level and cost of training varies, depending on the health and temperament of the horse, its intended career, extent of volunteer involvement and the resources available at the training entity.



Retired racehorses are employed in a variety of fields for second careers, ranging in level of activity, both competitive and noncompetitive. For example:

- Hunter/jumper/equitation
- Dressage
- Combined Training
- Polo
- Pleasure/trail riding
- Therapeutic riding, where horses are ridden, groomed, and cared for by individuals as part of a physical and/or mental health rehabilitation regimen
- Hippotherapy, a form of physical, occupational and speech therapy where the movement of the horse is a means to a treatment goal
- Educational and agricultural studies (4-H, the U.S. Pony Club, Young Riders, Dressage4Kids, collegiate and trade school rehabilitation and training programs)



Photos courtesy of USTA



- Mounted police
- Cutting, reining and team penning
- Barrel racing and other gymkhana events
- Ranch horse versatility
- Endurance/competitive trail riding
- Companion animals
- Correctional facility and juvenile justice facility use
- Military ceremonial capacities
- Companion animals for young horses on breeding farms
- Broodmares
- Sires and teaser stallions
- Work horses for the Amish community

The Task Force believes that second careers can be found for both retired Standardbreds and Thoroughbreds through a program of transition, rehabilitation, retraining and placement. An increased public and industry-focused awareness campaign will highlight the viability and athletic capacity of retired racehorses.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR RETIRED RACEHORSES

As previously indicated, the costs associated with transition and retraining for newly retired racehorses can be expensive. The current charitable donation model has been difficult to maintain and limits the number of horses that can be humanely retired and retrained. Given the national and statewide fiscal challenges, it is incumbent upon the industry to look within itself to address the issue of what to do with retired racehorses.

The Task Force believes that New York's horse racing industry and its participants – not the betting public nor taxpayers – must take primary responsibility for the after care of retired racehorses. For example, if each racehorse owner was prepared to pay for six months of a transition and retraining program at a projected cost of \$2,400, every horse raced would be given an opportunity to be transitioned into a second career. However, this will not be viable for every owner and a number of horses will take longer than six months to transition while others will require full retirement.

Therefore, a dedicated funding component must be established for these equine athletes.



Photo courtesy of Tracy Egan

Establishing a Retired Racehorse Fund

A series of potential funding streams to address retirement needs are identified below. To ensure these funds are handled appropriately and distributed to qualified and responsible entities, and further support the concept that the matter be addressed by the horse racing industry, the Task Force recommends the establishment of an industry-comprised Retired Racehorse Fund, overseen by an Advisory Board and maintained by the New York State Racing and Wagering Board or the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

The Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board should consist of 13 members from the racing industry, including:

- A representative from The New York Racing Association, Inc.
- A representative from the Finger Lakes Racetrack
- A representative of the harness racing tracks in New York state
- A New York-based jockey representative from the Jockeys' Guild
- A New York-based professional harness driver/trainer from the Standardbred industry
- A representative from the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (NYTHA)
- A representative from the Finger Lakes Horsemen's Association
- A representative from the Standardbred Owners Association of New York
- A representative from the New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Inc.
- A representative from the Harness Horse Breeders of New York State
- An equine veterinarian from a New York-based land grant university
- Ex-Officio: Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Ex-Officio: Chairman of the New York State Racing and Wagering Board

The members of the board should operate in active consultation with stakeholders from areas in which retired racehorses find careers. The funds would be distributed on a per-horse basis according to the records kept on horses leaving the track and to which organization or owner the horses are placed. The Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board would be responsible for overseeing the distribution of funds and ensuring that the organizations receiving funding are in good standing with a nationally recognized horse rescue accrediting agency. New York State registered non-profits must abide by and be in good standing with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau.

The Racing and Wagering Board or the Department

of Agriculture and Markets would house and maintain the Retired Racehorse Fund account and be responsible for disbursement of funds as directed by the Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board. Additionally, the state agency that is responsible for the funding distribution should publicly disclose (i.e. online) what organizations are receiving funds from the Retired Racehorse Fund and the amount on a quarterly basis.

The Retired Racehorse Fund should collect and distribute funds based upon a ratio proportionate to the numbers of retired Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds in New York state.



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VLT AGENT COMMISSION REVENUE

VLTs account for significant revenue to their host locations in the form of Agent Commissions. These funds are “the portion of Net Win paid to the casino operator as compensation for operating the gaming facility. Most operating expenses of the gaming facility are paid from the agent commission (including the horse racing subsidies), with the exception of the gaming floor itself, which is provided by the other vendors and paid for by the Lottery,” according to the Division of Lottery.

An examination of the Agent Commissions paid in Fiscal Year 2010/2011 shows a significant amount of revenue going to each facility.

AGENT COMMISSIONS IN FY 2010/2011	
Yonkers Raceway	\$180,699,289
Saratoga Casino and Raceway	\$44,096,540
Finger Lakes Casino and Racetrack	\$37,041,210
Buffalo Raceway	\$26,825,257
Monticello Casino and Raceway	\$24,045,928
Tioga Downs Casino, Racing & Entertainment	\$20,838,247
Vernon Downs Casino, Hotel, Racing & Entertainment	\$17,046,125
Batavia Downs Casino	\$13,472,840

Source: New York State Division of the Lottery

NYRA & RESORTS WORLD CASINO NEW YORK CITY

Resorts World Casino New York City opened October 28, 2011 at Aqueduct and is expected to generate millions of dollars in revenue for many stakeholders in the industry, including horse owners, breeders, trainers and track operators. Resorts World Casino New York City, as a tenant on state-owned property, should also provide support for after-care and retirement programs.

Resorts World Casino New York City receives a 38 percent agent commission on net wins at its Aqueduct-based facility. Using its own estimated \$500,000,000 in annual revenue, the annual Agent Commission for Resorts World Casino New York City may be estimated at **\$190,000,000**.

The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA), which operates the race tracks at Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga (flat track), receives 7 percent of revenue from the net win at Resorts World Casino New York City for racing operations and capital expenditures (paid out of the agent commission). Using Resorts World Casino’s \$500,000,000 estimate, NYRA will receive approximately **\$35,000,000** annually.

Additionally, NYRA receives revenue for purses and breeders from Resorts World Casino New York City on an increasing scale as time progresses.

RWCNYC YEAR	PURSES	BREEDERS	EST. ADDITIONAL NYRA REVENUE*
First 12 Months	6.5 percent	1 percent	\$37,500,000
Year 2	7 percent	1.25 percent	\$41,250,000
Year 3 and After	7.5 percent	1.5 percent	\$45,000,000

*Assuming estimated \$500,000,000 in annual net win revenue at Resorts World Casino New York

(Source: New York State Division of the Lottery)

Therefore, NYRA should receive an estimated total of **\$72,500,000** from Resorts World New York City in the first 12 months of operation.

If New York's tracks, including NYRA and Resorts World Casino New York City, were to contribute just a fraction of one percent to the Retired Racehorse Fund, a significant amount of resources would fund retirement programs and help more retired racehorses find good homes and second careers.

However, as outlined in the State of Retired Racehorses, there is no current gauge of the number of Standardbreds and Thoroughbreds retiring each year. An increased and improved examination of the number of horses retired must be completed in order to determine how resources should be allocated between the two breeds.

By assessing the number of retiring racehorses in New York state by breed, an accurate percentage of contribution from the racetracks can be determined to accommodate the needs of retired Thoroughbreds and retired Standardbreds. The Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board will assess the relative need for retirement funds for the two breeds and recommend percentages for both Thoroughbred and Standardbred tracks.

The Task Force recommends legislation requiring that tracks and Resorts World Casino New York City collectively dedicate at least one-half of one percent of their commissions, collected quarterly, to racehorse retirement efforts.

This revenue stream, using 0.5 percent of the 2010-2011 FY agent commissions to harness tracks, Finger Lakes and Resorts World Casino New York City and revenues to NYRA, would total **more than \$ 3.13 million annually for retirement and retraining programs and oversight in New York state.**

ADDITIONAL FUNDING STREAMS

To bolster retirement programs, the industry must also fund racehorse retirement and retraining from additional revenue streams. To that effect, the Task Force on Retired Racehorses recommends the following measures, with all proceeds going into the newly created New York Retired Racehorse Fund.

FUNDING STREAM	BASIS FOR ESTIMATES	EST. ANNUAL PROCEEDS
One-half of one percent of all purses at New York state tracks	Total 2010 New York State Racetrack purses: \$234,334,283 (Source NYSRWB)	\$1,171,671
5 percent of The New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund annual award revenue	Total 2010 NYSTBDF Awards to Breeders of registered NY-breds: \$5,400,945 (Source: NYSTBDF)	\$270,047
5 percent of Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund annual award revenue	Total 2010 ANYSHBDF Performance-based Breeders' Awards: \$1,177,863 (Source: ANYSHBDF)	\$58,893
Implement a fee system with the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund with 10 percent of fees for registering a horse going to the fund	Approximate 2010 NYSTBDF registry fees for all horses: \$100,000 (Source: NYSTBDF)	\$10,000
Implement a fee system with the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund, with 10 percent of fees for registering a horse going to the fund	Approximate 2010 ANYSHBDF sustaining/stallion fees: \$1,700,000 (Source: ANYSHBDF)	\$170,000
10 percent surcharge for all Racing and Wagering Board licensing fees (owners, trainers, jockeys, grooms, etc.)	Estimated annual license fees: \$800,000 (Source NYSRWB)	\$80,000
10 percent of all fines for violations to the New York State Racing and Wagering Board	Estimated annual fines: \$100,000 (Source NYSRWB)	\$10,000
Winning jockeys at NYRA facilities dedicate \$20 per win	2,267 NYRA races in 2010 (Source: NYSRWB)	\$45,340
Winning jockeys at Finger Lakes dedicate \$10 per win	1,467 Finger Lakes races in 2010 (Source: NYSRWB)	\$14,670
Winning drivers at Yonkers Raceway contribute \$10 per win	2,986 Yonkers races in 2010 (Source USTA)	\$29,860
Winning drivers at other harness tracks in New York contribute \$5 per win	8,520 races at remaining harness tracks in 2010 (Source USTA)	\$42,600

These funding streams are estimated to raise a minimum \$1,917,158 annually for the Retired Racehorse Fund. Combined with the example VLT Agent Commission, NYRA and Resorts World Casino New York City revenue described previously, the new funding streams identified by the Task Force could total \$5,049,985 annually.

Additionally, the Task Force recommends:

- Expand awareness and participation of the Ferdinand Fund, which is instrumental in supporting the safe retirement of Thoroughbreds off the track. The fund is financed through voluntary contributions of trainers and owners from their purses. Many contribute just \$5 from their winnings. NYRA jockeys contributed \$14,077 in 2010.
- The Standardbred Retirement Foundation's "Win*Win" Program gives owners, trainers and drivers the opportunity to contribute a specified amount of their winnings for the feed and care for a horse in need. This program should be extended, promoted and maximized to increase participation.
- Partner with local feed and supply vendors, as well as equine pharmaceutical companies to provide supplies at a cut-rate or donation basis (*see Summary of Standardbred Retirement Foundation in Appendix*).

The Task Force finds that industry stakeholders, including owners, breeders, race tracks and trainers must address the fiscal challenges of ensuring quality after-care for racehorses. Every racehorse owner, breeder and track must be willing to commit dollars to make sure horses have an opportunity for subsequent careers, retirement, or a dignified death.

There will still be a shortfall in funding between the revenues raised by the Retired Racehorse Fund, the optimistic notion of owners being prepared to fund retraining for each horse, and the actual costs to provide viable homes and careers for retired racehorses. Therefore, charitable donations to retirement and retraining programs must continue to be sought, combined with increasing awareness and education of retirement issues within and beyond the industry.

After reviewing the number of retired Standardbreds and retired Thoroughbreds in New York state, the Retired Racehorse Fund Advisory Board should monitor the allocation of its various funding streams and recommend increases and decreases as appropriate.

The Task Force does not recommend requiring a portion of handle or betting pool money be diverted to retirement needs at this time. However, the Task Force does recommend increasing and facilitating the betting public's opportunities to contribute voluntarily to the cause. The recently created Racing Fan Advisory Council should integrate fan participation in retirement efforts as part of its recommendations.



Photo courtesy of TRF, by Debby Thomas/AnimalArtAndPhotography

REQUIRED TRAINING FOR LICENSEES

Any individual or group who considers owning or training a racehorse must understand the responsibilities that come with it. A horse's racing career often lasts less than one quarter of its life. The owners and caretakers of horses must be prepared to address the care and needs of horses for the other three quarters or more of their lifespan. The responsibility should be embedded systemically from the start.

Therefore, the Task Force on Retired Racehorses recommends that in addition to paying a retirement/retraining surcharge for a license, owners, trainers and assistant trainers seeking to race horses in New York state must successfully complete a training seminar detailing the responsibilities of the owner and trainer in managing the career and retirement of a racehorse. A refresher course would also be a requirement every three years for license renewal.

The program, which should either be completed by the applicant at Racing and Wagering Board offices or online at the Racing and Wagering Board's Web site, should at a minimum address the life cycle of the horse, associated costs, factors affecting behavioral and physical soundness and the options for aftercare, retraining and retirement. The training should also make certain that licensees are aware of the Performance Horse Registry and the American Performance Horse Registry, sporthorse pedigrees and sporthorse opportunities for sound and suitably tempered Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds.

The content for the Thoroughbred training program should be generated by industry stakeholders, such as The Jockey Club, New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Inc., Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) and the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA).

The Standardbred materials should be created by industry stakeholders, including the U.S. Trotting Association, horsemen's associations, Harness Horse Breeders, Harness Tracks of America and the

Standardbred Retirement Foundation.

Both programs should also include content from those involved in further careers for retired racehorses. Training materials could be created by students and faculty at New York-based colleges and universities that offer equine study or sports programs under the supervision of the aforementioned industry stakeholders.

NEW OWNER SEMINARS

NYRA, with coordination by former jockey Rich Migliore, the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association and the New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Inc., regularly conducts "New Owner" seminars. These events are appropriate venues to educate owners on the needs of retiring racehorses and aftercare. Other track operators and organizations in New York state, including the operators of the harness tracks and Finger Lakes, should develop and continue similar seminars.

The Racing and Wagering Board has offered to participate in these seminars in order to discuss licensure requirements (including the training requirement). The Task Force recommends that track operators take advantage of this standing offer. As part of a licensing discussion, the presentation may dovetail with retirement and aftercare responsibilities and opportunities.

Such seminars should be regularly conducted by the Standardbred industry. The Racing and Wagering Board should also participate in these seminars to ensure that potential owners understand the responsibilities and rules pertaining to racing in New York state and to retiring racehorses.

EDUCATING AND ENGAGING THE BETTING PUBLIC

While the Task Force does not believe the fans and betting public should have any portion of winnings automatically diverted for retirement purposes, it does believe that the public should be educated and engaged on where horses go after the race



Photo courtesy of TRF

track. Additionally, they should be given ample opportunity to voluntarily contribute funding for such programs.

The Task Force considers racing fans and bettors who enjoy and benefit from racehorses willing and ready contributors to retirement and aftercare causes.

Track operators should identify and create marketing strategies to educate attendees on where horses go after they leave the track, coupled with efforts to spur community involvement. The Task Force believes that having the track operators manage these initiatives would be cost-effective and provide a valuable return on investment, as it would not only educate the public on where horses go, but show the public that the tracks are concerned about the well being of the equine athletes.

The Task Force recommends drawing upon the following marketing initiatives to spur awareness of retirement needs and raise funding for aftercare programs:

- The Racing Fan Advisory Council should consider

- retired racehorse promotions in its efforts.
- Develop a statewide program similar to Churchill Charities' "Pony Up For Charity," where customers may add a "Pony Up" dollar or more to their food and beverage tab to benefit retirement programs. Without the track's matching contributions, however, that program underperformed. For a similar program to be successful, the tracks participating must match any funding contributed.
- Retired racehorse showcases during popular meets: The entire day should be dedicated to retired racehorses and provide the attending public ample opportunity to donate funds (via donation stations, tables, info booths, etc.).
- New York Showcase Day: This Belmont-based day of racing provides an ideal setting in which to not only highlight New York-bred horses, but to illustrate to the public how retirement and retraining programs work, racehorse marketing opportunities and fundraising.
- Poster and other media campaigns at tracks and horse-related public events: This could be developed by New York-based colleges and universities – especially those with equine programs – in no-fee consultation with industry sports marketing professionals.

THERAPEUTIC, MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, REHABILITATIVE CARE & CORRECTIONAL SETTINGS

Retired racehorses may be used in therapeutic, medical, psychological, rehabilitative and correctional settings in several ways. Use of horses in a few of these settings may occur directly from the track while other uses are appropriate only after a TRP period.

EAGALA Military Services: A non-profit founded in 1999, the Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA) uses a team approach with a mental health professional and a qualified equine specialist to address the psychological needs of the military population. The program, which is international and has more than 3,500 participating members, uses a ground-based approach in which no horseback riding is involved. EAGALA is “solution oriented,” in giving clients the opportunity to develop the best solutions for themselves. The program recognizes that horses are adept at reading non-verbal communication and are highly alert, which gives service members a familiar setting in which to respond, therefore helping them build relationships and express themselves.



Photo courtesy of TRF

Saratoga Therapeutic Equestrian Program, Inc. (STEP):– Founded in 1986, STEP is a therapeutic riding program devoted to improving the physical and psychosocial life of adults and special needs children as young as four using the horse as a therapy tool. Included in the program are those



Photo courtesy of USTA

with cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, traumatic brain injury (TBI), blindness, ADHD, PDD (pervasive developmental disorder), Asperger’s syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome, Down Syndrome, learning disabled, at risk youth, apraxia, sensory integration and hearing impaired. Treatment is according to PATH standards and approved by medical doctors.

The horse’s body warmth and forward movement “exercise” the rider by stimulating unused, contracted, or spastic muscles. The developmental riding therapy program can improve gross and fine motor skills, posture, balance, equilibrium, and muscle tone. It also can enhance body awareness and perceptual skills in activities of daily living.

STEP’s riders participate in horse shows and special events to help them to be an integral part of the surrounding community and to level the playing field between the able-bodied and those with special needs. STEP’s horses are specially trained for the program and come from various areas of the horse world. STEP currently has two former Thoroughbred racehorses and one former Standardbred racehorse.

Standardbred Retirement Foundation's Therapeutic Riding and Driving Program:

Children with muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, attention deficit disorder and other developmental disorders, interact with the horses through petting, riding, driving and communicating with the animals.

Standardbred Retirement Foundation's Horsetime Therapy Program: This psychotherapy program provides Equine Assisted Learning (EAP) to children who suffer from abuse, neglect or suffer from emotional issues. The program provides a safe, positive and professional experience for children to "open up in a trusting, secure environment to develop and enhance interpersonal and communication skills that can be transferred into home, school and the community," according to SRF materials.

Saratoga War Horse: This program, which is in the initial programming phase, is designed with the guidance of the Veterans Administration to help soldiers returning from combat zones reintegrate into society, with a specific focus on preventing suicides from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder by developing a bond between the horse and the soldier through proven natural horsemanship techniques. Saratoga War Horse's operators are seeking to partner with established returning veteran organizations in order to further promote and expand the program to a national level.

Wallkill Correctional Facility: Wallkill Correctional Facility, a state prison, currently has 61 horses residing at the facility. More than 700 horses and approximately 600 inmates have participated in the program since 1984. After rehabilitation, most horses move on to other settings or are adopted out for second careers. Several lifetime retirees remain there as well.

Correctional facility programs, where supervised inmates are tasked with

caring for horses, are one cost-effective option for retired racehorses that provide benefit to both horses and people.

No formal studies have been done at Wallkill to gauge the recidivism rate of inmates that participate in the program. Nor are there any measurable statistics to show how many participants go on to post-release vocations in equine care and management.

According to the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF), the TRF and Wallkill staff have received updates from some parolees who went through the program. Through this follow-up method, which puts the onus on the parolee, four former inmates have gone on to work at race tracks, while others were working at show barns and stables. Several claimed that while they were not working with horses, they credit the program for helping them with helping them straighten out their lives. Some of these individuals are currently working as counselors.

NOTE: TRF Director of External Relations Diana Pikulski is a member of the Task Force on Retired Racehorses.



Debby Thomas/AnimalArtAndPhotography

Photo courtesy of TRF, by Debby Thomas/AnimalArtAndPhotography



Photo courtesy of TRF

Project Redirect: The Standardbred Retirement Foundation's Project Redirect gives youth who are ordered to serve community service for violating the law an opportunity to work as volunteers at the SRF. "Through their required work, troubled youngsters learn respect, responsibility and companionship," according to the SRF's documentation.

SRF/Rutgers University/New Jersey Department of Juvenile Justice: The SRF also partners with the New Jersey Department of Juvenile Justice System, the state's education department and Rutgers University, where horses provided by the SRF teach social skills required by youth prior to reentry to society. New Jersey has constructed a three-stall compound for horses and training facilities at the Jamesburg Home for Boys and hired a U.S. Trotting Association (USTA)-licensed trainer to lead the

program. The intention, with the partnership of the USTA, is for the SRF Juvenile Justice Program to serve as a national model.

According to the SRF, the program is popular with participants, as it also can offer credit for school, help fulfill community service requirements and provide vocational training. However, no statistics have been maintained on the program.

LOOKING FORWARD

Other facilities in New York have expressed interest in developing programs similar to Wallkill. If found advantageous to taxpayers and the retired racehorse population, the correctional facility model should be expanded.

As similar correctional facility programs are

26 promoted or under consideration, the parole division of the newly merged Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) should survey – at no extra cost to the state – inmates and parolees who have completed the Walkkill program to determine:

- Parolee post-release job placement within the racing or equine agricultural industry and in general
- Attitudes about the program
- Recidivism rate
- Success measures

The results of the study should be published by the DOCCS, with the outcomes of the program clearly defined. If results indicate, they should be promoted in order to bolster the development of new programs and program providers where retired racehorses are placed in additional federal, state and local correctional facilities or other locations.

The Task Force on Retired Racehorses finds that the correctional and therapeutic programs are admirable for a population of retired racehorses. Efforts such as the ones described are a small selection of organizations that seek to help both horses and people.

The Standardbred industry's efforts should be better publicized through a coordinated public relations/marketing campaign at tracks and horse related events to drive more donations and resources to its efforts.



Debby Thomas/AnimalArtAndPhotography
Photo courtesy of TRF, by Debby Thomas/AnimalArtAndPhotography

ALTERING TRAINING REGIMENS SO THAT HORSES CAN BE MORE READILY RETRAINED FOR OTHER USES

The healthier a horse is when retired from racing, the easier it will be to transition it to a new career. Alternative employment options for former racehorses hinge on successful rehabilitation, retraining and placement programs, which are most successful when horses are retired physically and behaviorally sound.

At schools or with private trainers, horses must have a job or prospect of being sold for a price that pays for their upkeep and training. A horse needing training does not necessarily have the ability to be used in lessons. A horse in training at a riding school or college may take the place of a lesson horse able to “earn their keep” in a riding program.

The Task Force recommends the following actions to allow for horses to be more efficiently retrained for second careers:

- Information on the benefits to owners of responsibly giving, selling or donating a retirement-ready horse to a registered 501c-3 charitable or other organization should be incorporated in licensing materials and training.
- Develop a track-side triage program for placement of retiring horses unable to find a viable next home. Records should be kept to identify trainers who consistently retire horses that fall into a euthanasia category or those who consistently retire horses that have good chances of successful retraining and placement. This would spur owners/trainers to retire horses when they are physically and behaviorally able to have a new career. The triage should employ the initial retirement classifications described in the “What is a Retired Racehorse?” section of this report in order to track data on the status of horses as their racing careers conclude.
- Through the aforementioned funding recommended, fund 6-month transition, retraining/placement programs (minimum \$400 per month per horse) for retired racehorses that are unable to be sold to viable owners directly from the track. Horses should be eligible for funded retraining and eventual permanent placement through the track-side triage system. Riding schools, New York Higher-Ed institutions, BOCES, 4-H programs, the U.S. Pony Club, Young Riders, Dressage4Kids and other equestrian resources could assist the charitable organizations with the transition and retraining programs, as space and resources are available. In many instances horses would need to transition before an initial period of retraining for a period of time (typically under six months) and then return to a facility for placement.
- Encourage the publication of discloseable disciplinary enforcement actions.
- The NYSRWB should monitor each track’s “start per stall” internal policy for potential abuse of lower-level runners.
- The NYSRWB currently maintains a database of information relating to all equine injuries on race tracks and training tracks. The Task Force encourages increased transparency of this data.
- The New York State Racing and Wagering Board should review all rules relating to claiming to ensure that they are humane and less likely to encourage a compromised horse in the claiming box. Ideas to be considered (as proposed by the AAEP) include:
 - Any horse that tests positive for a prohibited substance should have the claim rescinded at the discretion of the buyer.
 - No claiming race should have a purse that exceeds the claiming price by more than 50 percent.
 - If a horse is claimed, it should not start in a claiming race for at least 30 days from the date of claim for less than 25 percent more than the amount for which it was claimed.
 - When appropriate, horses must demonstrate a workout between races that displays fitness and soundness.
 - Voidable claims: Claimed horses that do not finish a race or those that sustain a catastrophic injury during the race remain the property of the original owner at the option of the prospective new owner.

CREATING AN INCREASED MARKET FOR RETIRED RACEHORSES

Retired racehorses generally fit into two categories: those that do not make it to the track and those who retire from the track when their racing careers conclude. Typically, these horses “retire” in several ways, including:

- Sold at private sale
- Sold at public sale through a breed auction
- Sold at public sale through a livestock auction
- Becoming breeding stock
- Given away
- Retained by the owner for sport or pasture retirement
- Donated to a variety of charitable models (transition facilities, inactive retirement, non-profits, therapeutic or hippotherapy use)

The quality of a horse’s post-racing career is in the hands of their breeder, racing owner, and most significantly, their racing trainer. Horses that leave racing while physically sound and possessing the behavior suited for today’s riders, handlers and uses, will have a greater likelihood of transitioning to performance sporthorses. In turn, this will create increased interest by horse professionals and enthusiasts to acquire horses directly off the track.

In October 2011, the Jockey Club announced the Thoroughbred Incentive Program (TIP), which offers awards to horse shows and other competitions. The Virginia Horse Center’s Thoroughbred Celebration Horse Shows occur quarterly each year, with qualifying shows and classes in other states.

TIP and the Thoroughbred Celebration Horse Show are good examples for entities in New York to emulate, as they increase the awareness, attractiveness and value of racehorses as performance sporthorses to the equestrian community.



Photo courtesy of USTA

The Task Force recommends that the New York State Racing and Wagering Board, the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund Corporation, the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund and the Retired Racehorse Fund (if created) promote the market for former racehorses through advertising, agency communication vehicles, events, awards and more. The entities should do so in conjunction with racing and sporthorse stakeholders, including track operators, horsemen’s, equestrian, youth and breeding organizations. Some examples of actions include:

- Develop a network of retraining and other educational tools for grass roots equine and youth riding organizations to enhance the marketability of former racehorses that cannot meet the demands of performance horse careers but are still viable for other careers.
 - Coordinate with national and local organizations and other states to inform, educate and vigorously promote second careers and placement for retired racehorses.
- Develop a statewide retraining incentive program for Thoroughbreds focusing on training for disciplines such as those represented in the Olympic games, including jumping, dressage and combined training.
- The Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program, Inc. provides pages on its Web site and assistance for trainers and owners to privately list horses for sale. The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA) and the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association (NYTHA) should develop a marketplace of Thoroughbreds available for gift, sale or adoption, similar to Communications Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex Racehorses’ (CANTER) and Finger Lakes’ trainer listings. Programs for Standardbreds should

mirror these.

- Informational listings should include:
 - How to advertise a racehorse for sale, gift or donation
 - How to accept, purchase or adopt a retiring racehorse
 - Resources to facilitate the successful transition from racing to riding/sport driving
 - Opportunities to make financial contributions to support retired racehorse transition, retraining, placement and adoption
 - A list of accredited trainers with experience retraining racehorses
 - “Followers’ pages” for those interested in a particular horse upon the conclusion of his or her career
 - Information on re-placing horses that “bounce” from their first non-race homes
 - Information devoted to the training and retraining of Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds, family lines and pedigrees, performance capabilities as non-racehorses, success stories of former racehorses in other disciplines and race training regimens to promote soundness
- Recommend that recipients of stallion, breeders’ and owners’ awards allocate a portion of their awards for re-training grants and competition awards to develop further careers for Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds.
- Establish annual non-monetary awards to fete the breeder and owner who have done the most to support retired racehorses.
- Establish an industry donor-based award program for New York-bred sporthorses competing in shows, fairs, polo games, trail horse competitions, combined training and other competitions.
- Establish a regular conference of breeders, owners, trainers, riders, suppliers and organizations to further the use of Thoroughbred and Standardbred racehorses in the equestrian and sport driving industries.
- Establish annual awards for retired racehorses, such as New York’s Standardbred Sporthorse of the Year Award and New York’s Thoroughbred

Sporthorse of the Year in conjunction with New York’s equine veterinarians similar to the national award initiated by Dr. Riddle of Rood and Riddle, Lexington, KY. (See Appendix)

- Sponsor presentations, workshops and clinics across New York state and at regional venues to develop retraining and riding skills for prospective owners and trainers of former racehorses.
- Encourage horse-related publications to include the breed and registered name when describing or listing horses (e.g. “Little Flower (Thoroughbred, registered name: Qwerty) won the Amateur Owner division”).
- Require New York state race tracks to have information regarding retired racehorses on their Web sites.



Winter Vacation, adopted in April, 2011, performed in her first dressage 6 weeks later and received “8’s”, a promising start to a new career. Photo courtesy of Liz O’Connell.

SUPPORTING THE PERFORMANCE HORSE REGISTRY

The Task Force on Retired Racehorses has been charged to “investigate and research the feasibility of supporting the work of the ‘Performance Horse Registry’...” The Performance Horse Registry (PHR) offers horse owners and breeders of all types of horses the opportunity to obtain identification papers for their horses, record pedigrees and collect performance records in a single location. Founded in 1994 by the Jockey Club, the PHR provides pedigree and performance information for Thoroughbreds and half-thoroughbreds that competed successfully as sporthorses. The PHR has since been opened to all breeds.

In 2009, the American Performance Horse Registry (APH) was founded by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) within the existing PHR, listing only horses born in the U.S. Both the PHR and the APH are under the maintenance of the USEF.

Other breed registries have data-sharing agreements with the USEF and the APH. Standardbred and Thoroughbred registration numbers and names could be made available through a simple technological change. Building more comprehensive Thoroughbred and Standardbred pedigree and performance data will further the PHR’s goals, increase participation in the registry and promote more former racehorses into sporthorse disciplines.

To further support the Performance Horse Registry, the Task Force offers the following recommendations that are low-cost, technologically simple, efficient, and build on existing administrative or industry structures:

- The New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund and the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund should:
 - Include links to the Performance Horse Registry and the American Performance Horse Registry on their Web sites.
 - Coordinate with the USEF to make registration information available for

all New York-based Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds who have a USEF competition number. Information should include pedigree, performance and sales information.

- Sales companies should be encouraged to include links on their Web sites to the PHR and Thoroughbred and Standardbred sporthorse information, including pedigree and sales records.
- The USTA and the Jockey Club should share their respective data on registered Standardbreds and Thoroughbreds with the American Performance Horse Registry (APH). The New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund and the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund should share similar data with the APH.
- Trainer and owner licensing education should include information on the Performance Horse Registry and the American Performance Horse Registry.



Run Red Run, adopted in 2009, at the opening meet of the Genesee Valley Hunt, 2011. He excels in trail riding, hunter paces, police horse competitions and in giving riding lessons. Photo courtesy of Liz O’Connell

INCREASING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN OWNERS AND POTENTIAL ADOPTERS

The U.S. Trotting Association's Full Circle Program is a no-cost, no obligation database that connects horses in need of a new home with their breeders, former owners, trainers, drivers, caretakers or any other interested party. The Full Circle Program has logged more than 3,000 horses in three years of existence.

The Jockey Club launched Thoroughbred Connect in May 2011 to assist in the placement of retired horses. This free online service allows registry customers to "express their willingness to be contacted by the possessor of a horse in the event the horse is in need of placement." Since its inception, more than 2,000 horses have been entered into the database. The Kentucky Horse Council runs the Save Our Horses (SOHO) Welfare Fund and program to offer similar placement services.

The Task Force believes that New York agencies and funds should collaborate with Full Circle, Thoroughbred Connect and SOHO in order to maximize visibility and participation. Such a partnership will make it easier to identify and locate retired racehorses in need of new homes. Additionally:

- Maintaining and hosting the database should be a North American operation, as horses regularly cross state lines and national boundaries. A single established national institution could take ownership of the maintenance of this initiative and partner with all 50 states and Canadian sporthorse and racing regulatory bodies to ensure participation in the registry.
- The New York Racing and Wagering Board, in conjunction with the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund and the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund, should mandate participation in the registries for all owners and breeders as a requirement for licensure and/or breeding incentives from the respective funds. This will increase participation and further

establish that owners are taking a prominent role in ensuring that their horses will have opportunities after the track.

The Task Force also recommends the following actions to increase awareness of adoption opportunities:

- A campaign at Thoroughbred tracks and related public events to clearly identify steps owners and trainers can take to place horses via donation, gift or sale. The U.S. Trotting Association already does this through its "Support our Standardbreds" program (see poster in appendix). The campaign should also appear on monitors/displays at tracks.
- Develop a "Buy/Adopt Retired NYS Racehorse" online placement site and encourage trainers to post horses at least 30 days before a horse can no longer stay at a track or in training. This should be facilitated through a relevant state agency or by the individual tracks.
- Increase participation with New York-based colleges to offer "Retired Racehorse Promotion and Adoption Days" to educate the public about the issue and its benefits.

The Task Force also recommends the use of freeze branding for a racehorse receiving support from the Retired Racehorse Fund, and microchipping upon sale or adoption.



Photo courtesy of TRF

SUPPORTING EXISTING OR CREATING NEW ADOPTION PROGRAMS

The racing industry must take ownership of the post-racing fate of horses that allow the industry to operate. There must be a viable, humane exit strategy for horses leaving racing and all participants in the industry have a responsibility to contribute financially to the process.

An online search finds dozens of horse rescue facilities operating in New York state. However, there is no single list of these programs available in New York, nor is there an existing quality control/support mechanism in place for these facilities (see appendix).

The New York Racing and Wagering Board and the Department of Agriculture and Markets should have information about racehorse welfare on their Web sites, as well as information about retraining of racehorses for post-track careers, companion or pasture racehorse retirement, and how the public and participants can support such endeavors.

Aside from the funding mechanisms identified earlier to support existing adoption programs, the Task Force recommends the following:

- Create a rescue registry program to coordinate and support qualified, vetted retired horse facilities (registered 501c3 or other programs that meet a set of quality standard guidelines, such as those created by Thoroughbred Charities of America and being established by The National Thoroughbred Racing Association).



Photo courtesy of Tracy Egan

The ASPCA also has an established protocol for funding organizations.

- Work with equine agriculture-focused groups and state agencies (Department of Agriculture and Markets, Empire State Development) to provide business and operational support/guidance for these facilities. Area colleges with business curriculums may be involved under the guidance of racing industry and practicing non-profit sector professionals in the development of such projects.
- Identify several successful rehabilitation and retraining facilities in New York and include them in the creation of training materials and mentoring programs as case studies for retired racehorse programs.

A NOTE ABOUT NONPROFIT TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS

Nationally and in New York, there have been investigations and inquiries by regulators into nonprofit charitable organizations and how they manage finances. The Task Force on Retired Racehorses, which includes representation from such organizations, believes that any non-profit that serves the needs of retired racehorses should do so in a transparent, efficient and responsible manner. All non-profits that seek support from the Retired Racehorse Fund must keep a current list of all Thoroughbred and Standardbred horses under their care for public review (on their Web site).

The New York State Attorney General oversees the registration and financial reporting of all non-profits in New York State. To ensure integrity of charitable dollars for retired racehorses, the Task Force urges any and all organizations involved in racehorse rescue, retirement, retraining or rehabilitation programs or endeavors review and abide by materials provided by the New York Attorney General's Charities Bureau.

ENCOURAGING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO USE MORE RETIRED RACEHORSES

Colleges and universities offer resources that lend themselves well to the retired racehorse community. However, more can be done to facilitate connections between retirement facilities and institutions of higher learning in New York state.

The Task Force reached out to New York-based schools that have equine and/or agriculture programs, including: Cornell University, Houghton College, Cazenovia College, SUNY Cobleskill and Morrisville State College on ideas to bridge the gap between retired racehorses and opportunities at New York colleges and universities.

The Task Force recommends surveying existing retirement, retraining and rehabilitation facilities to determine their needs and their ability to offer programs including housing and meals and/or salary for student interns in order to make the information available to colleges.

SUNY Cobleskill is implementing a program to include a few former racehorses from rescue facilities in a specific course each semester at the institution. The college hopes to have additional rescue facilities identify horses that would be appropriate for college student handling and retraining for a several month period. Horses would return to their respective rescue facilities at the close of the course, with the intention of horses finishing the program being more appealing to prospective adopters as a result of the student training provided at SUNY Cobleskill.

This model may be replicated at other institutions if space and monetary restrictions are not burdensome and if opportunities are in place to transition horses back to rescues for placement with responsible future owners.



Photo courtesy of TRF

STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF INSTALLING ARTIFICIAL (SYNTHETIC) TURF AT RACE TRACKS TO REDUCE INJURIES TO HORSES AND JOCKEYS

In 2007, the New York State Legislature called upon the Task Force on Retired Racehorses to “study the feasibility of installing artificial turf at race tracks to reduce injuries to horses and jockeys.” It should be noted that in the legislation, the term “artificial turf” was used in place of “synthetic surface.” A synthetic surface has a particulate consistency that is similar to dirt. The composition of a synthetic surface typically uses sand, fibers, waxes and polymers.

REVIEW OF AVAILABLE SURFACES

Currently in North America, Thoroughbred racehorses run on dirt, turf and synthetic surfaces. Tracks offering synthetic surfaces often offer a turf track as well. Standardbred racehorses run on stone dust and other materials.

Tapeta Surface

- Golden Gate Fields (Installed 2007)
- Presque Isle Downs (2007)

Polytrack Surface

- Arlington Park (2007)
- Del Mar Race Track (2007)
- Keeneland (2006)
- Turfway Park (2005)
- Woodbine Racecourse (2006)

Cushion Track

- Hollywood Park (2006)
- Santa Anita (2007), replaced in 2008

Pro Ride

- Santa Anita Park (2008), replaced in 2010

There are no public synthetic surface race tracks in New York. There are at least two privately owned synthetic surface training tracks, one of which operates year-round.

2008 NY SYNTHETIC SURFACES FORUM

In July 2008 the Task Force on Retired Racehorses sponsored a day-long forum on synthetic racing surfaces in Saratoga Springs. Stakeholders in the racing industry were invited to make presentations at the event. At the time of the forum, advocates of synthetic tracks claimed the surfaces would help prevent such catastrophic breakdowns. Proponents of dirt tracks argued that they are better for the sport as long as they are properly maintained. No clear cut consensus on the benefits of synthetic surfaces emerged from the forum. Subsequent inquiries with the attendees were made in September 2011 in order to determine if their opinions had changed.

INDUSTRY INPUT

Veterinarians

A prominent researcher, **Susan Stover, DVM, Ph.D., Dipl. ACVS, of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California-Davis**, stated that surfaces were at times “used as a scapegoat” in ascribing blame for injuries. She said that when horses are not given sufficient time to heal from injuries, they are at greater risk of experiencing a breakdown. She suggested that injuries could be reduced if more trainers properly manage their horses’ exercise programs and more attention is paid to the importance of properly maintaining surface conditions.

2011 Update from Dr. Stover: “Multiple factors play a role in injury development, including race surface. All factors must to be considered collectively to obtain the safest conditions for the horse. The data support a lower incidence of fatalities due to injuries on synthetic surfaces compared to dirt surfaces.” (Email from Sue Stover, 10/07/2011)

Rick Arthur, DVM, equine medical director for the California Horse Racing Board, examined synthetic tracks installed in the state. In 2008, California mandated synthetic surfaces at tracks conducting more than 30 continuous race days in any calendar year. Dr. Arthur authored a 2010 AAEP paper examining four major California racetracks that converted from dirt to synthetic surfaces and determined that while there was a 37 percent decline in racing fatalities at these tracks (3.09 fatalities per 1,000 starts on dirt, compared to 1.95 fatalities per 1,000 starts on synthetic), there had not been a similar decrease in training fatalities on California's synthetic tracks.

2011 Update from Dr. Arthur: "Synthetics are difficult to maintain. However, they are associated with significantly lower racing fatality rates... Consistent with (the 2010 AAEP paper), the racing fatality rate at Santa Anita with their new dirt surface was similar to the old dirt surface." (Email from Rick M. Arthur, 9/28/2011)

"Anyone who has seriously examined the high injury rate in U.S. racing has recognized track surface to be just one of many contributing factors. The Jockey Club-sponsored Welfare and Safety Summit addressed numerous issues in examining the high injury rates in American racing. Track surface was just one of the many issues identified as a potential factor. The similarity of turf-racing fatality rates to the fatality rates on dirt and synthetic is contrary to reports outside of North America. Turf racing internationally on the flat is generally well below 1 fatality per 1,000 starts. California turf racing is two times that with over 2 fatalities per 1,000 starts. A reasonable conclusion would be high racing-fatality rates in North America are related to more than just track-surface factors."

(Source: "Comparison of Racing Fatality Rates on Dirt, Synthetic, and Turf at Four California Racetracks" Rick M. Arthur, DVM, AAEP Proceedings, Vol. 56, 2010)

Trainers

Trainers who participated in the 2008 forum were divided in their views on synthetic surfaces. In 2008, Trainer **Todd Pletcher** said that among New York's tracks, Belmont Park would be the best candidate to introduce one synthetic surface. Installing such a track at Belmont, he said, "would give us the opportunity to train on it year-round and see how it does."

However, trainer **Nick Zito** said at the forum that some of his horses had suffered soft tissue injuries from racing and training on Keeneland's Polytrack in 2007. Mr. Zito was emphatic in his support of traditional tracks. "I want to stay with dirt," he told the Task Force's forum. He also emphasized the importance of maintaining racing tradition. "There are good dirt tracks around America and we need to preserve them. If you went to a Polytrack situation, you would change history," he said.

Only one trainer at the 2008 forum, **Mark Casse**, based at Woodbine, was unequivocal in his support for synthetic surfaces. Mr. Casse branded such tracks "the future," and said, "The quicker you get on board, the better."

Race Track Officials

Robert Elliston, the president of Turfway Park in Kentucky, which has been using Polytrack since September 2005, pointed out that Turfway has experienced fewer cancellations and seen a reduction in breakdowns since the Polytrack was installed. Conversely, **Charles Hayward, president of The New York Racing Association, Inc.**, said that there were no plans to install synthetic surfaces at any NYRA tracks.

2011 Update from Mr. Elliston: "The Polytrack surface permit(s) us to race more days, during inclement weather periods. Further, our rate of catastrophic injuries on the Polytrack surface continues to show significant improvement over our experiences with a conventional dirt surface that was in use prior to September 2005." (Email from Robert Elliston, 9/30/2011)

2011 Update from Mr. Hayward: “There is no indication that synthetic surfaces are safer than the current NYRA racing surfaces, and there is some belief that synthetic tracks have caused an increase in soft tissue injuries. NYRA never developed any plans to install synthetic surfaces and we do not have any current plans to do so. Industry wide, no new synthetic surfaces have been installed in the last two years and none are currently in the planning. In fact, the California Horse Racing Board had mandated that all Thoroughbred tracks in the state install synthetic surfaces and they have since rescinded that decision. Santa Anita has eliminated their synthetic track and has gone back to a dirt track.” (Email, 9/28/2011)

Stakeholders in racing have multiple viewpoints on the matter of synthetic versus dirt tracks, and no clear industry-wide consensus has arisen.

An estimate from **Hall of Fame trainer and developer of the Tapeta synthetic surface Michael Dickinson** to install a synthetic surface on the inner track at Aqueduct is \$4.6 million (\$1 million for pipes, stones and porous underlay; \$3.6 million for surface material), not taking into consideration the locations and cost of shipping materials to the track.

The Task Force on Retired Racehorses does not recommend any state mandate requiring the installation of synthetic surfaces at race tracks in New York State at this time.



Photo courtesy of TRF

APPENDICES

2005 Equine Survey

2007 Horse Owner Survey

Preliminary Costs/Budget for a Horse Rescue

Examples of Current Funding Streams

Press Release: ASPCA Grants \$458,000 to Equine Rescue Groups Joining Million Dollar Rescuing Racers Initiative in 2011

U.S. Trotting Association

USTA Poster Sample

Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation

Standardbred Retirement Foundation

Existing Retirement Programs

About the National Thoroughbred Racing Association's Safety & Integrity Alliance

NTRA Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services

Wallkill Correctional Facility Program

List of New York Equine Rescues

United States Equestrian Federation

Performance Horse Registry and American Performance Horse Registry

The Jockey Club

"Riddle: Comet a star among ex-racehorses," Off-TrackThoroughbreds.com

Saratoga Therapeutic Equestrian Program

EAGALA Military Services

"Saratoga War Horse reporting for duty: Therapeutic program for veterans will launch this month," by Paul Post, The Saratogian, 12/03/11

Synthetic Surfaces Forum Participants

Comparison of Racing Fatality Rates on Dirt, Synthetic, and Turf at Four California Racetracks by Rick Arthur, DVM

Racing Surfaces White Paper, by Michael "Mick" Peterson, Ph.D., University of Maine, Lars Roepstorff, DVM, Ph.D., Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Jeffrey J. Thomason, Ph.D., University of Guelph, Canada, Christie Mahaffey, MPhil, University of Maine, C. Wayne McIlwraith, BVSc, Ph.D. Colorado State University

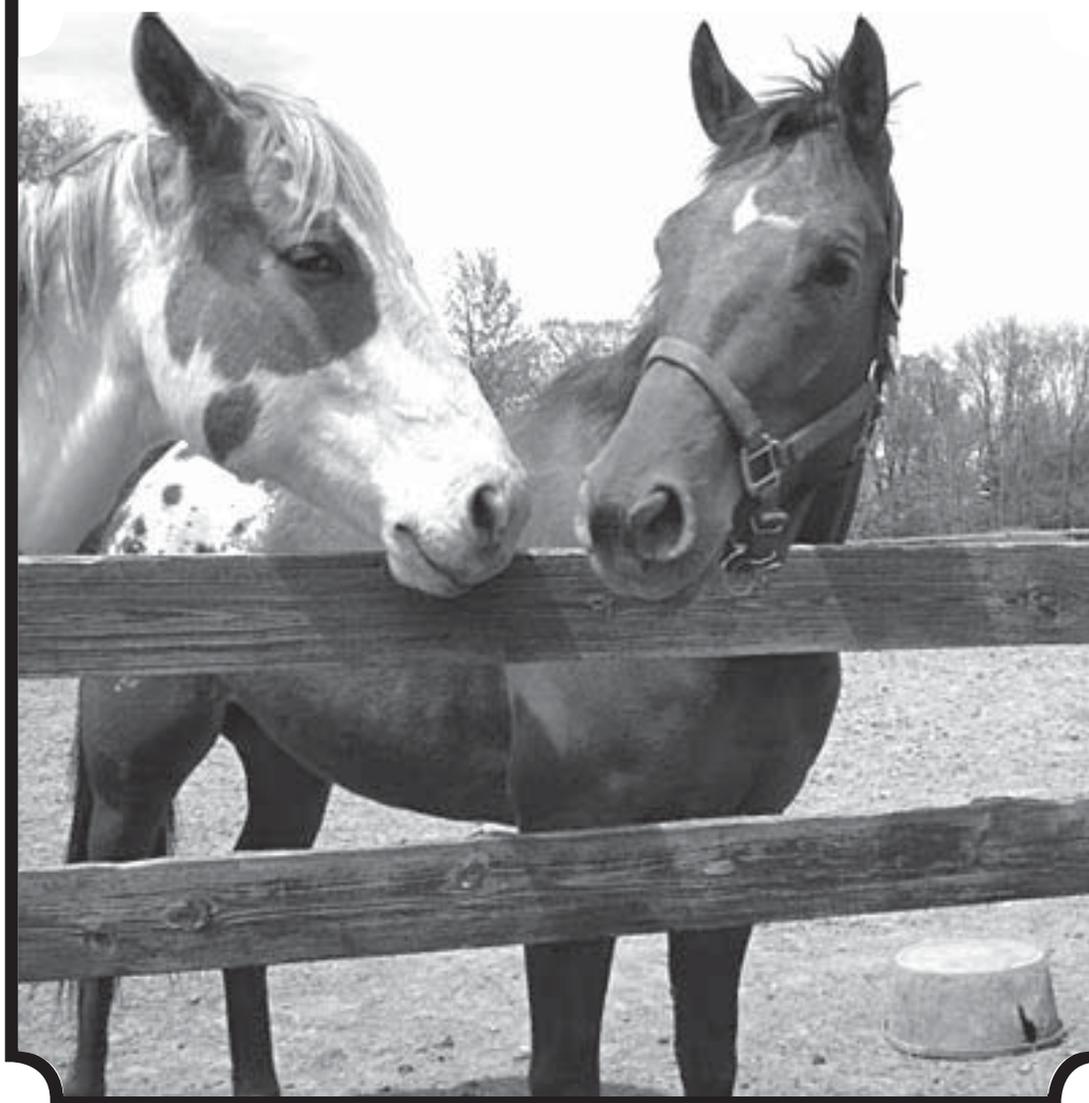
"Putting the Horse First: Veterinary Recommendations for the Safety and Welfare of the Thoroughbred Racehorse," AAEP

Inception of the Task Force and Legislative History

2005, 2007, 2009 & 2011 Bills

2011 Veto

New York
EQUINE SURVEY
2005





STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS
10B Airline Drive, Albany, New York 12235
518-457-8876 Fax 518-457-3087
www.agmkt.state.ny.us

Eliot Spitzer
Governor

Patrick Hooker
Commissioner

October 2007

Dear Friends:

New York's equine industry has changed dramatically over the last five years, and therefore, I am pleased to present to you the results of the 2005 New York Equine Survey.

Since the last survey in 2001, the quality and impact of our equine industry in New York State has improved tremendously. Horse inventory has increased, along with their value in almost every category, representing over \$1.8 billion in value.

The equine industry continues to contribute greatly to the quality of life here in New York State. There are currently 197,000 horses, mules, donkeys, and burros raised at 33,000 different locations and with associated assets totaling \$10.4 billion. There are more than 987,000 acres of land devoted to equine purposes in New York State and the industry provides more than 12,000 jobs annually.

This survey is one of a series of studies by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to take a comprehensive look at special sectors of New York agriculture, such as the equine industry, muckland crops, direct marketing, and turf grass. I hope you find the information presented to you in this survey of valuable use, and I thank you for your continued interest in New York agriculture.

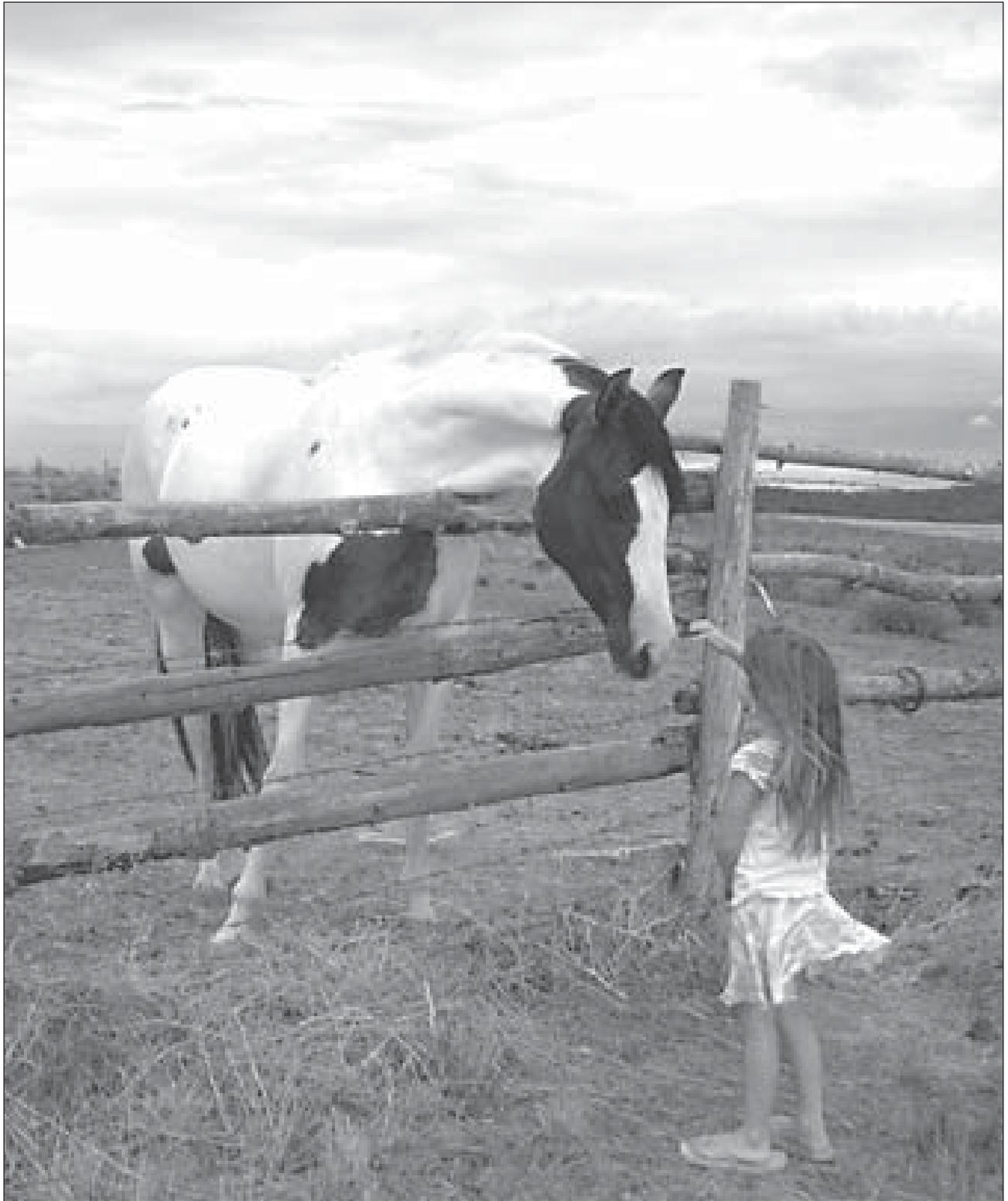
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Hooker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "P" and "H".

Patrick Hooker
Commissioner

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Equine Survey Highlights</u>	5
Table 1. Equine by Type	7
Table 2. Equine Survey Highlights.....	8
<u>Equine by District</u>	11
Counties by District (map)	10
Table 3. Equine by Type and District.....	12
Table 4. Equine Inventory and Value by Breed.....	13
Table 5. Light Breeds by District.....	14
Table 6. Draft Horse Breeds by District	15
Table 7. Ponies, Miniature Horses and Donkeys by District	15
<u>Equine by Primary Use</u>	17
Table 8. Equine by Primary Use and District	18
Table 9. Equine by Primary Use and Breed.....	19
<u>Equine Operations</u>	21
Table 10. Equine Operations by District.....	22
Table 11. Equine Operations by Type and District.....	22
Table 12. Equine Operations by Discipline.....	23
Table 13. Equine Operations by Length of Time Equine-Related Usage	23
Table 14. Preceding Use by Property.....	24
Table 15. Acreage in Equine Related Usage and Value by District.....	24
Table 16. Value of Equine Related Assets by District - December 31, 2005.....	25
Table 17. Equine Facilities by District	25
<u>Equine Related Expenditures and Revenues</u>	26
Table 18. Equine Related Expenditures.....	27
Table 19. Equine Related Revenues	28
<u>Equine Related Labor</u>	29
Table 20. Equine Related Labor	30
<u>Operator Information</u>	31
Table 21 Operation Information.....	31
Equine Inventory (map)	32
Table 22. Equine Inventory and Value by County	33
<u>The Equine Industry's Contribution to the New York State Economy</u>	35
Table 23. Estimated Economic Impact of the New York State Equine Industry.....	37
<u>Equine Survey Procedures</u>	39



EQUINE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

EQUINE POPULATION

The 2005 Equine Survey indicated there were an estimated 197,000 equine of all types in New York on December 31, 2005, up 17 percent from the 168,000 on hand September 1, 2000. Race horse breeds totaled 50,200 head, up 20 percent from 2000, while other light horses increased to 113,400, a 13 percent increase. All light horse breeds combined totaled 163,600, up 15 percent.

Draft horse breeds increased from 11,500 head in 2000 to 12,100 in 2005, an increase of five percent, while donkeys and mules rose 40 percent to a total of 3,500 head. Ponies posted a 3 percent decrease to 12,000 head, continuing the trend begun in 1988. A new category of Miniature Horses was added to the 2005 Equine Survey for the first time for a total of 6,600 head.



VALUE OF EQUINE

All equine as of December 31, 2005, were valued at \$1.83 billion, up eight percent from 2000. Average value per head was computed from the survey data for each breed and aggregated to the total for all equine. Average value for race horse breeds decreased 17 percent to \$22,710 per head. Other categories of equine, except for donkeys,

donkeys, mules, all increased in average value. Other light horses increased 6 percent to \$5,270 per head. Draft horse breed average value increased 24 percent, from \$2,500 to \$3,100. Value of ponies increased 62 percent to \$3,890 per head, while donkeys and mules decreased 9 percent to \$800 per head. Miniature horse value was \$1,400 per head.



EQUINE RELATED ASSETS

Survey tabulations indicated total equine-related assets of \$10.4 billion on December 31, 2005, an increase of 69 percent since the 2000 survey. The value of land, fences, and buildings accounted for \$7.08 billion, or 68 percent of the total assets. This value included \$296 million for the 2,900 indoor arenas in New York. Equine on hand, at \$1.83 billion, accounted for 18 percent of the assets. Vehicles, equipment, tack, and equine feed and supplies on hand, at \$1.45 billion, accounted for the remaining 14 percent.

EQUINE EXPENDITURES

New York equine owners and operators spent a total of \$2.06 billion during 2005 for operating and capital expenses, an increase of nearly three times above

the 2000 total of \$704 million. About \$1.10 billion, or 53 percent, of the total was for operating expenses. The leading operating expenses and amounts spent were: feed, \$119 million; hired labor, \$169 million; and boarding \$156 million. Operating expenses averaged \$5,594 per equine. Additional expense categories are shown in Table 18.

Expenditures for capital items increased greatly from the 2000 survey. Capital expenditures totaled \$958 million, up from \$181 million in 2000. Purchases of equipment totaled \$214 million. Purchases of equine amounted to \$254 million, and the purchase or improvement of equine-related real estate totaled \$490 million.

EQUINE LABOR

The survey indicated a total of 12,500 hired workers were employed by New York equine operations during 2005. Of these, 5,700 were full-time workers and 6,800 were part-time workers. In addition, 3,700 private contractors were employed by equine operations, and 11,100 volunteers contributed 1.83 million hours. Operators and unpaid family members worked an additional 43.2 million hours throughout 2005. Additional labor categories are shown in Table 20.

EQUINE REVENUES

This new category was added for the 2005 Equine Survey. Respondents were surveyed for the revenues generated by their equine operation. Revenues totaled \$445 million, with equine services revenue totaling \$158 million, or 36 percent of the total. The next highest category of revenues was for equine sales, at \$118 million, or 27 percent of the total. Training revenues, breeding services and fees, and revenue from winnings made up the rest of the revenue.



Table 1. EQUINE BY TYPE, NEW YORK, 1978, 1988, 2000, and 2005

Type	1978	1988	2000	2005
Race Horse Breeds	46,050	50,000	42,000	50,200
Other Light Breeds	93,350	105,800	100,500	113,400
Total Light Horse Breeds	139,400	155,800	142,500	163,600
Draft Horse Breeds.....	5,400	7,200	11,500	12,100
Ponies.....	33,000	17,000	11,500	11,200
Miniature Horses	NA	NA	NA	6,600
Donkeys/Mules.....	2,200	2,000	2,500	3,500
TOTAL EQUINE	180,000	182,000	168,000	197,000

TOTAL EQUINE BY TYPE, 2005

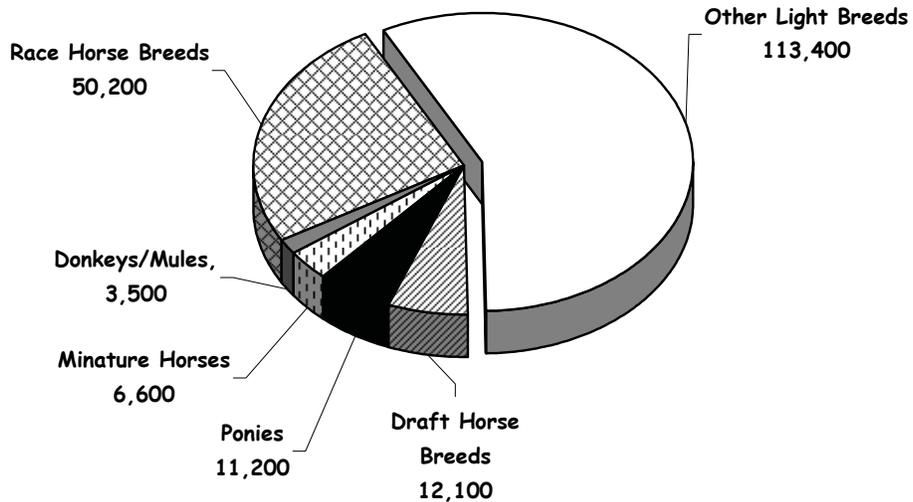


Table 2. EQUINE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS, NEW YORK, 2005

Categories	Number	Average per equine ^{1/}	Total Value
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Thousand Dollars</i>
<u>EQUINE BY TYPE</u>			
Racing Breed Horses	50,200	22,710	1,139,880
Other Light Horses	113,400	5,270	598,030
Draft Horses	12,100	3,100	37,480
Ponies	11,200	3,890	43,610
Miniature Horses	6,600	1,400	9,240
Donkeys and Mules	3,500	800	2,800
Total All Equine	197,000	9,300	1,831,040
<u>EQUINE OPERATIONS BY TYPE</u>			
Commercial Boarding/Training	4,700		
Commercial Breeding	2,300		
Crop/Livestock Farms	6,000		
Non-Commercial/Non-Farm	19,100		
Other	900		
Total Equine Operations	33,000		
Acres Used for Equine	987,000		
Fenced Pasture	390,000		
Number of Stalls	209,900		
Indoor Arenas	2,900		
Outdoor Arenas	16,000		
<u>ASSET VALUES, DECEMBER 31, 2005</u>			
Equine on Hand			1,831,040
Land, Fences and Buildings			7,084,830
Vehicles, Equipment			1,105,290
Tack Equipment and Clothing			268,180
Equine Feed Supplies			72,220
Total Equine Related Assets			10,361,560
Indoor Arenas ^{2/}			295,760
Horse Trailers and Vans ^{3/}			272,550
<u>EXPENDITURES DURING 2005</u>			
Equine Purchased			254,000
Real Estate and Improvements			490,440
Equipment Purchased			213,690
Total Capital Expenditures			958,130
Feed		602	118,650
Labor Expenditures		857	168,810
Boarding		791	155,920
Training		291	57,330
Other		3,052	601,230
Total Operating Expenditures		5,594	1,101,940
Total Expenditures			2,060,070



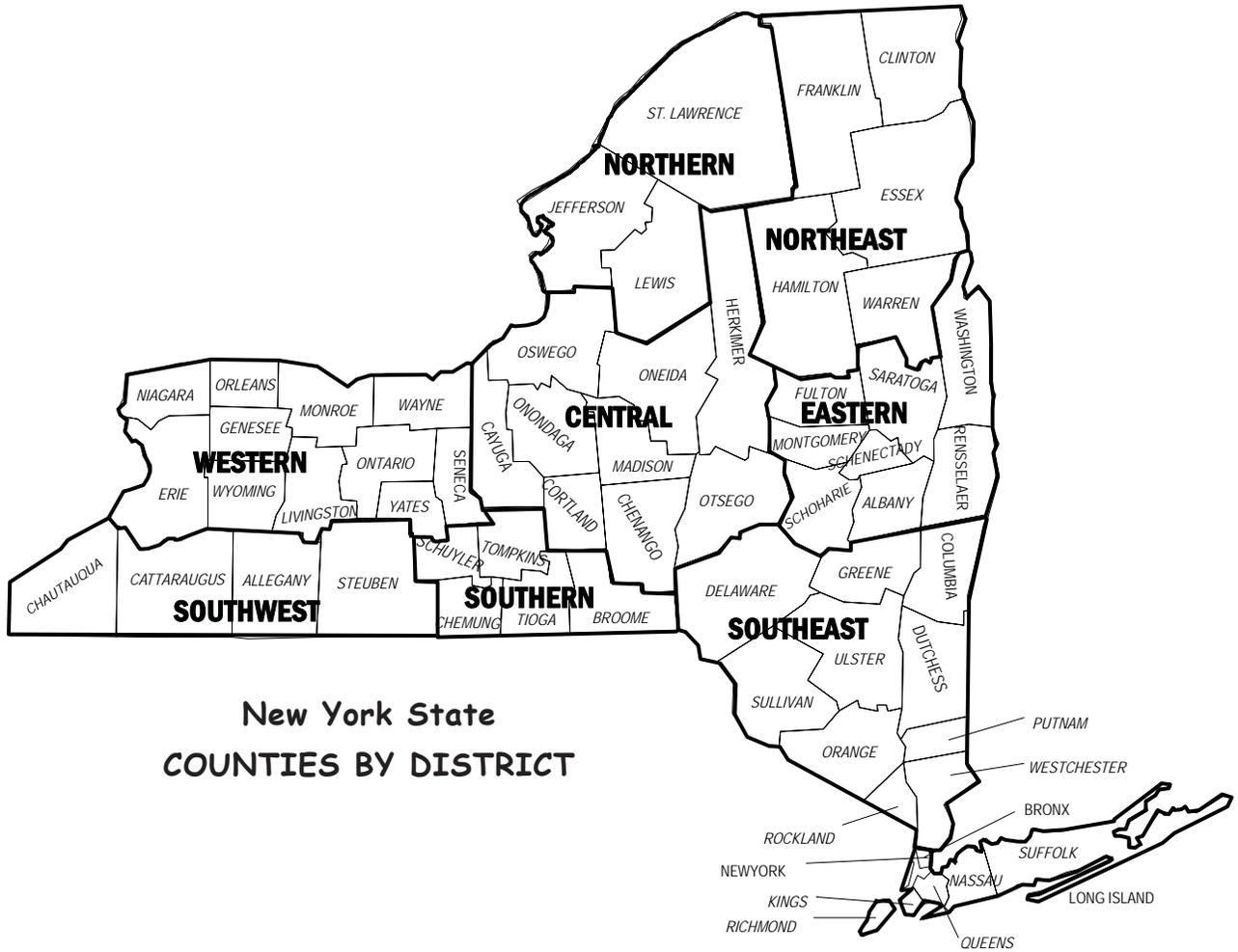
Table 2. EQUINE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS, NEW YORK, 2005 (Continued)

Categories	Number	Average per equine ^{1/}	Total Value
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Thousand Dollars</i>
<u>TOTAL WORKERS</u>			
Full-Time Workers	5,700		
Part-Time Workers	6,800		
Total Hired Workers	12,500		
Cash Labor Expenditures			156,600
Value of Non-cash Items Provided to Workers			12,210
Total Hired Labor Expenditures			168,810
Private Contractors	3,700		
Volunteer Workers	11,100		
Workers for Whom Housing was Provided	2,500		
Volunteer Hours Worked	1,830,500		
Operator and unpaid family member hours	43,200,000		
<u>REVENUES</u>			445,130
Total Sales			117,830
Total Training			75,310
Total Breeding			32,810
Total Services			158,390
Total Winnings			60,790

1/ Based on total equine on hand December 31, 2005.

2/ Value of indoor arenas included in total value of land, fences and buildings.

3/ Value of horse trailers and vans included in total value of vehicles and equipment.



New York State
COUNTIES BY DISTRICT

EQUINE BY DISTRICT



The concentration of New York State equine made some changes since the 2000 survey. Of the 197,000 total equine in New York on December 31, 2005, 22 percent, or 42,500 head, were in the Southeast District (*2nd place in 2000*). The Western District had 19 percent of total equine with 37,900 head (*1st place in 2000*). The Central District came in third with 32,300 head (*4th in 2000*), or 16 percent, and the Eastern District fell to fourth with 29,100 head (*3^d in 2000*) or 15 percent.

For all light horses combined (*race horse breeds plus all other*

light horse breeds), the Southeast District was first with 36,600 head, or 22 percent of the 163,600 head. Next was the Western District with 31,100 head (*19 percent*), then the Central District with 26,100 head (*16 percent*). The Eastern District ranked fourth with 24,600 head (*15 percent*).

Ponies totaled 11,200 head, with 2,700 (*24 percent*) in the Southeast District. The Western District accounted for 2,300 head (*21 percent*), just ahead of the Central District with 1,900 head (*17 percent*). Of the 12,100 draft horses indicated by the survey, 2,600 head,

or 21 percent, were in the Western District. The Central District was second with 2,500 head, followed by the Southwest District with 1,700 head.

Miniature horses were surveyed for the first time in 2005 with a result of 6,600 head. The largest inventory was in the Western District with 1,500 head (*23 percent*), with the Central and Southeast Districts both coming in with 1,200 head, or 18 percent, each.

EQUINE BY BREED

Quarter Horses jumped in inventory from 29,600 head in 2000 to 38,100 head in 2005, a 29 percent increase, continuing the trend since 1988. Second was Thoroughbreds with 33,300 head, 9 percent over 2000. Standardbred inventory gained 47 percent to 16,900 head, reversing the decline in numbers since 1978. Other major breeds of light horses were Warmbloods (*25 percent increase*), Pinto/Paints (*up 21 percent*), Appaloosas (*5 percent down*), and Morgans (*9 percent decrease*). Belgians, despite a 2 percent decrease in inventory, still comprised 50 percent of draft horse inventory. Percheron numbers increased six percent to 3,400, and Clydesdale numbers climbed 29 percent to 900. Welsh and Shetland ponies were the most common pony breeds, accounting for 29 percent and 21 percent, respectively, of all ponies.

AVERAGE VALUES BY BREED

Thoroughbreds continued to have the highest average value, at \$27,600 per head, even though they registered an 18 percent decrease since 2000. Average value of Standardbreds increased 25 percent to \$13,100 per head. With the increase in average value and larger inventory, Standardbred total value gained 84 percent to \$222 million. Race horse breeds accounted for 62 percent of the total value of equine in New York State.

The average value of Warmbloods increased 10 percent to \$22,000 per head. With increased average value and inventory, total value jumped 38 percent to \$185 million.

Welsh ponies also increased in average value, from \$3,500 per head in 2000 to \$6,800 per head in 2005, a jump of 94 percent. Welsh ponies accounted for 50 percent of the total pony value.

The average values of individual breeds and miscellaneous breed categories reflect the average prices one would have had to pay to purchase the same type of animals on December 31, 2005. Reported values ranged from high-priced breeding, racing, and show stock to low-valued grade animals and older equine. High sentimental values placed on “family member” equine were excluded from average value calculations. Values by breed are shown in Table 4.

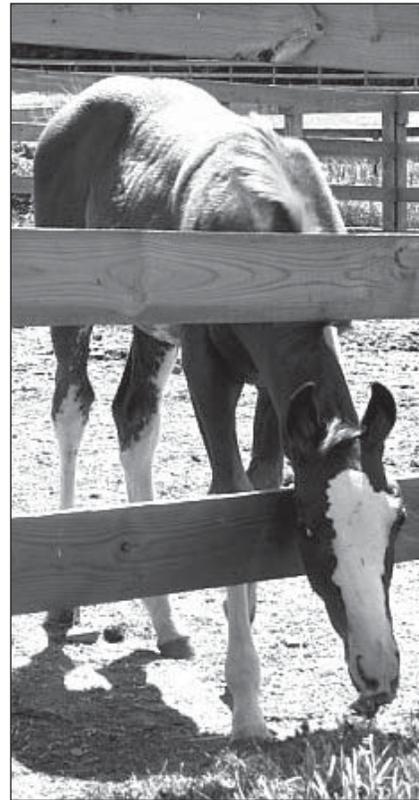


Table 3. EQUINE BY TYPE AND DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 2005

District	Total Equine	Light Horses ^{1/}	Draft Horses	Ponies	Miniature Horses	Donkeys and Mules
Northern	7,400	5,700	800	400	300	200
Northeast	6,400	5,000	600	400	300	100
Western	37,900	31,100	2,600	2,300	1,500	400
Central	32,300	26,100	2,500	1,900	1,200	600
Eastern	29,100	24,600	1,300	1,800	700	700
Southwest	14,700	11,200	1,700	600	800	400
Southern	11,400	9,200	1,000	500	400	300
Southeast	42,500	36,600	1,300	2,700	1,200	700
Long Island and NYC	15,300	14,100	300	600	200	100
STATE	197,000	163,600	12,100	11,200	6,600	3,500

^{1/} Includes racing breeds.

Table 4. EQUINE INVENTORY AND VALUE BY BREED,
NEW YORK, 2000 and 2005

Breeds	Number		Value		Average Value	
	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005
	<i>Head</i>		<i>Thousand Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>	
<u>LIGHT BREEDS</u>	100,500	113,400	497,520	598,030	4,950	5,270
Quarter Horse	29,600	38,100	115,440	156,210	3,900	4,100
Saddlebred	2,500	2,600	15,750	22,100	6,300	8,500
Appaloosa	8,500	8,100	19,550	20,250	2,300	2,500
Arabian	9,200	7,900	44,160	35,550	4,800	4,500
Half Arabian	3,600	3,100	10,800	10,540	3,000	3,400
Morgan	9,000	8,200	38,700	33,620	4,300	4,100
Palomino	1,600	NA	4,960	NA	3,100	NA
Pinto/Paint	6,800	8,200	21,760	28,700	3,200	3,500
Warmbloods	6,700	8,400	134,000	184,800	20,000	22,000
Haflinger	NA	3,000	NA	7,200	NA	3,300
Crossbred/Unknown	11,000	14,200	26,400	52,200	2,400	4,500
Other Light	12,000	11,600	66,000	46,860	5,500	2,400
<u>RACE HORSE BREEDS</u>	42,000	50,200	1,142,500	1,139,880	27,200	22,710
Standardbred	11,500	16,900	120,750	221,880	10,500	13,100
Thoroughbred	30,500	33,300	1,021,750	918,000	33,500	27,600
<u>DRAFT HORSE BREEDS</u>	11,500	12,100	29,380	37,480	2,550	3,100
Belgian	6,100	6,000	13,420	13,200	2,200	2,200
Percheron	3,200	3,400	8,320	9,520	2,600	2,800
Clydesdale	700	900	2,240	4,860	3,200	5,400
Other	1,500	1,800	5,400	9,900	3,600	5,500
<u>PONIES</u>	11,500	11,200	29,900	43,610	2,600	3,890
Welsh	2,700	3,200	9,450	21,760	3,500	6,800
Shetland	2,100	2,300	2,520	2,300	1,200	1,000
Connemara	500	800	3,050	6,320	6,100	7,900
Other	6,200	4,900	14,880	13,230	2,400	2,700
<u>MINIATURE HORSES</u>	NA	6,600	NA	9,240	NA	1,400
<u>DONKEYS AND MULES</u>	2,500	3,500	2,500	2,800	1,000	800
TOTAL EQUINE	168,000	197,000	1,701,800	1,831,040	10,130	9,300

Table 5. LIGHT BREEDS BY DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 2005

District	All Light ^{1/}	Racing Breeds		Quarter Horses	Appaloosa	
		Standardbred	Thoroughbred			
		<i>Number</i>				
Northern	5,700	500	200	2,100	400	
Northeast	5,000	400	400	1,600	500	
Western	31,100	3,500	4,500	7,300	1,900	
Central	26,100	3,150	2,450	6,800	1,600	
Eastern	24,600	3,200	8,400	5,400	900	
Southwest	11,200	900	500	3,600	1,000	
Southern	9,200	500	1,300	2,400	600	
Southeast	36,600	3,950	9,150	6,200	1,100	
Long Island and NYC	14,100	800	6,400	2,700	100	
STATE	163,600	16,900	33,300	38,100	8,100	
District	Arabian	Morgan	Pinto/Paint	Warmbloods	Crossbred	Other Light
	<i>Number</i>					
Northern	2/	400	600	2/	600	600
Northeast	2/	500	400	2/	400	600
Western	2,500	1,500	1,900	1,200	2,200	4,600
Central	1,500	1,800	1,500	900	2,100	4,300
Eastern	500	1,000	1,000	700	1,300	2,200
Southwest	800	700	900	200	700	1,900
Southern	600	500	500	500	1,000	1,300
Southeast	1,600	1,700	1,100	3,700	4,600	3,500
Long Island and NYC	100	100	300	1,000	1,300	1,300
STATE	7,900	8,200	8,200	8,400	14,200	20,300

^{1/} Includes racing breeds.

^{2/} Less than 100 equine.



Table 6. DRAFT HORSE BREEDS BY DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 2005

District	Total Draft Breeds	Belgian	Percheron	Other Draft ^{1/}
Northern	800	500	200	100
Northeast	600	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Western	2,600	1,500	700	400
Central	2,500	1,100	900	500
Eastern	1,300	500	400	400
Southwest	1,700	1,000	400	300
Southern	1,000	400	200	400
Southeast	1,300	400	400	500
Long Island and NYC	300	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
STATE	12,100	6,000	3,400	2,700

^{1/} Other Draft includes Clydesdales and other draft breeds.

^{2/} Less than 100 equine or hidden for disclosure reasons.

Table 7. PONIES, MINIATURE HORSES AND DONKEYS, BY DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 2005

District	Total Ponies	Welsh	Shetland	Other Ponies ^{1/}	Miniature Horses	Donkeys/ Mules
Northern	400	100	200	100	300	200
Northeast	400	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	200	300	100
Western	2,300	700	550	1,000	1,500	400
Central	1,900	500	400	1,000	1,200	800
Eastern	1,800	600	300	900	700	500
Southwest	600	100	150	300	800	400
Southern	500	100	150	250	400	300
Southeast	2,700	800	400	1,500	1,200	600
Long Island and NYC	600	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	450	200	200
STATE	11,200	3,200	2,300	5,700	6,600	3,500

^{1/} Other ponies includes Connemara and other pony breeds.

^{2/} Less than 100 equine or hidden for disclosure reasons.



EQUINE BY PRIMARY USE

The 2005 Equine Survey added two primary use categories per requests from the equine industry, as shown in Table 8. The added categories were for Lesson horses and those horses used in Specialty uses (*equine used primarily for commercial uses, such as therapeutic riding, day camps, riding stables, carriage rides, etc.*). Respondents were requested to record each equine in only one primary use category – the category for which the animal provided the use most important to the respondent.

PLEASURE USE

Forty-four percent of the equine in New York in 2005 were kept primarily for pleasure use, up from 39 percent in 2000. The greatest number of equine for pleasure use was in the Southeast District (*16,000 head*), while the highest percentage of equine for pleasure use was in Northern District (*61 percent*).

BREEDING USE

A total of 26,900 equine were used primarily for breeding in 2005, 14

percent of all equine. This compares to 30,100 head and 18 percent in 2000. In 2005, brood mares totaled 22,400, and stallions for breeding 4,500. Forty one percent of the equine breeding stock consisted of race horse breeds, up from 31 percent in 2000. Included in the breeding stock total were 29 percent of the miniature horses, 22 percent of the race horse breeds, 14 percent of the state's draft horses, 10 percent of other light horse breeds, and seven percent of the ponies. The greatest number of equine for breeding was in the Southeast District (*6,000 head*), while the highest percentage of equine for breeding was in the Southern District (*17 percent*).

RACING USE

A total of 14,500 equine in New York on December 31, 2005, were used primarily for racing. Thoroughbreds accounted for 63 percent and Standardbreds 37 percent. (*Only Standardbreds and Thoroughbreds were included in the "Racing" category. All other breeds used for racing were included in the "Competition or*

Sport" category for this survey). The largest number of equine for racing (*3,800 head*) was in the Western District, while the highest percentage of equine for racing (*18 percent*) was in the Long Island/NYC District.

COMPETITION OR SPORT USE

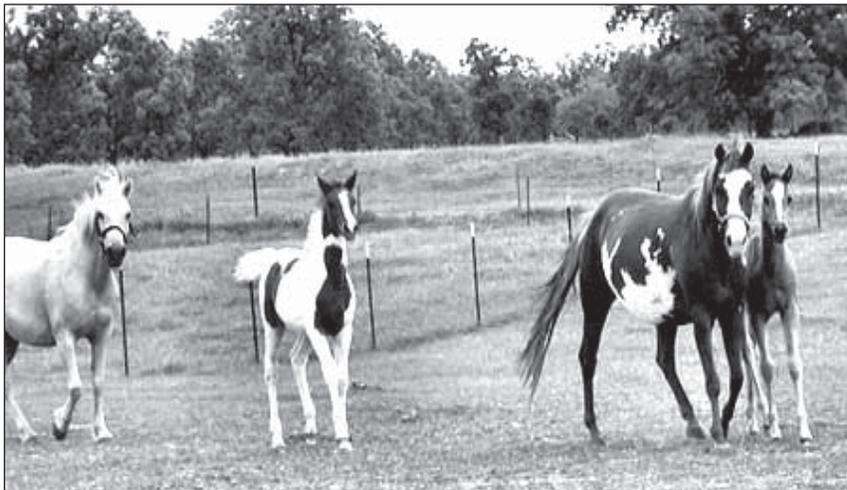
Nearly 14 percent of equine in 2005 were used for showing, polo, eventing, etc., down from 17 percent in 2000. The total of 27,000 head included 18 percent of the non-racing light horse breeds, 16 percent of the ponies, seven percent of the race and draft horse breeds, and nine percent of the miniature horses. The Western District had the greatest number of equine for competition use at 7,100 and also the highest percentage of equine for competition at 19 percent.

LESSON USE

The 2005 Equine Survey included a new category of Lesson Horses. Six percent of horses in New York State were primarily used for lessons. The greatest number of lesson horses was 3,000 in the Southeast District. The highest concentration of lesson horses was in the Southeast and Long Island/NYC Districts, with seven percent and 11 percent of total horse population, respectively.

SPECIALTY & OTHER USE

Fifteen percent of New York's equine population in 2005 were kept for specialty and other uses, such as police work, carriage rides, day camps, or work, or were retired, as shown in Table 8. In Table 8, foals are included under "All Other" uses.



**Table 8. EQUINE BY PRIMARY USE AND DISTRICT,
NEW YORK, 2005**

District	Total Equine	Breeding	Lessons	Racing
Northern	7,400	900	400	100
Northeast	6,400	900	200	400
Western	37,900	4,300	1,900	3,800
Central	32,300	4,800	1,600	1,600
Eastern	29,100	4,100	1,000	2,000
Southwest	14,700	2,500	600	300
Southern	11,400	1,900	700	200
Southeast	42,500	6,000	3,000	3,400
Long Island and NYC	15,300	1,500	1,700	2,700
STATE	197,000	26,900	11,100	14,500
District	Competition	Pleasure	Specialty	All Other
Northern	600	4,500	-	900
Northeast	1,000	3,300	-	600
Western	7,100	15,000	800	5,000
Central	4,700	13,600	700	5,300
Eastern	3,400	15,400	-	3,200
Southwest	1,000	7,900	300	2,100
Southern	1,100	5,700	400	1,400
Southeast	5,900	16,000	2,000	6,200
Long Island and NYC	2,200	5,600	500	1,100
STATE	27,000	87,000	4,700	25,800

Table 9. EQUINE BY PRIMARY USE AND BREED, NEW YORK, 2005

Breed	Total	Breeding		
		Broodmares	Stallions	2005 Foals
<u>LIGHT BREEDS</u>	113,400	8,400	2,400	2,900
Quarter Horse	38,100	2,800	700	800
Saddlebred	2,600	300	1/	1/
Appaloosa	8,100	700	200	200
Arabian	7,900	700	200	100
Half Arabian	3,100	200	1/	100
Morgan	8,200	700	1/	200
Pinto/Paint	8,200	900	300	500
Warmbloods	8,400	500	1/	100
Haflinger	3,000	300	1/	300
Crossbred	14,200	200	1/	1/
Other	11,600	1,100	400	300
<u>RACE HORSE BREEDS</u>	50,200	10,100	900	3,700
Standardbred	16,900	3,700	300	1,700
Thoroughbred	33,300	6,400	600	2,000
<u>DRAFT HORSE BREEDS</u>	12,100	1,600	100	400
Belgian	6,000	1,200	100	200
Percheron	3,400	300	1/	1/
Other Drafts	2,700	100	1/	1/
<u>PONIES</u>	11,200	600	200	200
Welsh	3,200	100	1/	100
Other Ponies	8,000	500	1/	100
<u>MINIATURE HORSES</u>	6,600	1,300	600	500
<u>DONKEYS AND MULES</u>	3,500	400	300	100
TOTAL EQUINE	197,000	22,400	4,500	7,800

Table 9. EQUINE BY PRIMARY USE AND BREED, NEW YORK, 2005 (Continued)

Breed	Activity					
	Lessons	Competition	Pleasure	Specialty	Other	Racing
<u>LIGHT BREEDS</u>	8,100	20,000	60,600	3,200	7,800	-
Quarter Horse	3,200	6,900	21,000	700	2,000	-
Saddlebred	100	600	900	1/	500	-
Appaloosa	200	400	5,600	300	500	-
Arabian	300	700	5,000	100	800	-
Half Arabian	100	300	2,000	1/	300	-
Morgan	200	1,500	4,800	1/	600	-
Pinto/Paint	300	800	4,700	300	400	-
Warmbloods	500	5,000	1,800	1/	400	-
Haflinger	100	300	1,200	1/	700	-
Crossbred	2,900	2,200	6,100	1,500	1,000	-
Other	200	1,300	7,500	200	600	-
<u>RACE HORSE BREEDS</u>	1,900	3,700	11,000	200	4,200	14,500
Standardbred	200	600	3,500	100	1,500	5,300
Thoroughbred	1,700	3,100	7,500	100	2,700	9,200
<u>DRAFT HORSE BREEDS</u>	1/	900	5,100	200	3,800	-
Belgian	1/	300	1,500	1/	2,600	-
Percheron	1/	200	1,700	100	900	-
Other Drafts	1/	400	1,900	1/	300	-
<u>PONIES</u>	900	1,800	5,600	800	1,100	-
Welsh	300	800	1,600	1/	200	-
Other Ponies	600	1,000	4,000	1/	900	-
<u>MINIATURE HORSES</u>	100	600	2,800	300	400	-
<u>DONKEYS AND MULES</u>	1/	1/	1,900	1/	700	-
TOTAL EQUINE	11,100	27,000	87,000	4,700	18,000	14,500

1/ Included in totals only.

EQUINE OPERATIONS



New York had 33,000 places with equine in 2005, compared with 30,000 places in 2000. A place is defined as anyone operating land on which equine are kept. Owners of equine boarding their animals on land they did not operate were excluded.

Operators of places with equine were asked which type of activity best described their operation. Almost 60 percent (19,100 places) of the operators described their equine operation as non-commercial/non-farm. Second most common (6,000 places) were farms on which the major activity was deriving income from crops and/or livestock. Commercial boarding and training operations were third, with 4,700 places. Commercial breeding operations were next, with 2,300 places. New York registered a large increase in the number of non-commercial/non-farm places between 2000 and 2005, while the number of crop/livestock

farms decreased. The number of crop/livestock farms decreased 25 percent from 2000, while the number of non-commercial/non-farm places increased 31 percent from 2000.

Most of the operations (80 percent) in the state consider themselves involved with recreational or pleasure riding or driving. (Operators were permitted to list more than one discipline that they were involved with). The second largest group was involved with shows or competitive events, even though this group showed a decrease from 2000. Most of the operations that were involved with shows or competitive events listed more than one discipline. Many were also involved with recreation and pleasure riding or driving.

More than half (57 percent, or 18,900) of the equine operations have been in operation 11 or more years. This number compares to 19,700, or 66

percent, of operations in 2000. The number of newer operations, those with equine five years or less, totaled 7,500 in 2005, compared with 4,900 in 2000. In most of the regions of the state, the number of operations of five years or less ranges from 19 to 26 percent of the total, with the exception of the Northern District and Long Island/New York City District, which have 29 percent and 31 percent, respectively.

Property use prior to involvement with equine, for properties having equine less than 10 years, was more or less evenly divided among the four use categories. Former non-agricultural operations accounted for 25 percent. Twenty-four percent of operations had been livestock farms, excluding equine, while former horse farms and former crops farms accounted for 14 percent and 20 percent respectively. Previous property use for the remaining 17 percent was unknown or unreported.

Table 10. EQUINE OPERATIONS BY DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 1978-2005

District	1978	1988	2000	2005
Northern	3,600	2,650	1,700	1,700
Northeast	1,900	1,100	800	1,300
Western	8,800	8,000	7,100	8,000
Central	9,600	8,200	5,100	6,000
Eastern	3,500	4,500	4,500	3,400
Southwest	4,800	5,000	3,000	3,400
Southern	4,900	3,350	2,100	1,800
Southeast	9,300	5,550	4,700	5,600
Long Island and NYC	2,200	650	1,000	1,800
STATE	48,600	39,000	30,000	33,000

Table 11. EQUINE OPERATIONS BY TYPE AND DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 2005

Discipline	Total Operations	Primary Type				
		Commercial Boarding & Training	Commercial Breeding	Crop/Livestock Farm	Non-commercial/Non-farm	Other ^{1/}
Northern	1,700	100	<u>2/</u>	650	800	<u>2/</u>
Northeast	1,300	150	<u>2/</u>	250	800	<u>2/</u>
Western	8,000	1,200	450	1,400	4,750	200
Central	6,000	700	400	1,200	3,500	200
Eastern	3,400	500	300	500	2,000	100
Southwest	3,400	400	200	900	1,800	100
Southern	1,800	300	200	<u>2/</u>	900	<u>2/</u>
Southeast	5,600	1,050	500	650	3,200	200
Long Island and NYC	1,800	300	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	1,350	<u>2/</u>
STATE	33,000	4,700	2,300	6,000	19,100	900

^{1/} Includes race tracks, fairgrounds, and other public facilities or institutions

^{2/} Less than 100 operations or hidden for disclosure reasons

**Table 12. EQUINE OPERATIONS BY DISCIPLINE,
NEW YORK, 2005**

Discipline	Exclusive Use		Multiple Use		Total	
	Number	Percent ^{1/}	Number	Percent ^{1/2/}	Number	Percent ^{1/2/}
Thoroughbred Racing	750	2	500	2	1,250	4
Standardbred Racing	850	3	350	1	1,200	4
Shows or Competitive Events	2,100	6	6,000	18	8,100	25
Recreation or Pleasure	19,500	59	7,000	21	26,500	80
Therapeutic Riding, Riding Camps, Rescue, etc.	600	2	1,100	3	1,700	5
Other	2,000	6	1,500	5	3,500	11
TOTAL	25,800	78	7,200	22	33,000	100

^{1/} Percent of all equine operations in the state.

^{2/} Does not round to total because of multiples uses per operation.

**Table 13. EQUINE OPERATIONS BY LENGTH OF TIME
EQUINE-RELATED USAGE, NEW YORK, 2005**

District	Total Operations	Less than 3 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 10 years	11 to 20 years	21 years or more
Northern	1,700	200	300	400	400	400
Northeast	1,300	50	200	250	200	600
Western	8,000	100	1,600	1,000	3,500	1,800
Central	6,000	550	650	1,200	2,200	1,400
Eastern	3,400	300	600	750	750	1,000
Southwest	3,400	250	600	550	1,000	1,000
Southern	1,800	50	300	400	450	600
Southeast	5,600	500	700	1,750	1,250	1,400
Long Island and NYC	1,800	100	450	300	450	500
STATE	33,000	2,100	5,400	6,600	10,200	8,700

Table 14. PRECEDING USE OF PROPERTY, NEW YORK, 2005^{1/}

District	Total Operations	Horse Farm	Crop Farm	Livestock Farm	Non-Agricultural	Unknown Type
Northern	900	50	50	200	200	400
Northeast	500	50	50	100	300	-
Western	2,700	500	700	800	400	300
Central	2,400	300	600	600	400	500
Eastern	1,650	200	400	400	400	250
Southwest	1,400	100	200	800	100	200
Southern	750	200	100	200	200	50
Southeast	2,950	500	150	300	1,400	600
Long Island and NYC	850	100	550	-	100	100
STATE	14,100	2,000	2,800	3,400	3,500	2,400

^{1/} Property use prior to involvement with equine for properties with equine less than 10 years.

Table 15. ACREAGE IN EQUINE RELATED USAGE AND VALUE BY DISTRICT, NEW YORK, 2005

District	Total Acres	Equine Acres		Total Value of Equine Related Land, Fencing and Buildings <i>Thousand Dollars</i>	Average Value per Equine Acre <i>Dollars</i>
		Total <i>Acres</i>	Fenced Pasture <i>Acres</i>		
Northern	176,000	39,000	21,000	57,880	1,480
Northeast	140,000	55,000	35,000	172,940	3,140
Western	886,000	263,000	55,000	940,450	3,580
Central	589,000	190,000	70,000	478,560	2,520
Eastern	313,000	104,000	52,000	630,770	6,070
Southwest	367,000	111,000	46,000	174,530	1,570
Southern	195,000	62,000	27,000	136,210	2,200
Southeast	354,000	135,000	72,000	2,605,060	19,300
Long Island and NYC	50,000	28,000	12,000	1,888,430	67,440
STATE	3,070,000	987,000	390,000	7,084,830	7,180

**Table 16. VALUE OF EQUINE RELATED ASSETS BY DISTRICT,
NEW YORK, DECEMBER 31, 2005**

District	Total Equine Related Assets	Value of Equine on Hand	Total Value of Equine Related Land, Fencing and Buildings	Vehicles and Equipment		Tack, Equipment and Clothing	Equine Feed and Supplies on Hand
				Total	Horse Trailers and Vans		
<i>Thousand Dollars</i>							
Northern	121,280	20,290	57,880	35,450	8,230	5,330	2,330
Northeast	259,020	30,540	172,940	45,170	10,870	8,810	1,560
Western	1,437,520	162,620	940,450	256,620	60,780	59,810	18,020
Central	857,780	163,690	478,560	169,730	39,410	34,500	11,300
Eastern	1,173,850	416,340	630,770	99,640	26,340	18,990	8,110
Southwest	318,940	37,780	174,530	85,230	20,650	13,470	7,930
Southern	243,970	52,970	136,210	44,400	6,810	6,990	3,400
Southeast	3,439,020	500,120	2,605,060	243,390	51,320	75,260	15,190
Long Island and NYC	2,510,180	446,690	1,888,430	125,660	48,140	45,020	4,380
STATE	10,361,560	1,831,040	7,084,830	1,105,290	272,550	268,180	72,220

**Table 17. EQUINE FACILITIES BY DISTRICT,
NEW YORK, 2005**

District	Indoor Arenas	Value of Indoor Arenas	Outdoor Arenas	Number of Stalls
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Thousand Dollars</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Northern	140	5,780	800	7,600
Northeast	80	3,490	700	7,600
Western	890	52,470	3,300	39,000
Central	540	54,030	2,400	33,000
Eastern	450	31,520	2,000	32,500
Southwest	100	5,060	1,400	18,200
Southern	140	9,720	800	9,100
Southeast	450	105,380	3,000	38,700
Long Island and NYC	110	28,310	1,600	24,200
STATE	2,900	295,760	16,000	209,900

EQUINE RELATED EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES

EXPENDITURES

Equine related expenditures totaled \$2.06 billion in 2005, almost tripling from the \$704 million spent in 2000. Total equine related expenses were broken down into two main categories: operating expenses and capital expenses. The major increase in the expenditures came from the capital expenses. Capital expenses comprised 47 percent of the total expenditures, and increased from \$181 million in 2000 to \$958 million in 2005. Operating expenses accounted for the other 43 percent of expenditures, and increased from \$523 million in 2000 to \$1.10 billion in 2005.

Unlike 2000, labor expenses were the largest category in expenditures, with \$168 million spent on cash and non-cash labor expenditures, an average of \$857 per equine. Labor expense almost doubled from 2000's expenditure of \$88.3 million. Cash labor expenditures included cash wages as well as the employer's cost of Social Security tax, workmen's compensation, insurance, pension and unemployment compensation. Non-cash items included such things as housing, meals, clothing, horse board, lessons and other benefits.

Second was boarding fees with expenditures of \$156 million. In 2000, expenditures for boarding

were combined with training fees and totaled \$54.8 million. For 2005, adding training fees into the boarding fees generates a total of \$213 million.

Third was feed expenses with \$119 million spent on grain, hay, and mixed or formula feeds, an increase of 18 percent over 2000. Feed expenditures included \$47.4 million for grain, \$55.7 million for hay, and \$15.6 million for mixed or formula feeds. Average per equine was \$602.

Other leading expenditures were property taxes (*\$82.6 million*), veterinary and health expenses (*\$74.0 million*), and maintenance and repair expenses (*\$69.9 million*). New categories added for this year's survey were values for home-grown bedding, grain, and hay. Home-grown bedding value was \$2.3 million, while value of home-grown grain was \$1.5 million. Home-grown hay was valued at \$24.7 million.

Capital expenditures of \$958 million accounted for 47 percent of all expenses. The largest portion of capital expenditures was expenditures for purchase of land and capital improvements at \$490 million. In 2000, land and capital improvement purchases totaled \$63.0 million. Included in this figure are new real estate purchases and improvements to land and buildings for which the cost can be depreciated. Purchases of equine came in second

with \$254 million spent, compared to \$49.5 million in 2000. Equipment purchases totaled \$214 million, compared to \$68.3 million in 2000. Included as equine related equipment purchases during the year were trucks, tractors, manure spreaders, horse vans, trailers, portable stalls, starting gates, hot walkers, treadmills, sulkies, carts, buggies, motor homes, campers and autos.

REVENUES

This was the first year revenues generated from an equine operation were enumerated. Total revenues generated were \$445 million. A large portion (*\$158 million, or 35 percent*) of this total came from revenues generated by providing equine services, such as boarding, sales preparation, trail riding or recreational services, equine judging, and guest farm services.

Second highest value (*\$118 million*) was revenues generated from equine sales, including equipment, feed and manure sales.

Revenues generated from training, including riding lessons, training and conditioning, and therapeutic riding, came in third with total revenues of \$75.3 million.

The remainder came from winnings (*\$60.8 million*) and breeding services (*\$32.8 million*).

Table 18. EQUINE RELATED EXPENDITURES, NEW YORK, 2000 AND 2005

Expense Category	Total Expenditures			Average per Equine	
	2000	2005	Percent Spent in New York ^{1/}	2000	2005
	<i>Thousand Dollars</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>	522,860	1,101,940	91	3,112	5,594
Boarding	54,800	155,920	95	326	791
Training	^{2/}	57,330	90	^{2/}	291
Breeding Fees and Related Expenses	22,000	28,310	71	131	144
Farrier	23,400	52,160	95	139	265
Veterinary and Health Expenses	32,590	74,000	87	194	376
Shipping and Travel	14,810	31,010	82	88	157
Purchased Bedding	18,750	32,300	90	112	164
Value of Home-grown Bedding	NA	2,330	NA	NA	12
Purchased Grain	24,920	47,360	97	148	240
Value of Home-grown Grain	NA	1,490	NA	NA	8
Purchased Hay	59,120	55,660	94	352	283
Value of Home-grown Hay	NA	24,740	NA	NA	126
Mixed or Formula Feeds	16,700	15,630	85	99	79
Medicine	^{3/}	14,870	87	^{3/}	75
Supplies	11,050	25,400	90	66	129
Manure Disposal	NA	6,350	93	NA	32
Fees and Payments	12,780	29,520	82	76	150
Advertising and Marketing	^{4/}	7,440	85	^{4/}	38
Contract Services	^{4/}	8,120	96	^{4/}	41
Maintenance and Repair	37,190	69,910	85	221	355
Utilities and Fuels	22,930	35,140	95	137	178
Insurance Premiums	20,290	30,780	82	121	156
Rent/Lease Expenses	10,920	34,150	88	65	173
Miscellaneous	6,410	NA	NA	38	NA
Property Taxes	37,910	82,580	97	226	419
Interest	7,970	39,190	98	47	199
Labor	88,320	168,810	NA	526	857
<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</u>	180,790	958,130	86	1,076	
Purchases of Equine	49,460	254,000	69	294	
Purchases of Equipment	68,320	213,690	90	407	
Purchases of Land and Capital Improvements	63,010	490,440	92	375	
TOTAL	703,650	2,060,070	88	4,188	

^{1/} 2005 labor expenses are not included in Percent Spent in New York column.

^{2/} Training included with Boarding in 2000.

^{3/} Medicine included with Health in 2000.

^{4/} Advertising and Marketing and Contract Services included in Miscellaneous in 2000.

Table 19. EQUINE RELATED REVENUES, NEW YORK, 2005

Equine Activities Generating Revenue	Gross Receipts
	<i>Thousand Dollars</i>
<u>SALES</u>	117,830
Horse Sales	95,140
Equipment Sales/Rental/Lease	13,000
Feed Sales	9,600
Manure Sales	90
<u>TRAINING</u>	75,310
Riding Lessons/Clinics	39,330
Training/Conditioning	33,100
Therapeutic Riding	2,880
<u>BREEDING</u>	32,810
Mare Care	22,900
Stud Fees	9,910
<u>SERVICES</u>	158,390
Boarding	139,420
Sales Preparation	1,770
Trail Riding/Recreational Services	16,220
Equine Judging	510
Guest Farm/Bed and Breakfast/Tourism	470
<u>WINNINGS</u>	60,790
Horse Shows/Competitions	5,990
Rodeo Winnings	680
Racing Purses	54,120
TOTAL	445,130

EQUINE RELATED LABOR



There were 12,500 equine related positions for which employees were hired during 2005 in New York, 10 percent higher than the 11,200 positions in 2000. Of this, 54 percent, or 6,800, were considered part-time. A part-time or seasonal employee is defined as a person working less than 150 days a year.

Full-time employees totaled 5,700, 54 percent higher than 2000's total of 3,700. Of these, 28 percent, or 1,600, were employed as managers or assistant managers. Grooms or exercise riders totaled 1,400, or 25 percent of full-time employees. There were 900 trainers or assistant trainers, and 200 riding or driving instructors.

Of the total number, most employees fell into the "other" category. For the most part, these were general farm workers, persons hired for cleaning of stalls, tending equine, or general crop workers. The majority

of these employees were part-time. Employees that performed multiple duties were counted only in the category for which the most important service to the operator was provided.

Cash labor expenditures of \$157 million included cash wages as well as the employer's share of Social Security taxes, worker's compensation, insurance, pension and unemployment compensation. The estimated value of non-cash items provided to workers during 2005 totaled \$12.2 million. These non-cash items included such things as housing, meals, clothing, horse board, lessons, and other benefits. A total of 2,500 workers, or 20 percent, were provided with housing.

A couple of new categories were added to the 2005 survey. For the first new category, respondents were asked about private contractors working on the respondent's equine operation. A total of 3,700 private contractors worked

on equine operations in New York in 2005, most of them as "other" type of workers. Horse trainers/assistant trainers and grooms/exercise riders had 700 contractors each. There were 500 riding/driving instructors. A private contractor is defined as a person whose contract terms are defined by the individual providing service, and the individual is not on the company payroll.

The second new category asked for information about volunteers working on the equine operation. According to the survey, there were 11,100 volunteers providing their services to equine operations during 2005. Of these, 6,900 volunteers, or 62 percent, were working as "other" type of workers. Grooms/exercise riders made up another 3,600, or 32 percent. The remainder was managers/assistant managers, horse trainers/assistant trainers, and riding/driving instructors. Volunteers are described as any worker not paid in cash or non-cash items.

Table 20. EQUINE RELATED LABOR, NEW YORK, 2005

Category	Full-time (150 days or more)	Part-time (less than 150 days)	Private Contractor	Volunteers/ Student Workers	Total
<i>Number of Workers</i>					
<u>TYPE OF WORKER</u>					
Manager/Assistant Manager	1,600	700	300	200	2,800
Horse Trainer/Assistant Trainer	900	300	700	300	2,200
Groom, exercise rider, etc.	1,400	900	700	3,600	6,600
Riding/Driving Instructor	200	500	500	100	1,300
Other Type of Worker	1,600	4,400	1,500	6,900	14,400
TOTAL WORKERS	5,700	6,800	3,700	11,100	27,300
Workers for whom housing was provided.....					2,500
Volunteer hours worked.....					1,830,500
Operator and unpaid family member hours worked					43,200,000
<u>EXPENDITURES FOR LABOR DURING 2005</u>					<i>Thousand Dollars</i>
Cash Labor Expenditures					156,600
Value of Non-Cash Items Provided to Workers					12,210
Total Labor Expenditures.....					168,810



OPERATOR INFORMATION

In 2005, respondents were asked for general information about the operator.

In New York State, operators have had equine at their present location for an average of 16 years.

and close behind are those operations that make between \$100,000 and \$249,999 per year (*7,600 operations*).

The average number of years New York operators have owned equine is 21. This number takes into account those operators who have owned equine all their life, those that had equine in other states, and those who are new to the equine industry.

Of the 33,000 equine operations in New York State, most equine operators (*11,300, or 34 percent*) have a gross household income of between \$50,000 and \$99,999. Second are those that made between \$25,000 and \$49,999 with 8,000 operations,

Approximately 25 percent of the gross household income for all equine operations in New York is equine-related. This number ranges from zero percent for those who have equine only for pleasure to 100 percent for those operations whose income comes solely from equine.

Table 21. OPERATOR INFORMATION, NEW YORK, 2005

	Number of Operations	Average
Number of years operator has owned equine		21
Number of years operator has had equine at the present location		16
Gross Household Income of operations		
\$0 - \$24,999	3,250	
\$25,000 - \$49,999	8,000	
\$50,000 - \$99,999	11,300	
\$100,000 - \$249,999	7,600	
\$250,000 - \$499,999	1,700	
\$500,000 - \$999,999	650	
\$1,000,000 or more	500	
Percent of equine-related income for all operations		25

**Table 22. EQUINE INVENTORY AND VALUE BY COUNTY,
NEW YORK, 2000 AND 2005**

County	Head			Total Value		
	Sept. 1, 2000	Dec. 31, 2005	Rank in 2005	Sept. 1, 2000	Dec. 31, 2005	Rank in 2005
	<i>Head</i>			<i>1,000 dollars</i>		
Jefferson	4,300	3,000	29	13,760	8,380	45
Lewis	1,200	1,000	56	3,300	2,670	56
St. Lawrence	2,900	3,400	25	8,990	9,240	40
<i>Northern, Total</i>	8,400	7,400		26,050	20,290	
Clinton	1,500	2,200	39	6,150	8,540	42
Essex	1,000	1,700	49	3,100	7,190	50
Franklin	800	1,200	53	2,560	4,810	55
Hamilton	100	100	58	180	230	58
Warren	1,200	1,200	54	5,100	9,770	39
<i>Northeast, Total</i>	4,600	6,400		17,090	30,540	
Erie	7,200	7,900	4	48,240	34,700	12
Genesee	2,100	1,800	44	10,080	8,110	47
Livingston	3,300	4,400	11	13,200	19,760	22
Monroe	5,700	5,100	10	27,930	23,080	18
Niagara	3,000	3,100	27	12,000	12,320	32
Ontario	3,700	4,100	15	22,570	18,510	24
Orleans	1,400	2,400	37	4,060	9,100	41
Seneca	900	1,300	52	1,800	4,870	54
Wayne	2,000	3,500	23	6,600	13,790	29
Wyoming	1,800	2,400	38	5,220	9,880	38
Yates	1,200	1,900	42	3,480	8,500	43
<i>Western, Total</i>	32,300	37,900		155,180	162,620	
Cayuga	2,200	2,800	32	7,700	12,830	31
Chenango	2,900	3,100	28	10,440	15,880	26
Cortland	1,600	2,200	40	3,680	10,380	35
Herkimer	1,600	1,900	43	4,800	7,990	48
Madison	2,600	4,100	16	12,220	20,630	20
Oneida	5,500	5,900	7	31,350	36,140	11
Onondaga	3,700	5,400	9	17,760	27,490	15
Oswego	2,000	2,500	36	11,000	11,050	33
Otsego	3,500	4,400	12	11,200	21,300	19
<i>Central, Total</i>	25,600	32,300		110,150	163,690	
Albany	2,900	3,000	30	15,080	29,320	14
Fulton	1,000	1,100	55	4,700	6,860	51
Montgomery	2,400	2,900	31	7,680	20,490	21
Rensselaer	2,500	3,600	21	12,750	34,140	13
Saratoga	11,800	11,000	1	317,420	250,520	1
Schenectady	1,500	1,800	45	7,200	19,420	23
Schoharie	2,000	1,800	46	10,600	15,140	27
Washington	2,700	3,900	18	13,230	40,450	10
<i>Eastern, Total</i>	26,800	29,100		388,660	416,340	

1/ Includes Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, and Richmond.

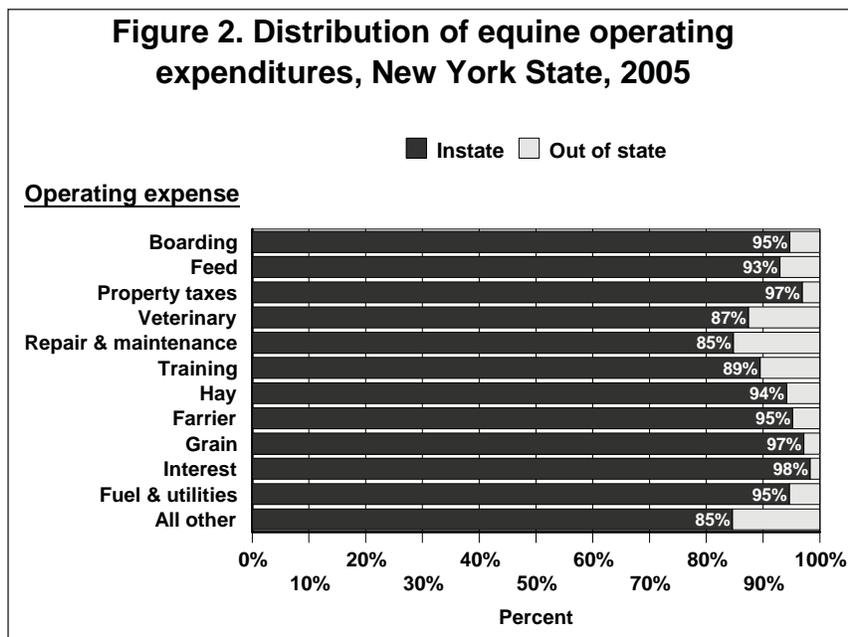
**Table 22. EQUINE INVENTORY AND VALUE BY COUNTY,
NEW YORK, 2000 AND 2005 (Continued)**

County	Head			Total Value		
	Sept. 1, 2000	Dec. 31, 2005	Rank in 2005	Sept. 1, 2000	Dec. 31, 2005	Rank in 2005
	<i>Head</i>			<i>1,000 dollars</i>		
Allegany	2,300	2,600	35	7,360	6,720	52
Cattaraugus	3,500	3,800	19	9,800	9,900	37
Chautauqua	3,800	4,300	13	10,640	10,920	34
Steuben	4,500	4,000	17	13,050	10,240	36
<i>Southwest, Total</i>	14,100	14,700		40,850	37,780	
Broome	2,500	3,500	24	14,250	18,330	25
Chemung	1,700	1,700	50	7,310	7,220	49
Schuyler	1,100	1,400	51	2,200	5,500	53
Tioga	1,600	2,000	41	5,120	8,490	44
Tompkins	2,900	2,800	33	11,310	13,430	30
<i>Southern, Total</i>	9,800	11,400		40,190	52,970	
Columbia	2,400	4,300	14	63,600	46,800	8
Delaware	2,200	3,600	22	7,260	14,100	28
Dutchess	7,000	9,500	2	126,000	132,400	3
Greene	2,000	1,800	47	11,400	8,250	46
Orange	6,800	8,500	3	59,840	113,250	5
Putnam	1,100	1,800	48	21,450	24,960	16
Rockland	600	400	57	5,400	2,200	57
Sullivan	2,300	3,200	26	20,470	24,610	17
Ulster	4,200	5,600	8	35,280	46,510	9
Westchester	3,500	3,800	20	121,100	87,040	7
<i>Southeast, Total</i>	32,100	42,500		471,800	500,120	
Nassau	5,400	6,300	5	287,280	221,030	2
Suffolk	5,800	6,200	6	63,800	126,660	4
New York ^{1/}	3,100	2,800	34	100,750	99,000	6
<i>Long Island/NYC, Total</i>	14,300	15,300		451,830	446,690	
TOTAL	168,000	197,000		1,701,800	1,831,040	

^{1/} Includes Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, and Richmond.

THE EQUINE INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEW YORK STATE ECONOMY

Economic Analysis Performed by
Nelson Bills and David Kay, Cornell University



multiplier is an important tool in economic impact analysis. Formal study and our own practical experience indicate that industries are interdependent and that expansions or contractions in one industry are likely to have some far-reaching implications. A substantial share of total gross output in the New York State economy is comprised of cash business expenses. These are transactions between businesses to acquire the inputs needed to deliver additional product or service to a final user.

Economic issues are a focal point of the 2005 survey and are reported on in this section. The contribution of the equine sector to the New York State economy was analyzed using the economic impact software program IMPLAN® (*Impact Analysis for Planning*). The IMPLAN® software allows economic analysts to estimate structural relationships between economic sectors in a regional economy. The model is derived from national level data maintained by the US Department of Commerce. This federal agency has been estimating input-output relationships for the US for more than a half-century. In the

1970s, with funding from the US Forest Service, IMPLAN® was developed to allow applications at state and sub-state levels (*Lindall and Olson, 2007*). Applications using this model for state-level analysis are now commonplace in the academic community and in the general business community as well. A detailed description of our modeling procedures are appended to this report.

The model addresses backward linkages between any single economic sector and other sectors of the wider New York economy. The analysis proceeds through the calculation of economic multipliers. The economic

The object of multiplier analysis is to trace the inter-relationships between sectors and construct quantitative measures of the impact associated with increasing or decreasing a line of economic activity. The idea traces to economic base theory, which classifies goods and services sold outside the region's boundaries as "exports", and hence, basic. Conversely, goods and services produced by the nonbasic sector are consumed within the region's boundaries. Expansion of the basic sector of the economy necessarily entails added production in these support industries, particularly in terms of intermediate inputs, all of which adds to the overall development of a regional economy.

The economic multiplier summarizes the cumulative (*direct, indirect, and induced*) effect of an initial change in final demand plus the resulting series of successive rounds of spending within the local economy. It is the ratio between the total change in spending and the initial change in final demand (*or the income or employment implied by it*). Multipliers are constructed based on a “snapshot” of a regional economy. That is, the economic multiplier is governed by the pattern of economic transactions between firms and the final users of their products for a single year. Lots of transactions between in-state business firms make for relatively large economic multipliers; relatively fewer transactions mean smaller multipliers.

The point of departure for multiplier analysis is an assessment of the geographic distribution of business expenditures. For this study, survey respondents were asked to supply information on major categories of cash business expense. Then, each respondent was asked to allocate those expenditures to input suppliers in-state and out-of-state.

This distinction between in-state and out-of-state expenditures is absolutely critical when making economic multiplier calculations. Out-of-state expenditures represent leakage from the state economy that cannot be recovered and circulated among business entities in-state. Economic sectors with large amounts of leakage contribute relatively little to total state income and employment compared to industries that spend a substantial share of their business expense either locally or in-state. Traditionally, farming enterprises have received high marks on in-state expenses. That is, multipliers have been relatively large because farm businesses have tended to purchase relatively large shares of business inputs locally or at least within New York State. These arrangements of course, shift from year to year and from one economic sector to the next.

Responses gathered from equine operators suggest that their cash business expenses are primarily in-state as shown in Figure 2. Not unexpectedly, nearly 100 percent of all property tax payments are made within state. Equine operators do

own some real estate for business purposes in border states and about 3 percent of all property tax payments go out of state. Looking across other expense categories, in-state expenses are also relatively high—usually 85 percent or more.

Information on the in-state cash expenditures paves the way for estimates of the total output generated by the New York State equine industry. That estimate is reported in Table 1, and shows that total gross output directly attributable to equine in 2005 amounted to \$856 million. Accounting for indirect industry transactions stemming from this gross output generated an additional \$236 million for the New York State economy. The IMPLAN® model also allows an estimate of the induced changes in State output that stem from additional household expenditures attributable to the New York State equine industry. Taking these induced expenditures into account adds another \$285 million to total State output. Total importance for the New York State economy, then, measured in 2005 dollars, is on the order of \$1.38 billion.

Table 23. ESTIMATED ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE NEW YORK STATE EQUINE INDUSTRY, 2005

(in 2005 dollar values)

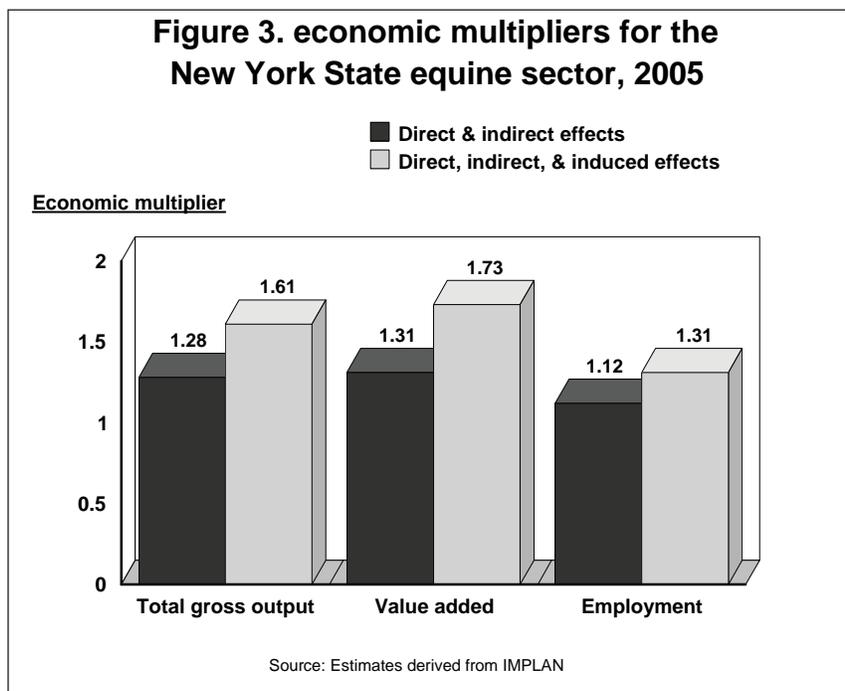
Item	Unit	Total Effect	Direct Effect	Indirect Effect	Induced Effect
Industry output	Dollars (\$1,000)	1,376,666	855,067	236,173	285,426
Value added	Dollars (\$1,000)	717,252	413,819	127,220	176,213
Employment	Number	15,233	11,616	1,400	2,216

Another useful measure of these indirect and induced impacts is value-added. Value added indices avoid the double counting that comes from pegging estimates to changes in total gross output. The latter includes estimates of all intermediate transactions between economic sectors in New York State

economy. Eliminating those and focusing on final payments, whether to households who provide labor services, imports of goods and services from out-of-state sources, or payments to owners of capital resources, add precision to an evaluation of any economic sector's contribution. Value

added measurements correspond to the equine industry's contribution to gross state product. In 2005, according to the modeling results reported in Table 1, total value-added attributable to the New York State equine industry, after taking into account the direct, indirect, and induced effects of equine goods and services, amounted to more than \$717 million.

Another critical aspect of industry structure goes to questions about labor use. For this reason, it is helpful to arrange input-output modeling results using employment rather than total gross output for value added as a unit of measure. Results for the New York State equine sector are reported, once again, in Table 1. Using labor to output ratios reported in the IMPLAN® model, we estimate that over 11,600 jobs are generated on equine farms in New York State.



This result is 7 percent lower than the 12,500 employee estimate generated by the 2005 survey, probably for several reasons. Employment estimates can vary by source because of differences in definition. Definitions are a challenge throughout farming and agriculture because of the seasonality of employment, dependence on family labor, and the use of part-time employees. In the equine sector, the employment picture is clouded further by the use of volunteers on many equine farms. But, in addition, the survey respondents were not asked to

identify the location or residence of their employees. A fraction of all employees, however, likely reside in border states and commute to jobs on New York State equine farms. After taking indirect and induced changes in employment into account, our IMPLAN® model results suggest that the equine sector accounts for about 15,200 jobs statewide.

Rearranging these results yields economic multipliers using, in turn, gross output, value-added, and total employment as a unit of measure as in Figure 3. Each gives its own impression of the generative effects

associated with the sector. The value-added multipliers are the most robust by a small margin, with each additional dollar of value-added estimated to generate \$1.31 after taking indirect effects into account. Building in induced effects on value added brings the multiplier estimate to \$1.73. Output multipliers occupy a middle ground with employment measures suggesting relatively weak indirect and induced effects for the industry. This suggests that a relatively large proportion of equine business expenses go to in-state input providers that feature either relatively low wages or relatively high output/employment ratios.

EQUINE SURVEY PROCEDURES

PURPOSE

The chief purpose of the 2005 Equine Survey was to update the data collected in the 2000 survey. The equine industry has changed substantially since the last survey in 2000, according to industry leaders. The survey documented changes in the industry since that time and provided updated information to help measure the contribution of horses, ponies, mules and donkeys to the New York economy. Some additional items were added to further evaluate the impact the equine industry has on the state.

DESIGN

The survey was designed in a manner to ensure reliable coverage of all places with equine. A comprehensive list of all horse operations was compiled from many sources, including veterinarians and equine organizations. A list of 26,800 names was developed and used for the survey.

To compensate for any incompleteness in the list, a land area sample consisting of 289 segments of land was selected. Each segment was from about one-tenth to one square mile (*64-640 acres*) in size and was canvassed for equine. Names of all persons with equine inside the segment were matched against the list of 26,800 names. The equine in segments for those persons not found on the list were expanded to give a measure of incompleteness of the list. This is known as multiple-frame sampling.

METHODOLOGY

In the first phase of the survey, questionnaires were mailed in December 2005 to all persons on the list of operators. This questionnaire asked primarily the number of horses by breed and the total value for each

breed on their operation on December 31, 2005. This system provided two purposes. First, we were able to obtain the number and value of horses by breed for these operations. Second, we were able to stratify the list by size in order to sub-sample these operations for the important second phase of the survey.

All known operations were sent a questionnaire. Key persons familiar with the equine industry also distributed questionnaires to pick up data for operations not already added to the list. In order to improve response on this phase of the survey, as many as possible of the non-respondents to the mailed survey were contacted by telephone. With the mail response and the telephone follow-up, we were able to get completed reports from approximately 60 percent of the list.

In the second phase, a stratified systematic sample of 2,500 names was selected from the operations who responded to the survey's first phase. Respondents were assigned to one of six inventory size groups or strata: 1-4, 5-9, 10-19, 20-49, 50 or more equine, or no equine on operation but equine expenses existed (*owners that board out their horses*). Sampling rates varied from 4 percent for the operations that had no equine but did have expenses to 100 percent for those operations with 50 or more equine. Race tracks were not sampled for the economic phase of the survey.

The comprehensive questionnaire used in the second phase of the survey, which included economic questions, was mailed to the entire sub-sample in July of 2006. Operations that did not respond by mail were contacted by telephone and/or personal visits during August, September, and October of 2006. We received responses from almost 60 percent of this group.

Screening of the land area segments was conducted by trained enumerators during May and June of 2006. Each operation with land in the segments was asked for the number of equine on the land within the segment on December 31, 2005, and the type of operation.

SUMMARIZATION

All questionnaires were manually reviewed before being computer edited and summarized. The data from the 289 area segments were expanded and added to the list of expansions after eliminating any operations that were already on the list.

This procedure resulted in a multiple-frame indicator, which was the basis for estimating the total number of equine in New York. Summary results from the first phase of the survey were used to set county level estimates and the estimates for breed numbers. The results of the survey's second phase provided the basis for setting estimates of equine usage, assets, expenditures and hired labor.

RESULTS

Estimates from a sample survey will vary depending upon the units selected in the sample. The variations in the expansions are measured by the relative error of the estimate which is the estimate divided by the statistical sampling error. The relative error gives an indication of the confidence that can be assigned to the survey expansions.

Statistically, this survey was designed to estimate the equine population at the State level. The relative error for the total number of equine was 2.9 percent, compared to 7.8 percent in the 2000 survey and 6.9 percent in the 1988 survey.



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2005 EQUINE SURVEY

Dear Reporter:

Economic significance of the equine industry has changed in recent years. The last comprehensive study of New York equine was conducted in 2000. This survey will provide new facts about New York's equine industry.

Please make corrections in name, address and zip code, if necessary.

Whether you have one animal or a stable full, your contribution is essential. Results of this survey will be provided to anyone interested in New York's equine industry. Leaders and educators are depending on this survey to measure the contribution of equine to the New York economy and to the nation.

Your response is entirely voluntary, however your cooperation is extremely important. Your data represent your own and similar operations throughout the state. The information you provide is kept **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL** and used only for compiling state and county estimates. Federal law prohibits disclosing individual data and allows for severe fines and imprisonment for violations.

Stephen C. Ropel

Stephen C. Ropel
Director

INSTRUCTIONS

1. If you receive more than one questionnaire please return all questionnaires together, to help eliminate duplication.
2. Please report value to the **nearest whole dollar**.

SECTION I - SCREENING

1. Is this operation known by any name other than (see label)?

NO - Continue

YES - Enter name _____

and continue

2. What is the home county of your operation? _____

(County)

Office Use

001

3. Were there any equine, regardless of ownership, on the land you operated on or about December 31, 2005?

NO - Continue

YES - Go to SECTION II → See other side

Office Use

002

4. Did you own any equine or have any equine related expenses during 2005?

NO - Go to Section IV

YES - Continue

5. Where are these equine kept or boarded? (Record name and address where boarded and go to SECTION IV)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Office Use

003

(See Other Side)

SECTION II - GENERAL

1. Which of the following best describes the **MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITY** of your operation?
(Commercial activity is activity for the purpose of earning current or future income.)

- CHECK ONE:** 1. Commercial boarding, training, riding, lessons, show, racing, livery
 2. Commercial breeding
 3. Farm (crops/livestock)
 4. A place to keep horses, ponies, or other equine for personal use? (non commercial/non farm)
 5. Other (Specify) _____

Office Use

280

2. With what disciplines is the operation involved?

- CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:** 1. Thoroughbred racing?
 2. Standardbred racing?
 3. Shows or competitive events other than racing?
 4. Recreation or pleasure riding or driving?
 5. Therapeutic riding, riding camps, rescue/retirement farm?
 6. Other (Specify) _____

Office Use

281

3. What is the total acreage you operated in **New York** on **December 31, 2005**?
(Include land owned and rented from others, exclude land rented to others)

Acres

900

4. Of the acres you operate above, how many were used for equine related purposes?
(Include hay, pasture, cropland, training areas, buildings, etc.)

Acres

802

SECTION III - CURRENT EQUINE INVENTORY ON THE LAND YOU OPERATED ON DECEMBER 31, 2005

1. Please record by breed the total number and corresponding estimated value of equine located on the total acres operated, regardless of equine ownership. **Estimated Value** - should reflect the price one would pay to purchase these equine in today's market.

Equine Category	Total Number	Total Estimated Value (Dollars)
LIGHT HORSE BREEDS		
Quarter Horse	010	019
Standardbred (non-racing) .	020	029
Thoroughbred (non-racing) .	030	039
Saddlebred	040	049
Appaloosa	050	059
Arabian	060	069
Half Arabian	070	079
Morgan	080	089
Pinto or Paint	090	099
Warmbloods	100	109
Hafflinger	110	119
Crossbred or Unknown ...	120	129
Other (Specify) _____ ..	130	139

Equine Category	Total Number	Total Estimated Value (Dollars)
RACE HORSE BREEDS		
Standardbred	140	149
Thoroughbred	150	159
DRAFT HORSE BREEDS		
Belgian	160	169
Percheron	170	179
Clydesdale	180	189
Other (Specify) _____ .	190	199
PONIES		
Welsh	200	209
Shetland	210	219
Connemara	220	229
Other (Specify) _____ .	230	239
MINIATURE HORSES	240	249
DONKEYS AND MULES ..	250	259

SECTION IV - SURVEY RESULTS

Would you like to receive a free copy of the results of this Equine Survey?
The survey results will also be available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/ny

- NO YES - Enter a 1 in the box

004

That completes the survey. Thank you for your help.

Reported by _____ Phone _____

005 (_ _) _ _ - _ _



2005 EQUINE SURVEY

New York Field Office
 10B Airline Drive
 Albany, NY 12235
 1-800-821-1276
 Fax: 800-591-3834
 E-mail: nass-ny@nass.usda.gov

Authority for collection of information on the Equine Survey is
 Title 7, Section 2204 of the U.S. Code. The information will be used
 to compile and publish agricultural estimates for New York.
 Individual reports are held confidential. Response is voluntary.

**Area Tract
Version A**

Segment Number: _____ **Tract Letter:** _____ **County:** _____

State	Stratum	Segment	Tract No
36	_____	00000	____ 00

OL/NOL
925

I need to make sure we have your (the operator's) correct name and mailing address.

Name of Farm, Ranch, or Operation: _____

Name of Operator: _____
(First) *(Middle)* *(Last)*

Mailing Address: _____
(Route or Street)

(City) *(State)* *(Zip Code)*

Phone: (_____) - _____ - _____
(Area Code)

1. **How many acres are inside this blue tract boundary drawn on the photo (map)?** 840 .

2. Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated**.

2a. On December 31, how many acres did you or this operation own ?	+	901 .
2b. Rent from others? (<i>Exclude land used on an animal unit month (AUM) basis</i>) ..	+	902 .
2c. Rent to others?	-	905 .

2d. [*Total of Items 2a + 2b - 2c.*]
 Then the **total acres operated** (*must be greater than or equal to Item 1*) = 900 .

SECTION 2 - EQUINE INVENTORY

HORSES AND PONIES	MULES, DONKEYS OR BURROS
211	212

1. How many of the [species] does **this operation own**? Number

2. On December 31, how many [species] **regardless of ownership**,
were on the total acres operated? Number
(If **NONE** continue, otherwise skip to Item 4)

209	208
-----	-----

3. If there are no equine on the total acres operated (Item 2), where are the Item 1 equine kept or boarded?
(Record name and address where boarded)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

4. Which of the following best describes the **MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITY** of your operation?

1 - Commercial boarding, training, riding, lessons, show, racing, livery

2 - Commercial breeding

3 - Farm (crops/livestock)

4 - A place to keep horses, ponies, or other equine for personal use? (Non commercial/non farm)

5 - Other (Specify: _____) ?

Office Use

213

Enumerator: _____

Date: _____

Enumerator ID
098



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, New York Field Office
10B Airline Drive
Albany, NY 12235-1004
1-800-821-1276 Fax: 1-800-591-3834
E-mail: nass-ny@nass.usda.gov



2005 EQUINE SURVEY

Dear Reporter:

The economic significance of the equine industry has changed in recent years. The last comprehensive study of New York equine was conducted in 2000. Since then, economic data have been virtually non-existent. This survey will provide new facts about the number of equine, their value, assets and related expenses.

Please make corrections in name, address and zip code, if necessary.

Whether you have one animal or a stable full, your contribution is essential. Results of this survey will be provided to anyone interested in New York's equine industry. Leaders and educators are depending on this survey to measure the contribution of equine to New York's economy.

Your response is entirely voluntary and your cooperation is extremely important. Your data represent your own and similar operations throughout the state. The information you provide is kept **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL** and used only for compiling state and county estimates. Federal law prohibits disclosing individual data and allows for severe fines and imprisonment for violations.

Stephen C. Ropel
Stephen C. Ropel
Director

SECTION I - ACREAGE

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. What was the total acreage you operated on December 31, 2005?
<i>(include land owned and rented from others, exclude land rented to others)</i> | Acres
900 |
| 2. Of the acres you operated <i>(Item 1)</i> , how many were used for equine related purposes? <i>(include hay, pasture, cropland, training areas, buildings, etc.)</i> . . . | Acres
802 |
| 3. How many of the acres used for equine purposes <i>(Item 2)</i> were fenced pasture? | Acres
803 |
| | Office Use
804 |

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING SECTION II - EQUINE INVENTORY

Please record by breed the total number of equine located on the total acres operated, regardless of equine ownership, as of December 31, 2005. Then, break down the total breed number by recording the number in each category. If a horse is used for more than one purpose, such as a stallion used for pleasure riding, please list that horse **only once** in the category for which the horse provides the most important service to you.

PLEASE READ THE DEFINITIONS BELOW BEFORE RECORDING INVENTORY NUMBERS

- A. Broodmare** - a female that is kept primarily for breeding, now or in the future.
- B. Stallion** - a male that is kept primarily for breeding, now or in the future.
- C. Foals of 2005** - born during calendar year 2005.
- D. Lessons** - any horse used primarily for instruction or training.
- E. Racing** - any horse kept primarily for the intention of racing whether or not a parimutuel event. Report foals in the foal category.
- F. Competition/Sport** - equine used primarily for showing, polo, eventing, etc.
- G. Pleasure** - equine used primarily for recreational use, such as hunting, pleasure riding, pleasure driving, 4-H and other youth programs.
- H. Specialty** - equine used primarily for commercial use, such as therapeutic riding, day camp, riding stables, carriage rides, or similar commercial uses
- I. Other** - equine used for farm work, police patrols, teaching, any retired horses, etc.

SECTION II - EQUINE INVENTORY ON THE LAND YOU OPERATE - DECEMBER 31, 2005

Breeds	Total Number	Of the total reported, how many were primarily used for:								
		Breeding			Activity					
		Brood Mares	Stallions	Foals of 2005	Lessons	Racing	Competition or Sport	Pleasure	Specialty: Therapeutic or Day camp	Other: Farm Work, Retired, etc.
A. LIGHT HORSE BREEDS										
	010	011	012	013	014	015	016	017	018	019
Quarter Horse										
Standardbred (<i>non-racing</i>)	020	021	022	023	024	025	026	027	028	029
Thoroughbred (<i>non-racing</i>)										
Saddlebred	040	041	042	043	044	045	046	047	048	049
Appaloosa	050	051	052	053	054	055	056	057	058	059
Arabian	060	061	062	063	064	065	066	067	068	069
Half Arabian	070	071	072	073	074	075	076	077	078	079
Morgan	080	081	082	083	084	085	086	087	088	089
Pinto or Paint	090	091	092	093	094	095	096	097	098	099
Warmbloods	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109
Hafinger	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119
Crossbred or Unknown	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129
Other (<i>Specify</i>) _____	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139

SECTION II - EQUINE INVENTORY ON THE LAND YOU OPERATE - DECEMBER 31, 2005

(See Instructions on Opposite Page)

Breeds	Total Number	Of the total reported, how many were primarily used for:								
		Breeding			Activity					
		Brood Mares	Stallions	Foals of 2005	Lessons	Racing	Competition or Sport	Pleasure	Specialty: Therapeutic or Day camp	Other: Farm Work, Retired, etc.
B. RACE HORSE BREEDS										
Standardbred	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149
Thoroughbred	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159
C. DRAFT HORSE BREEDS										
Belgian	160	161	162	163	164		166	167	168	169
Percheron	170	171	172	173	174		176	177	178	179
Clydesdale	180	181	182	183	184		186	187	188	189
Other (Specify) _____	190	191	192	193	194		196	197	198	199
D. PONIES										
Welsh	200	201	202	203	204		206	207	208	209
Shetland	210	211	212	213	214		216	217	218	219
Connemara	220	221	222	223	224		226	227	228	229
Other (Specify) _____	230	231	232	233	234		236	237	238	239
E. MINIATURE HORSES . . .	240	241	242	243	244		246	247	248	249
F. DONKEYS AND MULES .	250	251	252	253	254		256	257	258	259
G. TOTAL EQUINE <i>(Sum of A+B+C+D+E+F)</i>	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269

COMMENTS:

Office Use

270

SECTION III - ASSETS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005
 (Enter all dollars as whole dollars)

1. What is the **Current Value** of all equine related land, fencing, and buildings on your operation? . . . **Dollars**
- a. Do you have an indoor arena? **Number** and **Current Value** **Dollars**
 If **YES**, please give the **Total Number** and **Current Value**
- b. Do you have an outdoor ring? **Number** *Please only include rings used for the **sole** purpose of riding.*
 If **YES**, please give the total number
2. What is your estimate of the **Current Value** of all vehicles and equipment owned by you and used on your equine operation? (include equine related tools, tractors, farm implements, manure spreaders, starting gates, hot walkers, treadmills, horse trailers, vans, etc.) **Dollars**
3. Of the total above (Item 2), what is the estimated **Current Value** of all the horse trailers and horse vans you own? **Dollars**
4. What is your estimate of the **Current Value** of all equine feed and supplies on hand that you own? (include grain, hay, straw, other bedding, seeds, fertilizer, feed additives, vitamins, minerals, etc.) **Dollars**
5. What is your estimate of the **Current Value** of all tack, equipment and equestrian clothing that you own? (include saddles, bridles, halters, carriages, harnesses, riding/driving/racing equipment, grooming equipment, blankets, trunks, etc.) **Dollars**
6. What is the total number of stalls used for equine purposes on your operation? **Number**

SECTION IV – EQUINE RELATED EXPENDITURES

2005 Expenditures (Report for Entire Year)	Total Amount Spent (Whole Dollars)	Dollars Spent in New York (Whole Dollars)
<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</u>		
Purchases of Equine (if partial ownership, include only your share)	400	450
Purchases of Equipment (include tractors, trailers, trucks, etc.)	401	451
Purchases of Land	402	452
Capital Improvements (include contract labor and materials for construction of and additions to equine related buildings, facilities, fencing equipment, etc.)	403	453

Office Use

SECTION IV – EQUINE RELATED EXPENDITURES

2005 Expenditures <i>(Report for Entire Year 2005)</i>	Total Amount Spent <i>(Whole Dollars)</i>	Dollars Spent in New York <i>(Whole Dollars)</i>
<u>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</u>		
EQUINE RELATED SERVICES		
Boarding/Lay-up	404	454
Training Fees/Day Rates <i>(weekly training, clinics, seminars, riding lessons, etc.)</i>	405	455
NOTE: Only those expenses not included in the boarding and training fees should be listed in subsequent categories		
Breeding Fees and Related Expenses <i>(stud fees, mare care, etc.)</i>	406	456
Farrier	407	457
Veterinary and Health Expenses	408	458
Shipping and Travel	409	459
EQUINE RELATED GOODS		
Purchased Bedding	410	460
Value of Home-grown Bedding for Equine	411	
Purchased Grain	412	462
Value of Home-grown Grain for Equine	413	
Purchased Hay for Equine	414	464
Value of Home-grown Hay for Equine	415	
Mixed or Formula Feeds and Supplements	416	466
Medicine	417	467
Supplies <i>(soaps, oils, sprays, clippers, tack, clothing, etc.)</i>	418	468
Manure Disposal	419	469
EQUINE RELATED FEES		
Fees and Payments <i>(include equine registration, competition entry, membership fees, nomination fees, jockey fees, etc.)</i>	420	470
GENERAL EXPENSES		
Advertising and Marketing <i>(include magazine subscriptions)</i>	421	471
Contract Services <i>(accounting, legal, etc.)</i>	422	472
Maintenance and Repair <i>(vehicles, buildings, tack, pasture, etc.)</i>	423	473
Utilities/Fuels <i>(equine related: phone, sewer, electric, fuels, etc.)</i>	424	474
Insurance Premiums <i>(equine related: liability, loss of use, mortality, accident, etc.)</i>	425	475
Rent/Lease <i>(Include rental of land and buildings, rental of equine, rental of equipment, etc.)</i>	426	476
TAXES/INTEREST		
Property Taxes <i>(equine related: land and buildings)</i>	427	477
Interest <i>(equine related debt only. Include mortgage if home is owned by operation.)</i>	428	478

Office Use

479

SECTION V – REVENUES

Equine Activities Generating Revenue <i>(Report for Entire Year 2005)</i>	Gross Receipts <i>(Whole Dollars)</i>
<u>SALES</u>	
Horse sales <i>(include private sales, claimers, auction sales)</i>	500
Equipment Sales/Rental/Lease	501
Feed Sales <i>(pasture, hay, etc.)</i>	502
Manure Sales	503
<u>TRAINING</u>	
Riding Lessons/Clinics	510
Training/Conditioning/Day Rates	511
Therapeutic Riding	512
<u>BREEDING</u>	
Mare Care	520
Stud Fees	521
<u>SERVICES</u>	
Boarding/Lay-up	530
Sales Preparation	531
Trail Riding/Recreational Services	532
Equine Judging	533
Guest Farm/Bed and Breakfast/Tourism <i>(equine related)</i>	534
<u>WINNINGS</u> <i>(include futurity purses and incentive funds)</i>	
Horse Shows/Competitions	540
Rodeo Winnings <i>(include team roping, team penning, etc.)</i>	541
Racing Purses	542

Office Use
593

SECTION VI – EMPLOYMENT DURING 2005

NOTE: If a hired worker performs multiple duties, count the workers only once in the category for which the worker provides the most important services to you.

Type of Worker	Full Time (150 days or more)	Part Time (less than 150 days)	Private Contractor <i>*contract terms defined by individual providing service and not on company payroll*</i>	Volunteer/ Student Workers <i>*any worker not paid in cash or non-cash items*</i>
	Number	Number	Number	Number
Total Number of workers (paid in either cash or non cash items) total is the sum of a,b,c,d,e	600	601	602	603
a. Manager/Assistant Manager	610	611	612	613
b. Horse Trainer/Assistant Trainer	620	621	622	623
c. Groom, exercise rider, etc.	630	631	632	633
d. Riding/Driving Instructor	640	641	642	643
e. Other type of Worker (Specify) _____	650	651	652	653

1a. What was the total gross wage expense for the entire year in 2005? (include cash wages) (Do not include private contractor expenses) **Dollars**
 655

1b. What was employer's cost of Social Security tax, worker's compensation, health insurance, pensions, unemployment insurance, etc.? **Dollars**
 656

2. What was the value of non-cash items provided to workers for the entire year in 2005? (Include housing, meals, clothing, horse board, lessons and other benefits) **Whole Dollars**
 657

3. How many workers did you provide housing for during 2005? (exclude owners)? **Number**
 658

4. What was the total number of hours worked by all volunteers during 2005? **Number**
 659

5. How many hours did you and other unpaid family members devote to equine during the year 2005? **Number**
 660

Office Use
 661

VII - OPERATOR INFORMATION

1. How many years have you owned equine?	Number 700
2. What was your gross household income (<i>before taxes</i>) in 2005? (<i>Check One</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$0-\$24,999 1. <input type="checkbox"/> b. \$25,000-\$49,999 2. <input type="checkbox"/> c. \$50,000-\$99,999 3. <input type="checkbox"/> d. \$100,000-\$249,999 4. <input type="checkbox"/> e. \$250,000-\$499,999 5. <input type="checkbox"/> f. \$500,000-\$999,999 6. <input type="checkbox"/> g. \$1,000,000 or more 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 	Code 701
3. What percent of this income (<i>Item 2</i>) was equine related.	Percent 702
4. How long has the current operator had equine at the present location? (<i>Enter number of years</i>)	Years 703
5. If you had equine on the operation 10 years or less (<i>Item 4</i>), how was this property last used before you got involved with equine? (<i>Check One</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horse farm 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly crop farming 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly livestock (<i>excluding equine</i>) or dairy 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Land was not used for agricultural purposes 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 	Code 704
	Office Use 705

Respondent _____ Phone () _____
 Title _____ Date _____

	ENUM ID	RESPONSE CODE
Enumerator: _____	998	1 - M 7 - TR 2 - T 8 - IR 3 - I 9 - INAC 6 - MR 10 - EST
		910

COMMENTS:

PHOTOGRAPHY ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Page 1 - Photo by Annette Ward, owner/photographer

Page 4 - Photo by cheyhunty@msn.com, owner, Millie Rowse, photographer.

Page 5 - Photo by T. Pinkerton, owner, Donna Shelatree, photographer.
<http://www.stallionstation.com/whisperinghill>

Photo by Dave Freeman, owner, Ginny Freeman, photographer, <http://cabaa.org>

Page 6 - Photo by Dr. Christopher L. Nyberg, Morrisville State College
Photo by Shelby Herrera/owner/photographer, <http://www.jbarstx.com>

Pages 9, 11, 12, 14, - Photos by Laura Hughes, photographer

Page 16 - Photo by Fiona Farrell, photographer

Page 17 - Photo by Vickie Andrew, owner/photographer, <http://mvandrewranch.gizywizard.com/>

Page 30 - Photo by Judy Renbarger, photographer

Cover

Laura Hughes, photographer

Barbara D. Livingston, photographer, barbaralivingston.com

Lindsey, owner/photographer

John & Karen Welch, owner/photographer

Romy & John Morgant, owner, Jennifer K. Pierce, photographer, www.bayouquarterhorses.com

Judy Renbarger, photographer

Jennifer S. Barr, owner/photographer

Katharina Vob, owner/photographer

Shelby Herrera, owner/photographer

New York
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
STAFF

Stephen C. Ropel, Director
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SURVEYS, LSF AND DATA PROCESSING

Robin D. Gannon
Patricia A. Haseck
Tierra N. Mobley

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Alicia K. Ferri
Vicki L. Crogan

For additional information and statistical data pertaining to the agricultural industry gathered
by the State of New York or United States Department of Agriculture, write or call:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
New York Field Office
10B Airline Drive
Albany, New York 12235-0001

Telephone
(518) 457-5570
E-Mail: nass-ny@nass.usda.gov
Home Page: www.nass.usda.gov/ny

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Objectives

The New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses is co-chaired by New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker and New York State Racing and Wagering Board Chairman John Sabini. Its 13 members are charged with investigating the feasibility of creating a larger market and alternative employment opportunities for retired race horses, as well as studying the issues surrounding the installation of artificial turf on race courses.

Survey Design and Procedures

With the assistance of the New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses, a survey population of all licensed race horse owners in the state was built using names received from the New York State Racing and Wagering Board. The list received from the Board contained 8,876 licensed race horse owners. Out of state addresses and duplication were removed. The basis for elimination was to focus the search only on New York owners and prevent replicated data. After elimination, there were 4,012 licensed race horse owners in the state.

A questionnaire was developed in cooperation with the Task Force. Questions were created based on information that was needed by the Task Force. Questionnaire testing was done through field interviews conducted by NASS staff prior to the survey. This testing resulted in several questionnaire changes based on comments from respondents.

Questionnaires were mailed September 2008. Questionnaires that were undeliverable as addressed were re-mailed if new addresses could be found. A reminder postcard was mailed out a week after the initial mailing. Response by mail was 25 percent.

Telephone follow-up of owners who failed to respond by mail was conducted in October. This increased the response rate to 52 percent.

There were 2,095 questionnaires tabulated. After editing the data for completeness, the records were summarized using Statistical Analysis Systems (SAS) software. The survey was summarized in three ways: Total horses, Thoroughbred only and Standardbred only. In table 1-1 of this report owners declining to participate in the survey and those not contacted were accounted for by expanding reported data. This provides an estimate of total horses retired and total licensed horse owners in 2007 for New York. All other tables in this report only present data from good reports. Table numbers correspond to highlight numbers.

2007 RETIRED RACE HORSE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 There were 1,845 race horses retired in 2007 by 1,108 owners living in New York. That equates to nearly 1.7 horses per owner that retired a horse.
- 2 Seventy-nine percent of the horses reported in the survey were retired in New York with the remaining 21 percent retired out of state. Less than 1 percent was retired out of country. Seventy-six percent of thoroughbreds and 84 percent of standardbreds were retired in New York.
- 3 Of the horses reported retired, 28 percent were still sound for racing. Only 2 percent were unsound and needed euthanizing. Thirty-one percent of thoroughbreds and 24 percent of standardbreds were still sound for racing.
- 4 Injury or lack of soundness and lack of economic viability were the primary reasons given for retiring race horses. Only 3 percent had reached the mandatory retirement age and 11 percent were retired to breed. Forty-one percent of thoroughbreds and 39 percent of standardbreds were retired due to injury or lack of soundness.
- 5 Over one-half of the horses that were retired had less than \$2,000 spent for retirement. Over \$8,000 was spent of 16 percent of the horses. Fifty-five percent of standardbreds and 49 percent of thoroughbreds had less than \$2,000 spent for retirement.
- 6 Of the horses reported retired in 2007 by gender, geldings were of 46 percent, mares were of 23 percent, fillies were of 21 percent, and colts were of 10 percent of the horses. Standardbred geldings accounted for 50 percent of the standardbred horses retired, while thoroughbred geldings accounted for 43 percent of the thoroughbred horses retired.
- 7 Of the horses reported by class last raced in, the primary races were Allowance and Claiming \$4,999 and below. Only 1 percent raced in Claiming \$50,000+ in the last race. Nine percent of thoroughbreds and 1 percent of standardbreds raced Claiming \$25,000-\$49,999 in their last race.
- 8 Seventy-three percent of the reported horses retired in 2007 had 2007 earnings of less than \$25,000. Only 3 percent of horses had earnings of \$75,000-\$99,999. The 2007 earnings for thoroughbreds and standardbreds were significantly different.
- 9 Over two-thirds of the reported horses retired in 2007 had less than \$49,999 in lifetime earnings. Horses with over \$100,000 in lifetime earnings accounted for 17 percent of the horses. Twenty percent of standardbreds and 14 percent of thoroughbreds had over \$100,000 in lifetime earnings
- 10 Over seventy percent of the reported retired horses were between the ages of 3 and 6. Twenty percent of standardbreds and 4 percent of thoroughbreds retired were over the age of 10.
- 11 Of the major networks used for placement, 54 percent arranged private placement. Other networks were of 17 percent of the networks used. Both standardbred and thoroughbred owners listed private placement as the primary networks used for placement.
- 12 Of the respondents perceiving there are buyers for retired horses, 51 percent agreed and 26 percent disagreed. Also, 23 percent of respondents were uncertain. There were no significant differences between thoroughbred and standardbred owners.

13 Twenty-six percent of respondents were uncertain if they would take back a horse previously owned or bred by them. Twenty-one percent of respondents strongly disagreed with taking back a horse previously owned or bred by them. Forty-one percent of thoroughbred owners and 39 percent of standardbred owners responded they would take back a horse previously owned or bred by them.

14 Of the horses taken back by owners after retirement, 93 percent reported taking back 1-5 horses. Only 4 percent reported taking back more than 8 horses. Two percent of standardbred owners and 6 percent of thoroughbred owners reported taking back more than 8 horses.

15 Forty-eight percent of those responding to the survey agreed they would pay to retire a horse. Twenty-five percent were uncertain. Thirty-three percent of standardbred owners and 21 percent of thoroughbred owners disagreed with paying to retire a horse.

16 Of respondents willing to pay to retire a horse, 44 percent would pay a monthly fee of \$150-\$200, 28 percent would pay a lifetime fee of \$2,500, and only 1 percent would pay a lifetime fee of \$10,000. Fifty-four percent of standardbred owners and 36 percent of thoroughbred owners would pay a monthly fee of \$150-\$200.

17 Sixty-five percent of respondents would support a voluntary payment fund. Seventeen percent of respondents would not support a voluntary payment fund. And eighteen percent of respondents were uncertain. Seventy-one percent of thoroughbred owners and 57 percent of standardbred owners agreed in supporting a voluntary payment fund.

18 Of those responding to the survey 43 percent would support a mandatory payment fund. Thirty-seven percent would not support a mandatory payment fund. Twenty percent of respondents were uncertain. Forty-two percent of standardbred owners and 32 percent of thoroughbred owners would not support a mandatory payment fund.

19 Of the respondents that would support a mandatory payment fund, 36 percent would pay \$5 per race start. Twenty-six percent of respondents would pay \$25 per race start. Thirty-six percent of thoroughbred owners and 9 percent of standardbred owners would pay \$25 per race start.

Of the respondents that would support a mandatory payment fund, 76 percent would pay 1% or less of the winning purse. There were no significant differences between thoroughbred and standardbred owners.

20 Respondents were able to select all applicable responses, so the percent response does not sum to 100 percent. Of the respondents indicating who helps in finding a home for their retired horses, 54 percent reported the trainer helped. Forty-six percent reported other sources that helped retire the horses. Fifty-eight percent of thoroughbred owners and 49 percent of standardbred owners indicated the trainer helped in finding a home for retirement.

SUMMARY FOR BOTH BREEDS

1. Estimated Number of Owners Retiring Horses and Number of Horses They Retired, New York, 2007

Owners	Horses
1,108	1,845

2. Percent of Horses Retired by Location, 2007

In New York	Out of State	Out of Country
79	21	1/

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

3. Percent of Sound and Unsound Horses Retired, New York, 2007

Sound/Unsound	Percent of Responses
Sound for racing	28
Sound for high performance activities	11
Sound for less demanding sport horse activities	21
Sound for pleasure or trail use	28
Sound for companion horses, pasture ornaments	10
Unsound, needed euthanizing	2

4. Major Reasons for Retiring Horses, New York, 2007

Reason	Percent of Responses
Mandatory retirement age	3
To breed	11
Injury/Lack of soundness	40
Lack of economic viability	38
Illness	2
Poor temperament	1
Other	5

5. Percent of Horses Retired by Money Spent to Retire Them, New York, 2007

Amount	Percent of Horses Retired
\$0 - \$1,999	52
\$2,000 - \$3,999	20
\$4,000 - \$5,999	8
\$6,000 - \$7,999	4
\$8,000 +	16

6. Percent of Horses Retired by Gender, New York, 2007

Gender	Percent of Horses Retired
Colts	10
Geldings	46
Fillies	21
Mares	23

7. Percent of Horses Retired by Class Last Raced in, New York, 2007

Class	Percent of Horses Retired
Stakes	8
Allowance	25
Claiming \$4,999 and below	37
Claiming \$5,000 - \$9,999	13
Claiming \$10,000 - \$24,999	10
Claiming \$25,000-\$49,999	6
Claiming \$50,000 +	1

8. Percent of Retired Horses by Total 2007 Earnings, New York, 2007

Earnings	Percent of Horses Retired
\$1-\$24,999	73
\$25,000 - \$49,999	15
\$50,000 - \$74,999	4
\$75,000 - \$99,999	3
\$100,000+	5

9. Percent of Retired Horses by Total Lifetime Earnings, New York, 2007

Earnings	Percent of Horses Retired
\$1-\$24,999	49
\$25,000 - \$49,999	18
\$50,000 - \$74,999	9
\$75,000 - \$99,999	7
\$100,000+	17

10. Percent of Horses by Age at Retirement, New York, 2007

Age	Percent of Horses Retired
1	2
2	2
3	19
4	23
5	20
6	11
7	7
8	4
9	3
10	2
11	1
12	2
13	2
14	1
15+	1

11. Percent of Major Networks Used to Place Horses Other Than Fillies/Mares for Breeding, New York, 2007

Network	Percent of Responses
Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation	8
Standardbred Retirement Foundation	5
Arranging private placement	54
Sales (<i>public, private, etc.</i>)	16
Other	17

12. Respondent Perceiving There Are Buyers for Retired Horses, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	12
Somewhat Disagree	14
Uncertain	23
Somewhat Agree	34
Strongly Agree	17

13. Percent of Respondents Who Would Take Back a Horse Bred by Them or Previously Owned by Them When It Retires, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	21
Somewhat Disagree	12
Uncertain	26
Somewhat Agree	23
Strongly Agree	18

14. Percent of Horses Taken Back by Owners After Retirement, New York 2007

Number of Horses Taken Back	Percent of Responses
1-2	70
3-5	23
6-8	3
8+	4

15. Percent of Respondents Who Would Pay to Retire a Horse, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	16
Somewhat Disagree	11
Uncertain	25
Somewhat Agree	27
Strongly Agree	21

16. Percent of Respondent by Dollars Willing to Pay to Retire a Horse, New York, 2007

Dollars	Percent of Responses
Monthly Fee \$150-\$200	44
Monthly Fee \$201-\$300	12
Monthly Fee \$301-\$400	5
Monthly Fee \$401-\$500	5
Lifetime Fee \$2,500	28
Lifetime Fee \$5,000	5
Lifetime Fee \$10,000	1

17. **Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Voluntary Payment Fund, New York, 2007**

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	11
Somewhat Disagree	6
Uncertain	18
Somewhat Agree	33
Strongly Agree	32

18. **Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Mandatory Payment Fund, New York, 2007**

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	27
Somewhat Disagree	10
Uncertain	20
Somewhat Agree	21
Strongly Agree	22

19. **Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Mandatory Payment Fund by Dollars Per Start and Percent of Purse, New York, 2007**

Per Start		Per Purse	
\$ per Start	% of Responses	% of Purse	% of Responses
5	36	0.5	44
10	26	1.0	32
15	3	1.5	6
20	9	2.0	8
25	26	2.5	10

20. **Percent of Respondents Indicating Who Helps in Finding a Home for Their Retired Horses, New York, 2007** (*Respondents chose all that applied*)

Assists	Percent of Responses
Trainer	54
Lay-Up Farm	11
Extension Agent	6
Riding	8
Internet Sources	11
Other	46

SUMMARY FOR THOROUGHBRED ONLY

2. Percent of Horses Retired by Location, 2007

In New York	Out of State	Out of Country
76	24	1/

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

3. Percent of Sound and Unsound Horses Retired, New York, 2007

Sound/Unsound	Percent of Responses
Sound for racing	31
Sound for high performance activities	12
Sound for less demanding sport horse activities	21
Sound for pleasure or trail use	26
Sound for companion horses, pasture ornaments	8
Unsound, needed euthanizing	2

4. Major Reasons for Retiring Horses, New York, 2007

Reason	Percent of Responses
Mandatory retirement age	2
To breed	12
Injury/Lack of soundness	41
Lack of economic viability	37
Illness	2
Poor temperament	1
Other	5

5. Percent of Horses Retired by Money Spent to Retire Them, New York, 2007

Amount	Percent of Horses Retired
\$0 - \$1,999	49
\$2,000 - \$3,999	20
\$4,000 - \$5,999	8
\$6,000 - \$7,999	4
\$8,000 +	19

6. Percent of Horses Retired by Gender, New York, 2007

Gender	Percent of Horses Retired
Colts	12
Geldings	43
Fillies	26
Mares	19

7. Percent of Horses Retired by Class Last Raced in, New York, 2007

Class	Percent of Horses Retired
Stakes	7
Allowance	19
Claiming \$4,999 and below	40
Claiming \$5,000 - \$9,999	11
Claiming \$10,000 - \$24,999	13
Claiming \$25,000-\$49,999	9
Claiming \$50,000 +	1

8. Percent of Retired Horses by Total 2007 Earnings, New York, 2007

Earnings	Percent of Horses Retired
\$1-\$24,999	69
\$25,000 - \$49,999	17
\$50,000 - \$74,999	5
\$75,000 - \$99,999	3
\$100,000+	6

9. Percent of Retired Horses by Total Lifetime Earnings, New York, 2007

Earnings	Percent of Horses Retired
\$1-\$24,999	50
\$25,000 - \$49,999	20
\$50,000 - \$74,999	10
\$75,000 - \$99,999	6
\$100,000+	14

10. Percent of Horses by Age at Retirement, New York, 2007

Age	Percent of Horses Retired
1	2
2	2
3	19
4	31
5	24
6	10
7	5
8	2
9	1
10	1
11	1
12	1
13	-
14	-
15+	1

11. Percent of Major Networks Used to Place Horses Other Than Fillies/Mares for Breeding, New York, 2007

Network	Percent of Responses
Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation	14
Standardbred Retirement Foundation	1
Arranging private placement	53
Sales (public, private, etc.)	12
Other	20

12. Respondent Perceiving There Are Buyers for Retired Horses, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	11
Somewhat Disagree	14
Uncertain	24
Somewhat Agree	34
Strongly Agree	17

13. Percent of Respondents Who Would Take Back a Horse Bred by Them or Previously Owned by Them When It Retires, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	20
Somewhat Disagree	12
Uncertain	25
Somewhat Agree	22
Strongly Agree	21

14. Percent of Horses Taken Back by Owners After Retirement, New York 2007

Number of Horses Taken Back	Percent of Responses
1-2	66
3-5	25
6-8	3
8+	6

15. Percent of Respondents Who Would Pay to Retire a Horse, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	12
Somewhat Disagree	9
Uncertain	24
Somewhat Agree	29
Strongly Agree	26

16. Percent of Respondent by Dollars Willing to Pay to Retire a Horse, New York, 2007

Dollars	Percent of Responses
Monthly Fee \$150-\$200	36
Monthly Fee \$201-\$300	11
Monthly Fee \$301-\$400	5
Monthly Fee \$401-\$500	7
Lifetime Fee \$2,500	32
Lifetime Fee \$5,000	7
Lifetime Fee \$10,000	2

17. Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Voluntary Payment Fund, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	8
Somewhat Disagree	6
Uncertain	15
Somewhat Agree	34
Strongly Agree	37

18. Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Mandatory Payment Fund, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	24
Somewhat Disagree	8
Uncertain	19
Somewhat Agree	23
Strongly Agree	26

19. Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Mandatory Payment Fund by Dollars Per Start and Percent of Purse, New York, 2007

Per Start		Per Purse	
\$ per Start	% of Responses	% of Purse	% of Responses
5	25	0.5	42
10	25	1.0	32
15	3	1.5	6
20	10	2.0	9
25	36	2.5	11

20. Percent of Respondents Indicating Who Helps in Finding a Home for Their Retired Horses, New York, 2007 (*Respondents chose all that applied*)

Assists	Percent of Responses
Trainer	58
Lay-Up Farm	13
Extension Agent	6
Riding	9
Internet Sources	10
Other	42

SUMMARY FOR STANDARDBRED ONLY

2. Percent of Horses Retired by Location, 2007

In New York	Out of State	Out of Country
84	16	1/-

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

3. Percent of Sound and Unsound Horses Retired, New York, 2007

Sound/Unsound	Percent of Responses
Sound for racing	24
Sound for high performance activities	9
Sound for less demanding sport horse activities	19
Sound for pleasure or trail use	32
Sound for companion horses, pasture ornaments	15
Unsound, needed euthanizing	1

4. Major Reasons for Retiring Horses, New York, 2007

Reason	Percent of Responses
Mandatory retirement age	5
To breed	10
Injury/Lack of soundness	39
Lack of economic viability	39
Illness	2
Poor temperament	1
Other	4

5. Percent of Horses Retired by Money Spent to Retire Them, New York, 2007

Amount	Percent of Horses Retired
\$0 - \$1,999	55
\$2,000 - \$3,999	19
\$4,000 - \$5,999	9
\$6,000 - \$7,999	4
\$8,000 +	13

6. Percent of Horses Retired by Gender, New York, 2007

Gender	Percent of Horses Retired
Colts	7
Geldings	50
Fillies	14
Mares	29

7. Percent of Horses Retired by Class Last Raced in, New York, 2007

Class	Percent of Horses Retired
Stakes	11
Allowance	33
Claiming \$4,999 and below	33
Claiming \$5,000 - \$9,999	15
Claiming \$10,000 - \$24,999	6
Claiming \$25,000-\$49,999	1
Claiming \$50,000 +	1

8. Percent of Retired Horses by Total 2007 Earnings, New York, 2007

Earnings	Percent of Horses Retired
\$1-\$24,999	77
\$25,000 - \$49,999	11
\$50,000 - \$74,999	4
\$75,000 - \$99,999	3
\$100,000+	5

9. Percent of Retired Horses by Total Lifetime Earnings, New York, 2007

Earnings	Percent of Horses Retired
\$1-\$24,999	49
\$25,000 - \$49,999	15
\$50,000 - \$74,999	9
\$75,000 - \$99,999	7
\$100,000+	20

10. Percent of Horses by Age at Retirement, New York, 2007

Age	Percent of Horses Retired
1	1
2	3
3	17
4	10
5	13
6	12
7	11
8	7
9	6
10	5
11	2
12	4
13	4
14	2
15+	3

11. Percent of Major Networks Used to Place Horses Other Than Fillies/Mares for Breeding, New York, 2007

Network	Percent of Responses
Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation	-
Standardbred Retirement Foundation	10
Arranging private placement	55
Sales (public, private, etc.)	22
Other	13

12. Respondent Perceiving There Are Buyers for Retired Horses, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	13
Somewhat Disagree	14
Uncertain	22
Somewhat Agree	34
Strongly Agree	17

13. Percent of Respondents Who Would Take Back a Horse Bred by Them or Previously Owned by Them When It Retires, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	22
Somewhat Disagree	13
Uncertain	26
Somewhat Agree	23
Strongly Agree	16

14. Percent of Horses Taken Back by Owners After Retirement, New York 2007

Number of Horses Taken Back	Percent of Responses
1-2	74
3-5	22
6-8	2
8+	2

15. Percent of Respondents Who Would Pay to Retire a Horse, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	21
Somewhat Disagree	12
Uncertain	27
Somewhat Agree	25
Strongly Agree	15

16. Percent of Respondent by Dollars Willing to Pay to Retire a Horse, New York, 2007

Dollars	Percent of Responses
Monthly Fee \$150-\$200	54
Monthly Fee \$201-\$300	13
Monthly Fee \$301-\$400	4
Monthly Fee \$401-\$500	2
Lifetime Fee \$2,500	22
Lifetime Fee \$5,000	4
Lifetime Fee \$10,000	1

17. Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Voluntary Payment Fund, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	13
Somewhat Disagree	8
Uncertain	22
Somewhat Agree	32
Strongly Agree	25

18. Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Mandatory Payment Fund, New York, 2007

Choices	Percent of Responses
Strongly Disagree	31
Somewhat Disagree	11
Uncertain	21
Somewhat Agree	19
Strongly Agree	18

19. Percent of Respondents Who Would Support a Mandatory Payment Fund by Dollars Per Start and Percent of Purse, New York, 2007

Per Start		Per Purse	
\$ per Start	% of Responses	% of Purse	% of Responses
5	52	0.5	47
10	28	1.0	32
15	3	1.5	6
20	8	2.0	8
25	9	2.5	7

20. Percent of Respondents Indicating Who Helps in Finding a Home for Their Retired Horses, New York, 2007 (*Respondents chose all that applied*)

Assists	Percent of Responses
Trainer	49
Lay-Up Farm	9
Extension Agent	5
Riding	8
Internet Sources	11
Other	51



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
10B Airline Drive, Albany, New York 12235

Contact: Brent Farley
518-457-5570
www.nass.usda.gov/ny

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Wednesday, November 12, 2008

TASK FORCE REPORTS ON RETIRED RACE HORSES

The New York field office for USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service has completed a survey conducted for the New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses. The goal was to investigate the feasibility of creating a larger market and alternative employment opportunities for retired race horses.

There were 1,845 New York race horses retired in 2007 by 1,108 race horse owners, according to Steve Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York field office. Results of responses show 79 percent of the reported horses were retired in New York and 21 percent out of state. Major reasons given for retiring horses were injury or lack of soundness and lack of economic viability. Forty-six percent of the retired horses were geldings, 23 percent mares, 21 percent fillies, and 10 percent colts. Seventy-three percent of the horses were from 3 to 6 years old. Forty-nine percent of the retired horses had lifetime earnings of less than \$25,000 and 73 percent had 2007 earnings of less than \$25,000. Forty-eight percent of the respondents would pay to retire a horse and 65 percent would support a voluntary payment fund to retire horses.

The New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses is co-chaired by New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker and New York State Racing and Wagering Board Chairman John Sabini. Its 13 members are charged with investigating the feasibility of creating a larger market and alternative employment opportunities for retired race horses, as well as studying the issues surrounding the installation of artificial turf on race courses.

A detailed report can be found on our web page www.nass.usda.gov/ny.

#

11-12-08



New York Field Office
10B Airline Drive
Albany, NY 12235-1004
Phone: 1-800-821-1276
Fax: 1-800-591-3834
Email: nass-ny@nass.usda.gov

RETIRED RACE HORSE STUDY

Dear Horse Owner:

The goal of this survey is to investigate the feasibility of creating a larger market and alternative employment opportunities for retired race horses.

This survey is being conducted for the New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses. Response is voluntary. However, your report is important for accurate results. Individual reports are held confidential.

Thank you for your participation.

Stephen Ropel
Stephen C. Ropel
Director

Definitions for this Study

Race Horse

A standardbred or thoroughbred horse that has raced in New York state.

Retired Race Horse

A standardbred or thoroughbred horse that has raced in New York state but no longer does.

SECTION 1

1. What breed of horse do you race?

1 = Thoroughbred

2 = Standardbred

Enter Code

1001

2. Did you retire any race horses that had previously raced in New York during 2007?

1 = NO Go to Section 2

2 = YES Continue

Enter Code

1002

3. How many race horses did you retire during 2007?

Number

1003

4. How many of the horses retired during 2007 were:

	Number
Sound for racing	1004
Sound for high performance activities (eventing, jumping, etc.)	1005
Sound for less demanding sport horse activities	1006
Sound for pleasure or trail use	1007
Sound for companion horses, pasture ornaments	1008
Unsound, needed euthanizing	1009

5. Of the race horses you retired, how many were retired:

In the state of New York	In a state other than New York	In another country
1010	1011	1012

6. Why were they retired? (Choose primary reason)

- 1 = Mandatory retirement age
- 2 = To breed
- 3 = Injury/ Lack of soundness
- 4 = Lack of ability to generate earnings to be economically viable
- 5 = Illness
- 6 = Poor temperament
- 7 = Other

Enter Code

1013

7. How much did you spend in 2007 on retiring race horses?

- 1 = \$0 - \$1999
- 2 = \$2,000 - \$3,999
- 3 = \$4,000 - \$5,999
- 4 = \$6,000 - \$7,999
- 5 = \$8,000+

Enter Code

1014

8. What were the ages and sex of the horses retired during 2007?

Age	Number retired by age	How many were:			
		Colts	Geldings	Fillies	Mares
1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025
1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035
1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045
1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055
1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065
1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075

9. What class did each retired horse run in its last race? (If more than 8 horses attach sheet)

Check 1 box for each retired horse

Class	Horse 1	Horse 2	Horse 3	Horse 4	Horse 5	Horse 6	Horse 7	Horse 8
Stakes	1101	1201	1301	1401	1501	1601	1701	1801
Allowance	1102	1202	1302	1402	1502	1602	1702	1802
Claiming \$4,999 and below	1103	1203	1303	1403	1503	1603	1703	1803
Claiming \$5,000-\$9,999	1104	1204	1304	1404	1504	1604	1704	1804
Claiming \$10,000-\$24,999	1105	1205	1305	1405	1505	1605	1705	1805
Claiming \$25,000-\$49,999	1106	1206	1306	1406	1506	1606	1706	1806
Claiming \$50,000+	1107	1207	1307	1407	1507	1607	1707	1807

10. What were the earnings of each horse prior to retiring? (If more than 8 horses attach sheet)

Check 1 box for each retired horse

2007 Earnings	Horse 1	Horse 2	Horse 3	Horse 4	Horse 5	Horse 6	Horse 7	Horse 8
\$1 - \$24,999	1108	1208	1308	1408	1508	1608	1708	1808
\$25,000-\$49,000	1109	1209	1309	1409	1509	1609	1709	1809
\$50,000-\$74,999	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1610	1710	1810
\$75,000-\$99,999	1111	1211	1311	1411	1511	1611	1711	1811
\$100,000+	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1712	1812

Check 1 box for each retired horse

Lifetime Earnings	Horse 1	Horse 2	Horse 3	Horse 4	Horse 5	Horse 6	Horse 7	Horse 8
\$1 - \$24,999	1113	1213	1313	1413	1513	1613	1713	1813
\$25,000-\$49,000	1114	1214	1314	1414	1514	1614	1714	1814
\$50,000-\$74,999	1115	1215	1315	1415	1515	1615	1715	1815
\$75,000-\$99,999	1116	1216	1316	1416	1516	1616	1716	1816
\$100,000+	1117	1217	1317	1417	1517	1617	1717	1817

11. What network do you use to place horses?

Enter Code
1900

- 1 = Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF)
 - 2 = Standardbred Retirement Foundation (SRF)
 - 3 = Arranging Private Placement
 - 4 = Sales (*public, private, etc.*)
 - 5 = Other Retirement Programs
- Identify Program _____

SECTION 2

1. There are buyers for retired race horses, other than fillies/mares for breeding.

Enter Code
2001

- 1

Strongly
Disagree
- 2

Somewhat
Disagree
- 3

Uncertain
- 4

Somewhat
Agree
- 5

Strongly
Agree

2. I would take back a horse bred by me or previously owned by me when it retired.

Enter Code
2002

- 1

Strongly
Disagree
- 2

Somewhat
Disagree
- 3

Uncertain
- 4

Somewhat
Agree
- 5

Strongly
Agree

2a. Have you ever taken back a horse bred by you or previously owned by you?

Enter Code
2003

- 1 = NO Skip to question 3
- 2 = YES

2b. How many horses bred by you have you taken back?

Enter Code
2004

- 1 = 1 - 2
- 2 = 3 - 5
- 3 = 6 - 8
- 4 = 8+

3. I would pay to retire a horse.

Enter Code
2005

- 1

Strongly
Disagree
- 2

Somewhat
Disagree
- 3

Uncertain
- 4

Somewhat
Agree
- 5

Strongly
Agree

3a. If so, how much? (*Check One*)

Enter Code
2006

- 1 = Monthly fee \$150-\$200
- 2 = Monthly fee \$201-\$300
- 3 = Monthly fee \$301-\$400
- 4 = Monthly fee \$401-\$500
- 5 = Lifetime fee \$2,500
- 6 = Lifetime fee \$5,000
- 7 = Lifetime fee \$10,000

4. I would support a voluntary payment fund to support a retirement program.

Enter Code
2007

- 1 Strongly Disagree 2 Somewhat Disagree 3 Uncertain 4 Somewhat Agree 5 Strongly Agree

5. I would support mandatory payments to a retirement/rehab/retraining/adoption fund to support a retirement program. (attached to registration fees, racing fees, purses, etc.) ..

Enter Code
2008

- 1 Strongly Disagree 2 Somewhat Disagree 3 Uncertain 4 Somewhat Agree 5 Strongly Agree

5a. If so, in what amount? (Select one)

\$ Per Start	Check 1 Box
5	2009
10	2010
15	2011
20	2012
25	2013

“OR”

% of Purse	Check 1 Box
0.5	2020
1.0	2021
1.5	2022
2.0	2023
2.5	2024

6. Who assists you in finding a “home” for your retired horses? (Choose all that apply)

Enter Code
2050

- 1 = Trainer
- 2 = Lay-up Farm
- 3 = Extension Agent
- 4 = Riding
- 5 = Internet Sources
- 6 = Other

7. What would make it better/easier for you to retire a horse?

For office use only					
Response	Respondent	Mode	Enum.	Eval.	
1-Comp 2-R 3-Inac	9901 1-Op/Mgr 2-Sp 3-Acct/Bkpr 4-Partner 9-Oth	9902 1-Mail 2-Tel 3-Face-to-Face	9903 098	100	

Preliminary Cost Budget - Horse Rescue

<i>Variable Inputs</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Year 4</i>	<i>Year 5</i>	<i>Year 6</i>	<i>Year 7</i>
New horses per year	1624	1624	1624	1624	1624	1624	1624
Mortality rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Adoption and sale rate	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%
Number of days pre adoption	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Cost per horse per day for upkeep	\$7.75	\$7.91	\$8.06	\$8.22	\$8.39	\$8.56	\$8.73
Retraining cost per day per horse for adopted horses + daily upkeep	\$12.75	\$13.01	\$13.27	\$13.53	\$13.80	\$14.08	\$14.36
Mortality cost per horse	\$375	\$383	\$390	\$398	\$406	\$414	\$422
Annual marketing costs	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Annual veterinary care	\$300,000	\$306,000	\$312,120	\$318,362	\$324,730	\$331,224	\$337,849

	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Year 4</i>	<i>Year 5</i>	<i>Year 6</i>	<i>Year 7</i>
<i>Horse Count</i>							
Beginning	-	893	1,786	2,680	3,573	4,466	5,359
New horses	1,624	1,624	1,624	1,624	1,624	1,624	1,624
Mortality	(81)	(81)	(81)	(81)	(81)	(81)	(81)
Adoption or sale	(650)	(650)	(650)	(650)	(650)	(650)	(650)
Ending	893	1,786	2,680	3,573	4,466	5,359	6,252
<i>Expenses</i>							
Mortality	\$ 30,450	\$ 31,059	\$ 31,680	\$ 32,314	\$ 32,960	\$ 33,619	\$ 34,292
Rehab and retraining for adoption	1,180,242	1,520,649	1,551,062	1,582,083	1,613,725	1,645,999	1,678,919
Pasture sound	1,349,849	3,918,714	6,589,794	9,366,150	12,250,924	15,247,343	18,358,718
Annual marketing costs	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Annual veterinary care	300,000	306,000	312,120	318,362	324,730	331,224	337,849
Total	\$ 2,910,541	\$ 5,826,422	\$ 8,534,656	\$ 11,348,909	\$ 14,272,339	\$ 17,308,186	\$ 20,459,778

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12	Total Year 1
Horse Count													
Beginning	0	74	149	223	298	372	447	521	595	670	744	819	-
New horses	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	1,624
Attrition	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(81)
Adoption	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(650)
Ending	74	149	223	298	372	447	521	595	670	744	819	893	893
Expenses													
Attrition	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 2,538	\$ 30,450
Adoption	20,706	41,412	62,118	82,824	103,530	124,236	124,236	124,236	124,236	124,236	124,236	124,236	1,180,242
Pasture sound	17,306	34,612	51,917	69,223	86,529	103,835	121,140	138,446	155,752	173,058	190,363	207,669	1,349,849
Marketing	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	50,000
Vet care	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	300,000
Total	\$ 69,716	\$ 107,728	\$ 145,739	\$ 183,751	\$ 221,763	\$ 259,775	\$ 277,080	\$ 294,386	\$ 311,692	\$ 328,998	\$ 346,303	\$ 363,609	\$ 2,910,541

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12	Total Year 2
Horse Count													
Beginning	893	968	1,042	1,117	1,191	1,265	1,340	1,414	1,489	1,563	1,638	1,712	893
New horses	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	1,624
Attrition	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(81)
Adoption	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(650)
Ending	968	1,042	1,117	1,191	1,265	1,340	1,414	1,489	1,563	1,638	1,712	1,786	1,786
Expenses													
Attrition	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 2,588	\$ 31,059
Adoption	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	126,721	1,520,649
Pasture sound	229,474	247,126	264,778	282,430	300,082	317,734	335,385	353,037	370,689	388,341	405,993	423,645	3,918,714
Marketing	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	50,000
Vet care	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	25,500	306,000
Total	\$ 388,450	\$ 406,102	\$ 423,754	\$ 441,405	\$ 459,057	\$ 476,709	\$ 494,361	\$ 512,013	\$ 529,665	\$ 547,317	\$ 564,969	\$ 582,620	\$ 5,826,422

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12	Total Year 3
Horse Count													
Beginning	1,786	1,861	1,935	2,010	2,084	2,159	2,233	2,307	2,382	2,456	2,531	2,605	1,786
New horses	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	1,624
Attrition	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(81)
Adoption	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(650)
Ending	1,861	1,935	2,010	2,084	2,159	2,233	2,307	2,382	2,456	2,531	2,605	2,680	2,680
Expenses													
Attrition	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 31,680
Adoption	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	129,255	1,551,062
Pasture sound	450,123	468,127	486,132	504,137	522,142	540,147	558,152	576,157	594,162	612,167	630,172	648,176	6,589,794
Marketing	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	50,000
Vet care	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	26,010	312,120
Total	\$ 612,194	\$ 630,199	\$ 648,204	\$ 666,209	\$ 684,214	\$ 702,219	\$ 720,224	\$ 738,229	\$ 756,234	\$ 774,238	\$ 792,243	\$ 810,248	\$ 8,534,656

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12	Total Year 4
Horse Count													
Beginning	2,680	2,754	2,828	2,903	2,977	3,052	3,126	3,201	3,275	3,350	3,424	3,498	2,680
New horses	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	1,624
Attrition	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(81)
Adoption	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(650)
Ending	2,754	2,828	2,903	2,977	3,052	3,126	3,201	3,275	3,350	3,424	3,498	3,573	3,573
Expenses													
Attrition	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,693	\$ 32,314
Adoption	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	131,840	1,582,083
Pasture sound	679,505	697,870	716,235	734,600	752,965	771,330	789,695	808,060	826,425	844,790	863,155	881,520	9,366,150
Marketing	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	50,000
Vet care	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	26,530	318,362
Total	\$ 844,735	\$ 863,100	\$ 881,465	\$ 899,830	\$ 918,195	\$ 936,560	\$ 954,925	\$ 973,290	\$ 991,655	\$ 1,010,020	\$ 1,028,385	\$ 1,046,750	\$ 11,348,909

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11	Month 12
Horse Count												
Beginning	3,573	3,647	3,722	3,796	3,871	3,945	4,019	4,094	4,168	4,243	4,317	4,392
New horses	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135
Attrition	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)
Adoption	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)
Ending	3,647	3,722	3,796	3,871	3,945	4,019	4,094	4,168	4,243	4,317	4,392	4,466
Expenses												
Attrition	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747	\$ 2,747
Adoption	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477	134,477
Pasture sound	917,883	936,615	955,347	974,080	992,812	1,011,544	1,030,277	1,049,009	1,067,741	1,086,473	1,105,206	1,123,938
Marketing	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167
Vet care	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061	27,061
Total	\$ 1,086,334	\$ 1,105,066	\$ 1,123,799	\$ 1,142,531	\$ 1,161,263	\$ 1,179,995	\$ 1,198,728	\$ 1,217,460	\$ 1,236,192	\$ 1,254,925	\$ 1,273,657	\$ 1,292,389

	Total Year 5	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11
Horse Count												
Beginning	3,573	4,466	4,540	4,615	4,689	4,764	4,838	4,913	4,987	5,061	5,136	5,210
New horses	1,624	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135
Attrition	(81)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)
Adoption	(650)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)
Ending	<u>4,466</u>	<u>4,540</u>	<u>4,615</u>	<u>4,689</u>	<u>4,764</u>	<u>4,838</u>	<u>4,913</u>	<u>4,987</u>	<u>5,061</u>	<u>5,136</u>	<u>5,210</u>	<u>5,285</u>
Expenses												
Attrition	\$ 32,960	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,802
Adoption	1,613,725	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167	137,167
Pasture sound	12,250,924	1,165,524	1,184,631	1,203,738	1,222,845	1,241,952	1,261,058	1,280,165	1,299,272	1,318,379	1,337,486	1,356,593
Marketing	50,000	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167
Vet care	324,730	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602	27,602
Total	<u>\$ 14,272,339</u>	<u>\$ 1,337,261</u>	<u>\$ 1,356,368</u>	<u>\$ 1,375,474</u>	<u>\$ 1,394,581</u>	<u>\$ 1,413,688</u>	<u>\$ 1,432,795</u>	<u>\$ 1,451,902</u>	<u>\$ 1,471,009</u>	<u>\$ 1,490,116</u>	<u>\$ 1,509,223</u>	<u>\$ 1,528,330</u>

	Month 12	Total Year 6	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10
Horse Count												
Beginning	5,285	4,466	5,359	5,434	5,508	5,583	5,657	5,731	5,806	5,880	5,955	6,029
New horses	135	1,624	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135
Attrition	(7)	(81)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)
Adoption	(54)	(650)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)
Ending	<u>5,359</u>	<u>5,359</u>	<u>5,434</u>	<u>5,508</u>	<u>5,583</u>	<u>5,657</u>	<u>5,731</u>	<u>5,806</u>	<u>5,880</u>	<u>5,955</u>	<u>6,029</u>	<u>6,104</u>
Expenses												
Attrition	\$ 2,802	\$ 33,619	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858
Adoption	137,167	1,645,999	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910	139,910
Pasture sound	1,375,700	15,247,343	1,422,703	1,442,192	1,461,681	1,481,170	1,500,660	1,520,149	1,539,638	1,559,127	1,578,616	1,598,105
Marketing	4,167	50,000	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167
Vet care	27,602	331,224	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154	28,154
Total	<u>\$ 1,547,437</u>	<u>\$ 17,308,186</u>	<u>\$ 1,597,792</u>	<u>\$ 1,617,281</u>	<u>\$ 1,636,770</u>	<u>\$ 1,656,259</u>	<u>\$ 1,675,748</u>	<u>\$ 1,695,237</u>	<u>\$ 1,714,726</u>	<u>\$ 1,734,215</u>	<u>\$ 1,753,704</u>	<u>\$ 1,773,193</u>

	Month 11	Month 12	Total Year 7
Horse Count			
Beginning	6,104	6,178	5,359
New horses	135	135	1,624
Attrition	(7)	(7)	(81)
Adoption	(54)	(54)	(650)
Ending	<u>6,178</u>	<u>6,252</u>	<u>6,252</u>

Expenses			
Attrition	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,858	\$ 34,292
Adoption	139,910	139,910	1,678,919
Pasture sound	1,617,594	1,637,083	18,358,718
Marketing	4,167	4,167	50,000
Vet care	28,154	28,154	337,849
Total	<u>\$ 1,792,682</u>	<u>\$ 1,812,171</u>	<u>\$ 20,459,778</u>

EXAMPLES OF CURRENT INDUSTRY FUNDING STREAMS

In 2011 alone the racing and breeding industry has taken steps to address and improve awareness of retirement programs. Many industry groups from across the U.S. have begun discussing national funding plans.

For Thoroughbred racing, retirement programs (via the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation) have already received a “kick-start” grant from California and a program commitment from The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA) and the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association, Inc. (NYTHA) of \$185,000 per year in matching funds.

The U.S. Trotting Association, which acts as a single-source organization for the entire Standardbred racing industry, maintains several programs that, while still in infancy, have shown positive results for housing and aftercare of retired racehorses.

The USTA’s Support Our Standardbred program sets aside \$100,000 each year to assist law enforcement or registered non-profits that come into possession of abused or neglected Standardbreds. The program has assisted more than 70 horses so far.

Other groups, including the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and the Standardbred Retirement Foundation, which are both 501 (c) 3 organizations, rely heavily on private donations and fundraising efforts for their operating expenses.

Press Release

ASPCA Grants \$458,000 to Equine Rescue Groups Joining Million Dollar Rescuing Racers Initiative in 2011

Eight New Groups Join Grant Program This Year

September 21, 2011

NEW YORK—The ASPCA[®] (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals[®]) today announced that eight thoroughbred rescue organizations have joined the ASPCA Million Dollar Rescuing Racers Initiative, a major program made possible by a generous donor, which aids in the rescue of retired racehorses to save them from slaughter, instead rehabilitating them and giving them a new lease on life for events or enjoyment.

“Too often, thoroughbreds end up at livestock auctions—or worse, are sent to slaughterhouses—when their racing days are over,” said Jacque Schultz, senior director of the ASPCA Equine Fund. “Each of these groups has demonstrated a dedication to promoting equine rescue and welfare. We’re proud to help them responsibly build their capacity and save more racehorses.” The new organizations joining the list of thoroughbred rescues and sanctuaries as part of the ASPCA Million Dollar Rescuing Racers Initiative for 2011 are:

- Angel Acres Horse Haven Rescue in Pa., which will use the funding to build an additional quarantine area and install fencing in two other areas of the property to increase capacity;
- The Exceller Fund in Ky., which will finance its ‘Racing Warriors’ program to provide sanctuary housing for five horses who competed on the track until physically depleted and are incapable of being repurposed as performance horses;
- Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program in N.Y., which will use the funding for training programs and therapeutic shoeing in order to reduce the time it takes to get retirees adopted;
- Glen Ellen Vocational Academy (GEVA) in Calif., which will overhaul its drainage system so that the paddocks aren’t a muddy quagmire during and after the rainy season. Additional paddocks will be built to house thoroughbreds being rotated out of their areas until the project is completed and then be used to house additional horses;
- New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program in Ohio and other locations, which will rehabilitate 40 injured thoroughbreds;
- Oklahoma Thoroughbred Retirement Program in Okla., which will increase the number of trainers working with retired thoroughbreds to make them ready for adoptions sooner, which will enable more horses to go through the program annually;
- Re-Run in N.J. and N.Y., which will pay for trainers at three of their facilities to prepare retirees for their new homes; and
- Tranquility Farm in Calif., which will employ qualified trainers to assist in the rehabilitation of thoroughbreds for adoption.

The eight new groups join five existing equine rescues and sanctuaries across the country originally selected in 2010 to take up the challenge of saving more thoroughbreds than ever before: Old Friends in Georgetown, Ky.; Communication Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex-Racehorses (CANTER) with chapters throughout the country; California Equine Retirement Foundation Winchester, Calif.; Mid-Atlantic Horse Rescue Chesapeake City, Md.; and Kentucky Equine Humane Center in Lexington, Ky.

The selected recipients cover a wide range of thoroughbred rescues, and the grant funding helps each of the groups increase capacity and rescue more horses. Plans have included expanding direct intake programs, incorporating physical therapy/rehabilitation programs, renovating facilities to accommodate more horses, creating a training voucher program to increase adoptions, and implementing training programs for thoroughbreds to prepare them for second careers.

In 2010 the ASPCA awarded more than \$1 million in the form of 93 grants to equine rescue groups and humane organizations in 32 states, nearly doubling the \$546,789 distributed in 2009. The ASPCA works to protect and aid horses through legislation, advocacy, education, targeted grants, and enforcement of the carriage horse and cruelty laws in New York City.

The ASPCA Equine Fund provides grants to non-profit equine welfare organizations in the United States for purposes in alignment with our efforts to protect horses. The ASPCA Equine Fund grants program seeks to award equine organizations who strive to achieve best practices, including maintenance of updated websites and robust fundraising practices. To learn more about the ASPCA Equine Fund and 2010 grantees, visit www.aspcapro.org.

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U.S. TROTTING ASSOCIATION

(Source: www.ustrotting.com, Ellen Harvey, Coordinator of Standardbred Support Programs)

The U.S. Trotting Association (USTA) serves as a nationwide “one-stop-shop” for the harness industry. For more than a decade, it has participated in horse fairs, shows and exhibitions in its promotion of Standardbreds as viable pleasure horses. The USTA also provides breed awards for endurance, dressage and trail riding, and sponsors a “roadster” class in Louisville that primarily serves Standardbreds.

The U.S. Trotting Association’s Full Circle Program is a no-cost, no obligation database that connects horses in need of a new home with their breeder, former owners, trainers, drivers, caretakers or any other interested party. Modeled after the American Quarter Horse Association’s similar database, the Full Circle program has logged more than 3,000 horses in three years of existence.

The USTA’s “Support our Standardbred” (SOS) program provides \$100,000 each year to help law enforcement or registered non-profits that rescue horses. The program has helped support more than 70 horses so far. SOS also includes a poster campaign at tracks and public events that informs owners and trainers what steps to take should they not be able to afford their horses.

Once a standardbred’s racing career has concluded, the USTA also gives owners the option to convert its registration from “standard traditional” to “pleasure only.” This option, which the USTA provides free of charge, blocks the horse from ever being entered into a race, or from being bred for racing. The change in registration is irrevocable, preserving the intent of the owner.

An overarching goal of the USTA’s retirement efforts is to keep the horses in the agricultural economy.

“A live horse needs feed, fences, trailers, tack, hay, etc. and contributes greatly to the overall economy by his very existence,” according to Ellen Harvey, Coordinator of Standardbred Support Programs for the USTA.

More information about the USTA can be found at www.ustrotting.com.

Do you have a horse you can no longer care for?



The USTA has a way for you to find out if someone from that horse's past wants to help.

The USTA's Full Circle program allows anyone with an interest in a horse's welfare to record their name and contact information in the horse's Pathway database records. That person may be a breeder, past owner, trainer, driver, caretaker or admirer (USTA membership is not required to enroll a horse). By recording this information, they enroll the horse in Full Circle and indicate their wish to be contacted in the event the horse becomes unwanted or needs help.

If you have a horse you can no longer care for, or know of one that needs help, check its "basic horse report" in Pathway (<http://pathway.ustrotting.com>) or check



"Free Tattoo Search" on the top right of the homepage (www.ustrotting.com). If this icon  appears next to the horse's name, someone from that horse's past has enrolled the horse in Full Circle and wants to be contacted if that horse needs assistance.

To find out who that person is and how to reach them, call the USTA at 1.877.800.USTA (8782), ext. 1. You then work with that person to make a plan for that horse. There is no obligation by either party. The USTA has no stake or involvement in the outcome. Full Circle provides a means for two people with a shared interest in a horse to work together for the benefit of that horse.

**Full Circle is a program of the U.S. Trotting Association.
For more information, call 1.877.800.USTA (8782).**



U.S. Trotting Association • 750 Michigan Ave. • Columbus, OH 43215-1191
Phone: 1.877.800.USTA (8782) or 614.224.2291 • Fax: 614.224.4575 • www.ustrotting.com

THOROUGHBRED RETIREMENT FOUNDATION

(Source: <http://www.trfinc.org/>)

The Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF) is the largest equine sanctuary in the world devoted to the rescue, retirement, rehabilitation and retraining of Thoroughbred racehorses no longer able to compete on the track.

Currently, the Foundation cares for more than 1,100 retired racehorses and has adopted more than 700 to permanent homes since its founding in 1982.

The TRF prepares racehorses for adoption as riding and companion horses at retraining farms throughout the country. Additionally, the Foundation runs a vocational training program at eight correctional facilities across the country where inmates build life skills while providing supervised care to retired horses. In New York, the TRF runs a rehab program at Wallkill Correctional Facility.

Horses at these farms and other facilities often are so infirm when retired from racing that they can do little more than enjoy their days in their paddocks and fields.

Former TRF horses have been trained for second careers, as mounted police horses, show jumpers, companion horses, handicapped riding horses, even polo horses.

In early 2010, the TRF's Herd Intake and Management Committee with pro-bono assistance of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) and financial support from the estate of Paul Mellon, began an exhaustive and comprehensive evaluation its current 1,100 horses. The committee has also undertaken a thorough review of participating farms' intake, adoption, euthanasia, and care policies.

The TRF continues to pursue partnerships with racetracks and horsemen's associations, but is now striving to engage more horsemen in "the process of making good decisions for their Thoroughbreds and for the racing industry as a whole."

The TRF, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt organization, depends entirely on public contributions from "thousands of racing fans, owners, breeders, trainers and racing officials." The Foundation offers several levels of sponsorship, each with its own promotional rewards for the donor:

- Gold (\$1,000 or more)
- Silver (\$500 to \$999)
- Bronze (\$250 to \$499)
- Gift Of Love (\$100)

The TRF also holds singular fundraising events. A single gala held in August 2010 in Saratoga Springs raised more than \$500,000 from more than 600 guests.

NOTE: TRF Director of External Relations Diana Pikulski is a member of the Task Force on Retired Racehorses.

STANDARDBRED RETIREMENT FOUNDATION

(Standardbred Retirement Foundation Fact Sheet)

Mission: The Standardbred Retirement Foundation (SRF) is a non-profit, tax exempt organization created to care for, rehabilitate and secure lifetime adoption of non-competitive racehorses, to ensure their proper care with follow up, and combine the needs of youth at risk with these horses in therapeutic equine programs to benefit both.

Background: SRF is in its 22nd year, established and co-founded by Judith Bokman, wife of a prominent Equine Practitioner in New Jersey, Dr. Stephen Bokman DVM and Paula Campbell, wife of Hall of Fame Standardbred Driver John Campbell in 1989.

Although horseracing is a multi-billion dollar industry, the Standardbred racing industry had made no provisions to support these grand horses when their racing careers came to an end. Some horses end their careers at a young age with injuries or lack of racing ability, but with the rest and rehabilitation provided by SRF, these lovely animals become wonderful riding, driving, and eventing or trail horses. However, some retire from racing and are not healthy enough to be transitioned to a new career. As a result, the SRF steps in to provide the adoption and rescue services necessary to ensure that these noble horses are retired with the dignity and care they deserve, with the intent of finding them permanent homes. Many are never adopted due to physical condition or age and remain under the SRF's care at various boarding facilities.

General SRF Information

Since inception SRF has had over 2,300 adoptions. SRF currently provides full care for 175 horses of which 102 are companion only due to age and/or injury. SRF's waitlist is long with 142 horses waiting to come into our program. SRF wishes they could help all unwanted horses, however, SRF cannot take on more than we can afford, we need more funding to help with our current numbers and with more funding and donations we would be able to help shorten our long waitlist. Many times we are too late with an opening and people have already sent them off to auctions where they face an uncertain future either as a buggy horse or purchased for slaughter and shipped to Canada and/or Mexico to be sold for meat internationally.

SRF is a model organization for other adoption programs, it's solely unique in that SRF employees or SRF volunteers follow up on all horses after they are adopted to ensure that the standards of SRF are continually being met (i.e. - fencing, pasture, water, feed when pasture is inadequate, shelter from inclement weather, farrier care as needed, and Vet checks semi-annually with the Vet report coming back to the SRF. Why follow up? The number one cause of abuse is neglect through the loss of interest, according to the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP).

Also once adopted, the horses cannot be raced, bred, sold, used for embryo transfer, given away or used for any commercial purpose. While SRF encourages lifetime adoptions, if an adopter cannot provide proper care for any reason the horse must be returned to the SRF. All

potential adopters are thoroughly screened and require, veterinary, neighbor, personal and farrier references including a boarding facility screening.

All SRF horses have had a career, if not on the track due to lack of competitiveness, they can become have also become standing stallions or broodmares for breeding prior to coming to SRF.

Standardbreds are extremely versatile; they are level headed, gentle and sweet by nature. Disciplined track life has gifted them with many desirable qualities in the world of pleasure horses. In addition, these beautiful horses are able to face every task put before them with gentleness, patience and a heart that knows no limit. Their range of disciplines and new careers vary from dressage, pleasure driving, security, therapy programs, eventing (hunter/jumper) and endurance to trail horses. Our pasture puffs that can no longer be ridden serve as wonderful companions to single horse homes since horses are herd animals and do well with companionship.

The SRF is the proud recipient of the following national awards:

- The Harness Tracks of America (HTA) Distinguished Service Award
- The ARCI International Animal Welfare Award
- The USHWA Proximity Award
- The American Association of Equine Practitioner's Award
- A Finalist for the Lavin Cup.
- The United States Trotting Association (USTA) has endorsed the SRF

Programs and Constituency Served by SRF Horses

Population Served: The population covered is a full range from young to aged. This includes those able bodied, as well as physically, emotionally and/or mentally challenged from all backgrounds, ethnicities and classes. SRF is a national organization and serves people from all over the country not only through adoptions, but through various programs and services helping children, adults and the general public. SRF has three full-time and three part-time staff members plus countless volunteers throughout the US.

Programs

NJJJS Program - The SRF has initiated a program with the New Jersey Department of Juvenile Justice System, the New Jersey Department of Education and Rutgers University. This program will use horses provided by the SRF to teach social skills required by the youth for re-entering society. Trust, teamwork, responsibility, kindness, love, dedication, etc. are a few of the traits that can be developed from dealing with horses, as they are non-judgmental. The state has built a large compound with three stalls for horses and training facilities at the Jamesburg Home for Boys to be used for this particular program. The state has also hired a USTA Licensed Trainer to head up the program. The overall goal is to develop a program to serve as a model for the State and possibly the country, working with juvenile justice systems. The USTA has approved the program and will issue certificates of completion to those that qualify.

Therapeutic Riding Programs –Horses serve as a tool for physical therapy, emotional growth and learning. Many riders experience a connection to the horse that few sports can create. For those riders who cannot walk, the horse is their vehicle of transport. Not only does this help raise their self-esteem but it also teaches them essential skills. It improves balance, creates trust and creates a friendship between rider and horse. The types of disabilities and conditions such therapy can serve are:

- Amputees
- Brain Injuries
- Cardiovascular Accident/Stroke
- Cerebral Palsy
- Chemical Abuse
- Down Syndrome
- Hearing Impairments
- Learning Disabilities
- Mental Retardation
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Post Polio Speech Impairments
- Spina Bifida
- Spinal Cord Injuries
- Visual Impairments

Horsetime Therapy Program – Specialized program created by Kathy Krupa offering certified equine assisted psychotherapy services and Equine Assisted Learning (EAP) and Awareness in New Jersey and has unmatched experience providing EAP to children who suffered from abuse, neglect or suffer from emotional issues. The program emphasizes the unique needs of each individual child to promote growth. Learning about themselves and witnessing how changes in their behavior, thoughts and feelings can bring positive change in their lives. The program is dedicated to providing a safe, positive and professional experience for the children open up in a trusting secure environment to develop and enhance interpersonal and communication skills that can be transferred into home, school and the community.

Constituency Served-Community Safety, Security and Eventing

Mounted Police Horses – Officers and horses used honorably protect and serve communities and cities such as, Newark- NJ, Philadelphia- PA, Richmond- VA and Omaha- NE. Mounted Police Units are an invaluable tool in crowd control and public relations as well as the enforcement of city ordinances and state law. All supervisors, police officers, and horses work together to provide the community effective, quality service. Due to the increased height on a horse the mounted officer is able to survey a large area quickly and address problem situations effectively. The officer and his mount are also a crime deterrent due to their increased visibility to the public. A mounted officer, on horseback, is able to transverse geographical areas in which it would be difficult for police officers in cars, on bicycles or on foot to proceed.

Rutgers University Patrol Horses – The Rutgers University Mounted Patrol, the only student-run mounted patrol in the country, includes more than a dozen university students who must

complete 40 hours of security training and pass a proficiency test in equine skills. Riders patrol the Cook-Douglass campus fields and pathways seven evenings a week while classes are in session. The patrol is a unit of the Rutgers University Police Department's Community Service Officer Program, which includes more than 100 trained students who provide a range of safety and security services on and near campus. Rutgers University Campus security's goal is to work in partnership with students, faculty and staff to provide a safe, enjoyable, and fulfilling university experience.

CT Governors Horse Color Guard – The Company is part of the organized militia of the State of Connecticut. Its mission is to serve the State whenever called upon by the proper officials and in whatever capacity is demanded. This may include the control of riots and other disorders, traffic and crowd control, and civil defense. The Company also upholds traditional customs and displays the pageantry of the U.S. Cavalry by participating in various celebrations throughout Connecticut and occasionally in other states. The company is currently training to become the only certified mounted search and rescue unit in the State of Connecticut under the Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee's Emergency Support Function 9.

MD SAR Team (Search & Rescue) Horses - The primary value of horses in search is the enhanced strength and endurance they provide the trained searcher riding them. The horses enable the TROT Search & Rescue Team to move themselves and their equipment over a variety of terrain and distances with minimal effort.

In the works....A therapy program where horses are used with to work with military, police and firefighters who suffer from PTSD. The program is being designed by Kathy Krupa who created the Horstime Therapy Program to work with SRF horses.

EXISTING RETIREMENT PROGRAMS

In 2010 and early 2011, the NTRA's Safety and Integrity Alliance conducted a survey to evaluate the extent and types of support that Thoroughbred racetracks provide to organizations that retrain and/or re-home former racehorses.

The survey showed that tracks in the U.S. and Canada contributed approximately \$3 million in equine retirement and retraining organizations over the past three years, with the prediction that contribution will increase through new programs.

In total, the NTRA's Safety and Integrity Alliance identified more than 1,000 organizations that provide adoption and retraining for all different types of horses.

Programs identified included cooperative efforts between tracks, owners and horsemen, as well as jockeys and racing fans.

Additionally, the survey identified industry organizations that support racehorse retraining or retirement organizations, including: The Jockey Club, which offers a check-off for owners registering their horses and makes an annual contribution of \$200,000; Thoroughbred Charities of America; Blue Horse Charities, which offers a check-off through the Fasig-Tipton Thoroughbred auction company; and Keeneland and Oak Tree Racing Foundations

(Source: Peggy Hendershot, "Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services," April 29, 2011. Unpublished National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) report prepared for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA))

California Retirement Management Account (CARMA)

Every racetrack in California participates in CARMA, which assists Thoroughbred retirement facilities in the state. CARMA receives funding via a state law that authorizes a .03 percent deduction from purses to support facilities that provide retirement/retraining programs. Participation trends above 80 percent. Of note, owners must opt-out of the program.

Racetracks in California are required to conduct a series of annual charity racing days, where the tracks designate specific recipients. Additionally, most tracks have forged relationships with retirement organizations and provide direct funding.

(Source: Peggy Hendershot, "Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services," April 29, 2011. Unpublished National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) report prepared for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA))

CANTER: The Communication Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex-Racehorses

CANTER, which helps racehorses find new careers by connecting buyers and sellers through online sale postings, coordinates listings from affiliates in the following states/regions:

Michigan, Arizona, California, Colorado, Gulf South, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Mid Atlantic, New England, Ohio, Pennsylvania.

In particular, the affiliates in Arizona, California, Kentucky, Michigan, Mid Atlantic, New England and Ohio also include owner-relinquished adoption programs, where CANTER assumes ownership of the horse and all associated expenses. Many of these types of programs include partnerships with veterinary colleges that provide medical care and procedures to bring horses back to soundness.

According to CANTER's literature: "volunteers walk the shedrows of the racetracks taking listings and photographs for posting to the website. At most of our affiliates, the trainers may donate or sell their horse to CANTER and the organization will find approved non-race homes for their horses."

(Source: www.canterusa.org)

Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program (FLTAP)

Since its founding in 2006, the Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program (FLTAP) has found homes for nearly 500 horses. Located on property donated by the Finger Lakes Racing Association (owned by Delaware North), the FLTAP barn houses a maximum 16 horses that are available for adoption. Each year, the FLTAP places between 60 And 75 horses in new homes, including horses donated to the program and those that are promoted directly to interested and qualified horsemen.

The Finger Lakes Racing Association donates \$2 per start to the FLTAP, which is matched by the horsemen. Grants, donations and fundraising make up the remaining funding streams.

The FLTAP is overseen by a board consisting of HBPA representatives and racetrack management.

(Source: Peggy Hendershot, "Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services," April 29, 2011. Unpublished National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) report prepared for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA))

FLTAP looks to be an example of the kind of program which can be produced when track management and horseman come together to solve the problem of aftercare for equine athletes.

Each year FLTAP is responsible for the placement of approximately 60-80 horses, including those that are housed at facility and those located on farms and in the track's racing barns. Horses that require medical care may stay longer in the program. The typical adoption process takes between 1-3 months.

The program relies on grants to supplement its annual budget, as well as fundraising events and outreach to donors.

The program is seeking to involve a rehabilitation facility which would care for horses that need between 6-12 months care. This could either be an expansion to the existing Purple Haze Center or partnering with an other entity such as a prison.

(Source: Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program management)

The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA)

The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA) regularly contributes financial support to retirement and retraining facilities, including the Columbia Greene Humane Society, Old Friends, the Exceller Fund, the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and Equine Advocates.

While promoting adoption and rescue initiatives, in 2009, NYRA implemented an anti-slaughter policy that revokes NYRA stalls from owners or trainers who are found to knowingly sold a horse for slaughter.

(Source: Peggy Hendershot, "Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services," April 29, 2011. Unpublished National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) report prepared for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA))

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen Association's Turning for Home Thoroughbred Retirement Program at PARX Racetrack

Since its inception 3 and ½ years ago, Turning for Home has secured a safe and humane retirement for 640 thoroughbreds that have been injured or are no longer competitive. The program's funding sources include:

- \$10 per-start fee paid by owners, which began in May 2008. While the fee is voluntary, the PTHA Board voted to support the fee, and all owners participate
- PARX Racetrack contributes \$50,000 per year to Turning for Home
- The PTHA contributes \$50,000 per year to Turning for Home
- Pennsylvania Breeders contribute \$10,000 annually
- Jockeys contribute \$10 per win and \$5 per place to Turning for Home
- The program also hosts benefit events, including dinners and raffles, to further raise funds.

(Source: PTHA documents)

About the National Thoroughbred Racing Association's Safety & Integrity Alliance

<http://www.ntraaftercare.com/node/33>

Introduction

Aftercare of retired racehorses is one of the six pillars of the NTRA Safety & Integrity Alliance, along with Injury Reporting and Prevention; Safety Equipment and a Safer Racing Environment; Medication and Testing; Jockey Health and Safety; and, Wagering Security. The goal of the Alliance's efforts for aftercare is to help institutionalize the fact that all industry participants share the responsibility of caring for horses when their careers are over.

2011 NTRA Safety and Integrity Alliance Aftercare Code Requirement

Racetrack Members shall affiliate with recognized placement/adoption program(s) that meet AAEP criteria. Member Tracks shall help facilitate the transfer of horses to its affiliated recognized placement/adoption program(s) by doing such things as: Providing owners and trainers with contact information for recognized placement/adoption program(s); promoting placement/adoption program(s); cooperating with state funded programs; providing stalls and/or staff to help facilitate the transfer of horses to affiliated recognized placement/adoption facilities; or other means intended to assist with the placement of horses in transition. Racetrack Members shall participate in and facilitate a funding strategy that shares the costs of funding among Racing Participants through mutually agreed upon methods.



Thoroughbred Racing's Equine Aftercare Programs and Services

Foreword

This document summarizes the extent and types of support that Thoroughbred racetracks provide to organizations that retrain and/or re-home former racehorses. It is based on e-mail and telephone surveys conducted by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) Safety and Integrity Alliance (the Alliance) in spring 2011 and late winter 2010. The 2011 survey included research on organizations that fund equine adoption but do not take in horses for retraining or re-homing. Information presented below is current as of April 29, 2011.

The data include Alliance-accredited facilities and non-accredited facilities. Alliance-accredited facilities appear in **boldface**. Information is arranged by state. Tracks contacted during the surveys are included, but this document does not purport to be an exhaustive list of Thoroughbred racetracks in a particular state or the U.S. as a whole. The facilities listed do account for the vast majority of racing days in the United States and Canada.

In all, racetracks have contributed approximately \$3 million to equine retirement and retraining organizations over the past three years. This amount will continue to grow as tracks implement funding mechanisms for newly launched programs and as tracks continue their existing programs. Many of the programs described below represent cooperative efforts between racetracks, owners and horsemen. In some states, jockeys also participate in funding equine retirement. Racing fans are also invited to participate in funding initiatives.

It is important to note that racetracks are not the sole source of revenue for equine retraining or retirement organizations. A considerable number of industry organizations support equine retirement, including The Jockey Club, which offers a check-off for owners registering their horses and has an annual contribution of \$250,000; Thoroughbred Charities of America, one of the largest funders for equine retirement; Blue Horse Charities, a check-off through the Fasig-Tipton Thoroughbred auction company; and the Keeneland and Oak Tree Racing foundations, among many others. These and other primary funding organizations are listed in Addendum A. Organizations servicing non-Thoroughbred racehorses are outside the scope of this document.

National Thoroughbred Racing Association
2525 Harrodsburg Road, Suite 400
Lexington, KY 40504
(800) 792-6872 | NTRA.com

While a number of equine retraining and re-homing organizations are mentioned frequently in this report, they represent only a fraction of the more than 1,000 organizations identified by the Alliance as providing adoption and retraining for horses. A complete listing of equine retirement/retraining facilities will be available on NTRAlliance.org in summer 2011.

Organizations cited here generally specialize in the retraining and re-homing of Thoroughbred racehorses. However, trade associations for other racing breeds, such as Standardbreds and Quarter Horses, also facilitate aftercare programs and services. Programs serving non-Thoroughbred racehorses are outside the scope of this document.

See Addendum A for a list of organizations cited and racing terminology.

For more information, contact Peggy Hendershot, NTRA senior vice president of legislative affairs, at phendershot@ntra.com or (859) 422-2648.

ARIZONA

Turf Paradise

The Turf Paradise Foundation's Second Call Fund (SCF) makes grants to enterprises that promote the adoption of retired racehorses. Organizations supported include the Equine Encore Foundation, The Manner Ranch and Horse Rescue of N. Scottsdale.

CALIFORNIA

California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF), with six members: Stockton, Pleasanton, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Ferndale and Fresno

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club

Golden Gate Fields

Hollywood Park

Santa Anita Park

Oak Tree Racing Association

California Retirement Management Account (CARMA)

All racetracks in California participate in CARMA, created by TOC assist Thoroughbred retirement facilities that care and retrain horses whose careers have ended after competing in California Thoroughbred races. CARMA receives funding via a California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) statute authorizing a .03% deduction from purses to help support facilities that provide equine retraining and retirement. Owners can opt-out of the program.

Charity Racing Days

Racetracks in California are required to support charities in the state through a series of annual charity racing days. Tracks designate their individual charitable recipients, which may include equine retirement organizations (see below for details).

In addition to their CARMA contributions, most of California's racetracks have relationships with equine retirement organizations and provide direct funding:

- Del Mar Thoroughbred Club has contributed to the California Equine Retirement Foundation, Tranquility Farm and the United Pegasus Foundation.
- Golden Gate Fields works directly with GEVA and CANTER California. The track provides information for trainers in the overnights, and grants rescue facilities access to the backside to gather information on potential retirees.
- Hollywood Park has supported the California Equine Retirement Foundation and Tranquility Farm.

- Oak Tree Racing Association & Charitable Foundation has given grants and contributions to American Horse Council Unwanted Horse Coalition, California Equine Retirement Foundation, Equine Advocates, GEVA, Inc. Equine Retirement Foundation, Tranquility Farms Harry Bisantz Center for Thoroughbreds, Jolene's Horse Rescue, Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and United Pegasus Foundation.
- CARF-member Pleasanton (aka Alameda County Fair Association) works directly with GEVA and CANTER California to re-home racehorses. The Association provides a mechanism for racing fans to donate to equine adoption, with funds dispersed to GEVA and CANTER.
- Santa Anita Park makes annual contributions to Tranquility Farm, California Equine Retirement Foundation and the United Pegasus Foundation.

FLORIDA

Calder Race Course

Gulfstream Park

Tampa Bay Downs

Calder Race Course, Gulfstream Park and the Florida HBPA have established the Florida Thoroughbred Retirement and Adoptive Care Program (FL TRAC), a 501 (c)(3) charity. FL TRAC is funded by mandatory contributions of 1/3rd of 1 percent of purses generated at the tracks and by direct charitable contributions. Jockeys also contribute \$1 per mount. FL TRAC allocates funds to several Florida aftercare facilities including Pure Thoughts and the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation. As a CDI track, Calder participates in the Green Pastures Program (see Churchill Downs).

Gulfstream Park, owned by MI Developments, Inc. (MID), initiated the Thoroughbred After-Care Program (GP TACP) in 2011. A portion of funds from Gulfstream Park's share of wagering revenues are donated to eligible 501(c)(3) charities that provide for the care and support for horses retired from the racetrack. To date, GP TACP has donated approximately \$70,000 to eligible charities, such as the Florida Thoroughbred Retirement & Adoptive Care Program (FL TRAC). GP TACP has also given funds to Thoroughbred retirement and re-training programs associated with MID tracks Laurel Park and Pimlico Race Course in Maryland.

Tampa Bay Downs works with the Florida HBPA on a \$1 per start contribution to the Thoroughbred Retirement of Tampa (TROT). The track funded TROT's start-up expenses in full. Tampa Bay sponsors various fundraisers and the track donates to the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and Florida Thoroughbred Charities, the charitable arm of the Florida Thoroughbred industry.

ILLINOIS

Arlington Park

Hawthorne Race Course

Arlington Park and Hawthorne Race Course cooperate in Galloping Out, a program operated by the Illinois THA (ITHA). The program is administered by a committee of ITHA board members. Through the efforts of ITHA, .03% of purses earned at Arlington Park and Hawthorne Race Course are directed to the fund. The tracks also make annual cash contributions. The ITHA committee determines the eligibility of horses, selection of retirement facilities and the amount of funding to be provided. Facilities supported are 501 (c)(3) rescue facilities approved by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Arlington Park and Hawthorne are responsible for the disbursement of the funds collected.

INDIANA

Hoosier Park

Hoosier Park is affiliated with the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, Friends of Ferdinand and New Vocations. Hoosier Park supports these organizations through donations, sponsorship of events and fundraisers. Information detailing these events is posted in horsemen's areas at the track.

IOWA

Prairie Meadows

Prairie Meadows is affiliated with Hope After Racing Thoroughbreds (HART), a program initiated in spring 2011. The track has representation on the Board that oversees the program, a non-profit, volunteer organization serving Thoroughbreds racing in Iowa. HART services include rehabilitation, continuing education and adoption. Financial support from Prairie Meadows has yet to be determined.

KENTUCKY

Churchill Downs

Keeneland

Turfway Park

Churchill Downs, Inc., (CDI) is affiliated with the Kentucky Equine Humane Center, New Vocations and CANTER Kentucky. CDI gives to these organizations through its Green Pastures fundraising and public awareness program, launched in 2002. A surrender stall is available and the track's equine retirement specialists assist owners and trainers with placing their horses. A CDI liaison evaluates each horse and works directly with the aftercare programs to make sure each horse is accepted into the best program for its needs.

Keeneland commenced a \$1 per start owner contribution program in spring of 2011. Owners can opt-out of the program, which is administered through the paymaster of purse. Keeneland works with the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation's Maker's Mark Secretariat Center, Kentucky Equine Humane Center, ReRun, New Vocations, Second Stride and Old Friends to place horses from its backstretch and its surrender stall. The track provides direct contributions, fundraising assistance, sponsorships and consulting to its affiliated retirement organizations primarily through the Keeneland Foundation, a 501(c)(3). The track has provided educational and training materials at no cost to organizations and individuals involved in racehorse aftercare.

Turfway Park facilitates direct funding of aftercare programs through its paymaster of purse. Owners automatically contribute \$1 per start, with Turfway Park matching that contribution. Funds are distributed annually to participating aftercare facilities, based on the percentage of horses serviced by each organization. Status reports on the placed horses are required. Turfway Park has relationships with the Kentucky Equine Humane Center, CANTER Kentucky, New Vocations, Speak Up for Horses and Old Friends. The track provides one dedicated surrender stall; however, more are added as necessary. Horses are fed, watered, groomed, walked and turned out in a round pen if physical condition permits. Trainers are encouraged to continue care for their horse until the animal leaves the grounds. A horse's length of stay depends on available transportation. Turfway promotes its aftercare program through print communications, condition books, social media and a Racehorse Adoption Awareness Day. Turfway staff work on a case-by-case basis with owners and trainers on with placement issues.

LOUISIANA

Fair Grounds Race Course

Harrah's Louisiana Downs Casino & Racetrack

Fair Grounds Race Course and the Louisiana HBPA have a direct funding mechanism in place through the paymaster of purse, by which owners contribute \$1 per start. Fair Grounds is affiliated with Louisiana Horse Rescue (LHR), a program started by the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association. Financial aid, fundraising assistance and advertising in the condition book are provided. LHR's policy is that no unwanted horse will be turned away; the organization has assisted more than 30 horses to date. As a CDI track, Fair Grounds participates in the Green Pastures Program (see Churchill Downs).

Louisiana Downs works with Louisiana Horse Rescue, partnering on fundraising at the track and promotions.

MARYLAND

Laurel Park

Pimlico Race Course

Laurel and Pimlico, owned by MI Developments, Inc., both work with Thoroughbred Placement Services and Encore Thoroughbreds, making cash and in-kind contributions, encouraging on-track fundraising, demonstrations, awareness building and seminars. Additional funds to Thoroughbred retirement and re-training programs in Maryland are contributed through the Thoroughbred After-Care Program (GP TACP) of MID sister racetrack Gulfstream Park. (See Florida, Gulfstream Park.)

MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk Downs

Suffolk Downs and the New England HBPA have incorporated an aftercare funding mechanism into their purse agreement. The track is affiliated with CANTER New England, which hosts a “showcase” in the track’s stable area to allow prospective adopters an opportunity to inspect a large number of adoptable horses in one place. CANTER facilitates communication between the prospective buyers and current horse owners and trainers.

In 2009, Suffolk Downs, in conjunction with the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and through the support of the Fields Family Foundation, also established a home for retired racehorses at the Plymouth County Sheriff's Farm in Plymouth, MA, where inmates from the Plymouth County Correctional Facility care for the horses as part of the facility’s vocational program. Suffolk Downs in 2008 became the first racetrack in the country to implement a strict anti-slaughter policy for owners and trainers with horses stabled on its grounds.

MINNESOTA

Canterbury Park

Canterbury Park supports the Minnesota Retired Racehorse Project, Second Chance Ranch and Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue with financial contributions. The Minnesota HBPA contributes \$1 per start, which is matched by Canterbury. The Minnesota Retired Racehorse Project is allotted stalls in the stable area to receive unwanted or retired racehorses for rehabilitation/retraining and adoption. Horsemen and feed providers contribute feed, bedding, vet care and labor. Horses that are not adoptable are permanently retired at a state veterinarian’s 4,000-acre ranch. Over the last 12 years, more than 370 horses have been adopted or retired through the Canterbury Park programs.

NEW JERSEY

Monmouth Park

Monmouth Park and the New Jersey THA are affiliated with ReRun. Both organizations make direct annual contributions to support ReRun's equine adoption program and the track hosts a variety of fundraisers. Additionally, Monmouth Park jockeys donate \$1 per start. ReRun is on-site at the track to assist horsemen on a daily basis, and provides educational services and equine transition protocols for owners and trainers. Once a horse is ready for adoption, ReRun seeks adoptive homes. Potential applicants are well screened; each adopted horse leaves under contract; the adopter is placed on a two-year probationary period. Adopters agree to provide ReRun with a vet check at six-month intervals. If the horse has a catastrophic injury beyond repair, euthanasia is used as a dignified option.

NEW MEXICO

Sunland Park Racetrack & Casino

Sunland Park works with the Equine Protection Fund of New Mexico, Equine Encore Foundation, Humane Society of El Paso and Second Stride. Horsemen may make voluntary contributions to Thoroughbred retirement through automatic deductions from their purse accounts. The track also sells merchandise with proceeds benefitting Second Stride.

NEW YORK

Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack

New York Racing Association (Aqueduct Racetrack, Belmont Park, Saratoga Racecourse)

Finger Lakes Racing Association, owned by Delaware North, donated property for and supports an on-site facility called the Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program (FLTAP). The FLTAP barn houses up to 16 horses awaiting adoption. During the course of a year FLTAP places between 60 and 75 horses in new homes. That number includes horses donated to the program and horses on the backside that FLTAP personnel promote to interested and qualified horsemen. Each year, Finger Lakes Racing Association donates \$2 per start to the FLTAP, which is matched by horsemen. Additional funds come from grants, donations and fundraisers. FLTAP is overseen by a Board made up of HBPA representatives and Finger Lakes Racetrack management. FLTAP has re-homed nearly 500 horses since its founding in 2006.

The New York Racing Association (NYRA) has contributed financial support to the Columbia Greene Humane Society, Old Friends, Exceller Fund, the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and Equine Advocates. In addition to this support, in 2009 NYRA implemented an anti-slaughter policy that introduced penalties to offending horsemen while encouraging them to support horse rescue and adoption initiatives. The policy states: "Any owner or trainers stabled at a New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA) track found to have directly or indirectly sold a horse for slaughter will have his or her stalls permanently revoked from all NYRA tracks. NYRA requires horsemen to conduct due diligence on those buying horses and encourages them to support rescue and adoption efforts and to find humane ways of dealing with horses unable to continue racing."

In 2011, NYRA will launch an online Thoroughbred Retirement Resource Guide on NYRA.com. The guide is designed to help owners and trainers who are looking to find a home for their retired Thoroughbreds.

OHIO

Beulah Park

Beulah Park works with Ohio aftercare organizations CANTER Ohio and New Vocations as needed. The track provides financial contributions, access to its backstretch for information gathering by equine adoption representatives and three surrender stalls. The track has an agreement with the Ohio HBPA to split costs of feed and hay when necessary. Beulah Park has hosted events benefitting CANTER and Beulah Park horse retirement.

OKLAHOMA

Remington Park

Through legislation supported by the horse industry, the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission is developing a program to fund retirement and retraining for Oklahoma-bred Thoroughbreds. The state's racehorse owners have agreed to pay double registration fees to support it. Remington Park will make contributions on a per-starter basis; the amount is to be determined. Based on approximately 11,000 starters annually, the estimated contribution is \$66,000. Remington Park is affiliated with the Oklahoma Thoroughbred Retirement Program.

PENNSYLVANIA

Hollywood at Penn National Race Course

Parx Racing

Presque Isle Downs

Penn National Race Course works with New Vocations, providing financial assistance and help with advertising and promotions. The Pennsylvania HBPA coordinates the New Vocations program. Funding is automatic, with a \$10 per-start fee deducted from purse earnings or other pay-in fees. The track is developing a mechanism for racing fans to contribute to the program.

Parx Racing is affiliated with Turning for Home. Parx makes an annual donation, which is matched by the Pennsylvania THA. The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association also makes an annual contribution. Additional funding comes from a \$10 per-start fee from owners. Jockeys also contribute \$10 for a win and \$5 for a second-place finish. Trainers based at PARX a minimum of six months per year can place a horse with Turning for Home at no extra charge. In just three years, approximately 540 horses have been taken into the program. The PTHA pays the salary of the program administrator and PARX racing provides an office at the track.

TEXAS

Lone Star Park

Sam Houston Race Park

Sam Houston Race Park works with Lone Star Outreach to Place Ex-Racers (LOPE). The track was instrumental in forming this organization and has worked with it for a decade. The track makes charitable contributions and facilitates LOPE fundraisers. Similarly, Lone Star Park works with LOPE to facilitate the transition of racehorses off the track.

WASHINGTON

Emerald Downs

Emerald Downs started the Prodigious Fund in 2008 in cooperation with the Washington HBPA. Owners are encouraged to make voluntary contributions on a per-start basis through the paymaster of purse. Participation ranges from a minimum of \$1 to \$30 per start. Emerald Downs matches every dollar raised by contributing owners. The fund is also promoted as a memorial fund and fan contributions are encouraged. All contributions are dispersed at the end of each racing year to approved 501(c)(3) aftercare organizations, including Second Chance Ranch and Chez Cheveaux. Emerald Downs also facilitates on-track appearances by aftercare organizations to raise awareness and solicit contributions from fans.

WEST VIRGINIA

Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races

Mountaineer Casino, Racetrack & Resort

Charles Town Races and the Charles Town HBPA have jointly implemented an automatic funding mechanism for equine aftercare, which is written into the track/horsemen purse agreement. For each start, \$2 is contributed to an aftercare fund. The HBPA distributes the money to an aftercare group of its choosing. Charles Town Races also makes annual cash contributions to CANTER Mid-Atlantic. Additionally, the West Virginia Breeders' Classics, through its board of directors, contributes to the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation for the aftercare of horses that have raced at Charles Town.

Mountaineer and CANTER established a chapter at the track in 2008. The program offers a free horse sale listing service to trainers and owners. CANTER volunteers contact trainers in person to list and photograph horses for sale. Mountaineer horses that are available for sale or placement are available to the general public on the organization's Web site. Contact information is posted in the HBPA office. Mountaineer hosts fundraisers and awareness days; the track provides emergency stall space for horses being surrendered for adoption.

CANADA

*Fort Erie Race Track & Slots

***Woodbine**

Fort Erie Race track is affiliated with LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society. A percentage (0.15%) of purses are paid out of the purse account to support this program.

Woodbine also is affiliated with LongRun, which is headquartered at the track, and the Ontario Standardbred Adoption Society (OSAS). Like Fort Erie, Woodbine contributes 0.15% of purses to aftercare. LongRun receives approximately \$215,000 annually; OSAS receives \$200,000. Woodbine works with LongRun on its annual fundraising gala, a Day at the Track, and eBay auctions.

Addendum A

Racing Organizations

- Churchill Downs Incorporated (CDI) – The publicly traded company operates four racetracks: Arlington Park (IL), Calder (FL), Churchill Downs (KY) and Fair Grounds (LA).
- Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) – represents 30,000 racehorse owners and trainers in 17 states and is the largest horsemen’s organization.
- MI Developments, Inc. (MID) owns, through subsidiaries, the following racetracks: Gulfstream Park (FL); Santa Anita Park (CA); Golden Gate Fields Racetrack (CA); Pimlico Racecourse (MD); Laurel Racecourse (MD); and Portland Meadows Racetrack (OR). By June 2011, MID is expected to transfer its track interests to an entity owned by the Frank Stronach family, whose Adena Springs breeding operations have had equine retraining and re-homing programs since 2004. The Adena-style programs for retired horses will be the model for Stronach track facilities.
- National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) – A broad-based coalition of horse racing interests consisting of leading Thoroughbred racetracks, owners, breeders, trainers, horseplayers and affiliated horse racing associations, whose Safety and Integrity Alliance mandates racehorse adoption programs for its accredited racetracks.
- New York Racing Association (NYRA) – Operates three racetracks in New York State: Aqueduct, Belmont Park and Saratoga Racecourse.
- Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association (THA) – represents horsemen in New York, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland and New Jersey.
- Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) – represents Thoroughbred owners in California.
- Unwanted Horse Coalition – A coalition organized under the American Horse Council to address issues associated with unwanted horses.

Fundraising Organizations/Mechanisms

- Blue Horse Charities*
- California Retirement Management Account *
- Equine Protection Fund of New Mexico*
- Florida Thoroughbred Charities*
- Florida Thoroughbred Retirement and Adoptive Care Program (FL TRAC)*
- Galloping Out
- Green Pastures*
- Gulfstream Park Thoroughbred After-Care Program (GP TACP)
- The Jockey Club
- Keeneland Foundation*
- Thoroughbred Charities of America*
- Thoroughbred Retirement of Tampa (TROT)*
- Turf Paradise Foundation/Second Call Fund*

Organizations listed above may support other initiatives besides equine retirement.

Equine Retirement/Retraining Organizations

- California Equine Retirement Foundation (CARF)*
- Chez Chevaux*
- Columbia Greene Humane Society*
- Communication Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex-Racehorses (CANTER)***
- Encore Thoroughbreds
- Equine Advocates*
- Equine Encore Foundation*
- Exceller Fund*
- Friends of Ferdinand*
- GEVA, Inc.*
- Hope After Racing Thoroughbreds (HART)
- Horse Rescue of N. Scottsdale*
- Humane Society of El Paso*
- Jolene's Horse Rescue*
- Kentucky Equine Humane Center*
- Lone Star Outreach to Place Ex-Racers (LOPE)*
- LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society**
- Louisiana Horse Rescue*
- Manner Ranch
- Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue*
- Minnesota Retired Racehorse Project*
- New Vocations*
- Oklahoma Thoroughbred Retirement Program*
- Old Friends*
- Pure Thoughts*
- ReRun*
- Second Chance Ranch*
- Second Stride*
- Thoroughbred Placement Services*
- Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation*
- Tranquility Farm*
- Turning for Home*
- United Pegasus Foundation*

* 501 (c)(3) Registered Charity

** Registered Charity in Canada

***CANTER has chapters in Arizona, California, Gulf South Region, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Mid-Atlantic Region, New England Region, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Terminology

- **Backstretch (or Backside)** – Stable area of a racetrack.
- **Condition Book** – Booklet that lists all upcoming races at a particular track. Horsemen consult this book daily, seeking opportunities to place their horses in competition.
- **Horsemen** – Used interchangeably with the term “trainer.” More broadly, the term encompasses individuals who are directly associated with a racehorse, including owners.
- **Paymaster of Purse** – Also called “the horsemen’s bookkeeper.” Controls purse accounts at the racetrack for trainers and owners, depositing purse winnings and debiting accounts for a variety of payments authorized by the account holder.
- **Purse** – Prize money for a race.
- **Start** – A race by an individual horse, as in, the horse made eight starts in 2010.
- **Starter** – An individual horse in a race. As in, the race had 12 starters.
- **Surrender Stall** – Racetracks may provide one or more stalls free of charge on their backstretch to allow horsemen to “surrender” a horse that can no longer race. The track typically provides complimentary short-term care of the horse until it can be moved off-site to an adoption/retraining facility for re-homing.

WALLKILL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Located in New York's Mid-Hudson Valley, Wallkill Correctional Facility is the home of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation's first and model corrections/retired horse program. There are currently 61 horses residing at the facility. Approximately 600 inmates have participated in the program, with stints ranging from 2 weeks to as long as 12 years. After rehabilitation, most horses move on to other facilities or are adopted out for second careers. A population of lifetime retirees remains there as well.

The prison program has been replicated at TRF farms located at the Blackburn Correctional Facility in Kentucky, the Marion County Correctional Facility in Florida, Putnamville Correctional Facility in Indiana, James River Work Center in Virginia, Plymouth County Sheriff's Department Jail in Massachusetts, and the Wateree River Correctional Facility in South Carolina.

Since May 1984 at least 514 horses have been retired to Wallkill's program, where inmates – under the supervision and direction of a vocational instructor – care for and rehabilitate horses that have come off the track.

Inmates in the program earn approximately \$.95 a day providing daily care for the retired athletes and receiving vocational training. This is significantly less than what inmates are paid at other prison industry programs. From a correctional perspective, the program seeks to give the inmates a sense of responsibility, job skills and change inmates' attitudes toward other living things and themselves, according to the TRF.

The TRF developed a state-accredited vocational training course in horse care and management. The Foundation also funds all direct horse care costs including feed, hay, supplies, hoof-care and all other preventative and veterinary expenses.

According to Jim Tremper, Vocational Instructor of Horse Handling and Care at Wallkill, quite a few of the horses in the program have lived to 31 years, which is the age of the oldest horse currently at the facility. Tremper said that horse is expected to live for at least another year.

The Wallkill facility prides itself on successfully rehabilitating horses that would have otherwise been euthanized. According to Tremper, many horses have come to Wallkill with track veterinarians recommending that they be put down. However, of all the animals that have arrived at Wallkill, only two were injured so severely that they required euthanasia.

“About a year ago, we received (a horse) that our horse shoer said had the worst feet he's ever seen. The hooves are healing well and he's been sound without shoes or bandages for over 3 months now.” (Jim Tremper, Vocational Instructor, Horse Handling and Care at Wallkill Correctional Facility)

The Wallkill program serves as a transition and retraining program for horses and enables them to complete this process at the facility before being adopted out for new careers. Depending on

the horse's soundness and personality, they may become polo ponies, show jumpers, trail horses or riding horses for therapeutic use by the disabled.

Quotes:

“Working with the horses saved my life,’ said Jay Schleifer, a former Wallkill inmate who is now and alcohol and substance abuse counselor with the New York Department of Correctional Services. ‘Around them I could let my guard down. I could be myself. I could also learn from them...about love, trust and caring. And I also realized how much in common we had. We were all in pretty bad shape and we might have been beaten down, but we were definitely not out. Together, we could all make it.’” (“Partners, Horse and Man, in Prison Pasture,” Mike Wise, New York Times, 8/10/03)

“This program is not saving the horses, it is saving me. This is giving me a second chance at life also. Taking care of the horses is starting to give me back some self-respect. I am learning responsibility which was totally lacking in my life. I have a sense of purpose when I wake up everyday. ... I love every single one of these horses but there are a couple that I am really attached to. There is one horse (Rusty) he was severely abused so he doesn't trust anybody. I have been working with him every day and he is really starting to get better. He has taught me patience and gentleness, because if you don't have either one of them you will not get anywhere close to him. ...I am not saving him, we are saving each other, and I believe that is what this program is all about.” (Letter to TRF from Rick Martin, Inmate at Putnamville Correctional Facility, Greencastle, Indiana)

(Source: TRF working documents, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS))

New York Equine Rescues, Retirement Facilities, and Funds

Sources for Information

ART	On-line Story or Article		
EC	Equine Connection	HHC	The Homes for Horses Coalition
EQ	Equus carrots4acause	HRS	Horse Rescue Shelter
ERL	Equine Rescue League	HWO	Horse Welfare Organization
ERN	Equine Rescue News and Resources	NERC	National Equine Rescue Coalition
GF	Ghostfleet Farm	NHT	Natural Horse Training
HC	Horse Channel.com	NP	Net Pets
HDF	Horse Defense Fund	UHC	Unwanted Horse Coalition
HE	Helping Equines.org	CWH	Cherokee White Horse
SHP	Seedland Horse Pasture	ERR	Equine Rescue and Rehabilitation
FAS	Farm Animal Shelters		

Facilities

HWO	A Ton of Love Draft Horse Rescue http://www.atonoflove.org/ 120 Miller Road Guilford, NY 13780 607-764-8619 info@atonoflove.org Stephanie Algieri-Hanchett Up on cruelty charges 9-11
ART	Adirondack Equine Center & Horse Rescue http://www.adirondackhorse.com/ 101 Morningside Drive Lake Placid, NY 12946 518-834-9933 equinecnc@aol.com
GF-HRS-UHC	Akindale Thoroughbred Rescue http://www.akindalehorserescue.org/ 323 Quaker Hill Road Pawling, NY 12564

845-855-1262 akindalefarm@comcast.net

HWO-NHT-NERC-GF-HRS-UHC Amaryllis Farm Equine Rescue, Inc.
www.forrascal.com
44 Little Fresh Pond Road Southampton, NY 11968
631-537-7335 rascal11968@hotmail.com
Christine Barrett-Distefano

NP Angel's Gate
<http://www.angelsgate.org/index.htm>
510 Archie Elliott Road Delhi, NY 13753
607-746-9211 susan@angelsgate.org Susan Marino

ART Ashley's Barn Equine Rescue
28 Fish & Game Road Hudson, NY 12534
518-828-0651 ashleysbarn2004@yahoo.com
Dot Hempler

UHC Begin Again Horse Rescue, Inc.
<http://www.beginagainrescue.org/>
PO Box 28 Honeoye, NY 14471 585-322-2427
info@beginagainrescue.org Harriett Rubins

HWO-NHT-NERC-GF-HRS Bella Horse Rescue
www.bellahorserescue.org
P.O. Box 73 Plainview, NY 11803 info@bellahorserescue.org

NHT-HDF-HRS-ERN Blue Springs Farm
442 Fical Road St. Johnsville, NY blue_springs@frintiernet.net

UHC Borrowed Freedom Equine Assisted Therapies and Activities, Inc.
<http://www.borrowedfreedom.org/>
2520 Vestal Parkway East #313 Vestal, NY 13850
607-658-3298 programinfo@borrowedfreedom.org

NHT-GF Bright Futures Farm & Broken Spoke Stables
www.brokenspokestables.com
874 Narrow Notch Road Hobart, NY 13788 607-538-9651
info@brokenspokestables.com Christy Cole

NP-HDF-ERL-HE Carpe Diem Equine Rescue
<http://www.angelfire.com/ny3/carpediem/>
Cherokee Station, PO Box 20149 NY, NY 10021 201-798-4777
Reh495@aol.com Anja Frazer

HWO-HHC-EQ-HRS-HC-FAS Catskill Animal Sanctuary
www.casanctuary.org

HRS-HE 316 Old Stage Rd Saugerties, NY 12477 845-336-8447
 info@casanctuary.org Julie Barone
 Cherokee Ridge Animal Rescue Inc
 148 Jarvis Rd S Ravena, NY 518-731-7788

ART Columbia Greene Humane Society
<http://cghs.org/>
 125 Humane Society Road Hudson, NY 12534 518-828-6044

NHT-EQ-HRS-UHC Cracker Box Palace at Alasa Farms
<http://crackerboxpalace.org/>
 P.O. Box 174 Alton, NY 14413 315-483-2493
kdmck@localnet.com

HWO-NHT-GF-EC-HDF-HRS Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc.
www.cmvhr.org
 Westport, NY 12993 518-962-8512 horses@cmvhr.org
 Eddie Mrozik & Nancy Van Wie

ART Crow Dog Farm Horse Rescue
<http://www.crowdogfarm.com/>
 Box 62 Jewett, NY 518-336-0112
crowdogfarm@gmail.com

HC Double D Bar Ranch
<http://doubledbarranch.org/>
 344 Wading River Road Manorville, NY 11949 631-878-4106

HWO-NHT-HRS Double L Stable Equine Rescue and Sanctuary
<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/doublelstableequinerescue.html>
 Argyle, New York 12809 518-638-6929 manemare04@aol.com

HWO-GF-HRS Doxy's Horse Recovery
<http://www.doxyshorserecovery.org/>
 354 Sprague Road Afton, NY 13730 607-639-1832
doxyshorserecovery@yahoo.com Mike and Marilyn

NHT Dual State Equine Rescue
www.dualstateequinerescue.bravehost.com
 380 Lake Road East Hamlin, NY 14464 585-964-7585
horseplacement@aim.com Beth Mahar

UHC East Mountain Farm and Stables
<http://www.eastmountainfarmandstables.com/EMFSWebsiteHOMEpage1.htm>
 543 Poplar Hill Road Dover Plains, NY 12522 845-877-3728
TrainingScale@aol.com Karen Penney

NHT-GF-HRS Easy Street Horse & Barnyard Rescue, Inc.
www.easystreetrescue.org

109 Langley Road Amsterdam, NY 12010 518-421-0125
easystreetfarms@aol.com Nina Bellinger

HRS Elsas Ark Inc.
<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/NY288.html>
P.O. Box 2900 East Hampton, NY 11937 631-329-2900
elsasark@optonline.net

HWO-NHT-NP-EC-GF-EQHDF-HRS-HC-ERL-HE-UHC-CWH Equine Advocates, Inc.
www.equineadvocates.com
P.O. Box 354 Chatham, NY 12037 518-245-1599
Susan Wagner

NHT Equine Escape Rescue, Ltd.
www.horsesavers.us
3602 Route 44 Millbrook, NY 12545
845-677-4433 horsedrag@aol.com Frank Mancuso

HWO-HHC-NP-HDF-HRS-HE-ERL-NHT-GF-UHC-CWH Equine Rescue Inc.
www.equine_rescue.org
P.O. Box 392 Walden, NY 12586 845-733-6085
equinerescueinc@aol.com Lynda Broas

HWO-NHT-NP-GF-HDF-HRS-HC-ERN-ERL-HE-CWH Equine Rescue Resource, Inc.
www.equinerescueresource.com
P.O. Box 17 Pine Bush, NY 12566 845-744-1728
equinerescueresource@hotmail.com

HWO Erie County SPCA
<http://www.yourspca.org/>
205 Ensminger Road Tonawanda, NY 14150 716-875-7360
spcadirectors@spcaec.com

HDF-HRS-HE-FAS Farm Sanctuary
<http://www.farmsanctuary.org/farm/>
PO Box 150 Watkins Glen, NY 14891 607-583-2225

HWO-HHC-NHT-GF-EQHDF-HRS-UHC Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program
www.fingerlakestap.org
5757 Rt. 96 P.O. Box 25043 Farmington, NY 14425
585-303-1897 fltapkgaffney@yahoo.com Dr. Margare Ohlinger

UHC Forget-Me-Not Equine Retirement Center
<http://equine-retirement.com/index.htm>
557 County Rd. 26 Nineveh, NY 13813 607-639-2409
info@Equine-Retirement.com

HWO-NHT-HRS Forgotten Friends Pet Rescue, Inc.
www.petfinder.com/shelters/forgotten.html
6930 State Route 10 Sharon Springs, NY 13459

518-284-2655 yodelingyogi@aol.com

NHT-HRS
Godspeed Horse Hostel
www.godspeedhorse.org
5214 Route 22 Amenia, NY 12501 845-373-7388
info@godspeedhorse.org

HWO NY
Gray Dapple Thoroughbred Assistance Program
<http://graydapple.org/>

HWO-NERC-NHT-NP-EC-GF-HDF-HRS-ERN-HC-HE-ERL-UHC-CWH H.O.R.S.E. Rescue and Sanctuary
www.hrsny.org
P.O. Box 432 York, NY 14592 585-584-8210
rescue@rochester.rr.com Mike and Chris Dodge

NHT-GF-HRS
Harmony Hill
www.harmony-hill.net
Schodack Landing , NY 12156 518-281-7464
info@harmony-hill.net

ART
Heritage Acres
<http://www.heritageacresrescue.com/Main.html>
6404 Mt Pleasant Road Dansville, NY 14437 585-519-8341
sgonzales.ames@gmail.com Shelly Ames

ART
High Hill Horse Haven
<http://highhillhaven.webs.com/>
1682 High Hill Road Earlton, NY 12058 518-965-4422

HDF-HRS-HE-ERL-CWH
High Hopes Horse Haven
PO Box 111 Greenville, NY 12083

HWO-NERC-GF-HRS
Horse Savers US
www.horsesavers.us
720 Tower Hill Rd. Millbrook, NY 12545 845-677-4433
horsedrag@aol.com

NERC-UHC
Horsefeathers Farm
<http://www.freewebs.com/horsefeatherspmu/index.htm>
3171 Perretta Canastota, NY 13032 315-697-2750
mysolama@aol.com

HWO-GF-UHC
Humane Society at Lollypop Farm
<http://www.lollypop.org/orgMain.asp?ssid=&sid=>
99 Victor Road Fairport, NY 14450 585-223-1330
info@lollypop.org

HWO-NHT-HRS Humane Society of New York-Carriage
http://www.humanesocietyny.org/humane_issues/carriage_horse_adoption.php
306 East 59th Street New York, NY 10022 212-752-4842
Sandra DeFeo

HWO Kaeli Kramer Foundation
<http://www.kaelikramerfoundation.org/index.html>
PO Box 1015 Melville, NY 11747

HRS-UHC Little Brook Farm
<http://www.littlebrookfarm.org/>
County Rte 13, P.O. Box 127 Old Chatham, NY 12136
518-794-8104

NHT-EQ-HRS-UHC Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue
www.luckyorphanshorserescue.org
3 Great Pyr Way Pleasant Valley , NY 845-416-8583
Deanna Mancuso

NHT-GF-HRS Meadowgate Equine Rescue & Rehabilitation
www.nyhorserescue.net
Newfield, NY 607-564-7455 meadowgatehorses@aol.com
Pam Watros

CWH Miko Animal Rescue and Sanctuary (MARAS)
<http://www.angelfire.com/ny5/maras/>
PO Box 353 Coxsackie, NY 12051 CNmiko@aol.com

HWO-NP MJZ Horse Rescue
<http://mjzhorserescue.com/default.aspx>
Manorville, NY 631-878-3949 mjzhorserescue@optonline.net

GF-HRS-UHC New Beginnings Equine Rescue
<http://www.newbeginningsequineplacement.org/aboutus.htm>
389 CR361 Rensselaerville, NY 12147 518-797-3771
CCZHORSES@AOL.COM

HWO-NHT-GF-HDF-HRS-ERN-ERL-HE-CWH New York Horse Rescue
<http://nyhr.org/>
P.O. Box 435 Manorville, NY 11949 631-874-9420
mona@nyhr.org

EQ-UHC Peaceful Acres
<http://www.peacefulacreshorses.com/index.html>
3740 Rynex Corners Rd. Pattersonville, NY 12137
518-887-3178 peacefulacresinfo@gmail.com

HWO-NHT-HRS Pets Alive
www.petsalive.com

363 Derby Road Middletown, NY, 10940 845-386-9738
info@petsalive.com

UHC Pray Road Stables
www.prayroadstables.com
148 Pray Road Ogdensburg, NY 13669 315-393-3433
prayroadstables@gmail.com Paula Allen

HWO-HRS-UHC Project Sage Horse Rescue
<http://projectsagehorserescue.com/>
386 Bread and Cheese Hollow Road Northport NY 11768
631-239-1784 info@projectsagehorserescue.com

NHT-EC-HRS-ERL Promises Kept Equine Retirement Farm
www.promiseskept.org
2588 State Route 10 Summit, NY 12175 518-287-1870
ponyladee@aol.com Retired Horse Boarding

NERC-HRS-UHC Quarter-Acre Rescue Ranch
<http://www.freewebs.com/mulekist/>
118 River Rd. Johnsonville, NY 12094 518-753-7791
Qarr@nycap.rr.com

HRS-ERN-ERL-HE-UHC ReRun @Soft Wind Farm
<http://www.rerun.org/Pages/NewYorkChapter.html>
Fulton, NY 315-440-6823 reruntb@yahoo.com Sue Swart

HWO-GF Rosemary Farm Sanctuary
<http://rosemaryfarm.org/about/>
1646 Roses Brook Road Kortright, NY 13842
info@rosemaryfarm.org

FAS Safe Haven Farm Sanctuary
www.safehavenfarmsanctuary.org
542 Gardner Hollow Rd Poughquag, NY 12570 845-724-3136
safehavenfarmsanctuary@gmail.com

ART Sanctuary For Animals
<http://www.sanctuaryforanimals.com/index.html>
38 William Lain Road Westtown, NY 10998 845-726-4267
thesanctuaryforanimals.brook@gmail.com

NHT-GF Solid Rock Ranch
www.solidrockranch.net
222 Cty. Hwy. 143 Northville, NY 12134 518-848-0178
srhorserescue@yahoo.com

HRS SPCA In Cattaraugus County
<http://spcacattco.webstarts.com/index.html>

2944 Route 16 Olean, NY 14760 716-372-8492
spcacattco@myexcel.com

HRS

Spring Farm CARES
<http://springfarmcares.org/index.htm>
3364 State Rt. 12 Clinton, NY 13323
information@springfarmcares.org

HWO-HRS-UHC

Squirrelwood Equine Sanctuary, Inc.
<http://www.squirrelwoodequinesanctuaryinc.org/home.html>
1994 State Route 17K Montgomery, NY 12549 845-361 -2316
LuvPolo@aol.com

ERL-HE

Standardbred Pleasure Horse Organization
171 Meadow Drive Rochester, NY 14618 716-244-6564
marter@frontiernet.net

GF-UHC

Sunshine Horses
<http://nysunshinehorses.org/default.aspx>
6600 North Macdonald Road Memphis, NY 13112
315-729-7016 katesunshinehorses@yahoo.com

NHT-UHC

Sword n Rose Rescue Ranch
www.snrrr.com
172 S. Daysville Road Pulaski, NY 13142 315-298-4312
snrrranch@yahoo.com

ERL-HE-CWH

Syracuse Hambletonians Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 628 Cazenovia, NY 13035 315-655-2244

HWO-NHT-GF-HDF-HRS-ERN-HE-CWH

Tender Mercy Equine Rescue
www.tendermercyrescue.com
5639 Lewiston Road Middleport, NY 14105 716-471-4796
cripleridge@wnyip.net

HDF-HRS-HE-CWH

The Last Stop
256 Fiddler's Elbow Rd. Greenwich, Ny 12834 518-692-9820

NP-NHT-EC-HRS

The Second Chance Horse Rescue
6 Edgewood Drive Central Valley, NY 10917 845-928-6288
second_chance_horse_resq@yahoo.com

NHT-HRS

Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation
www.trfinc.org
P.O. Box 3387 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 518-226-0028
diana@trfinc.org Diana Pikulski

ART TRF @ Wallkill Correctional Facility
<http://www.trfinc.org/Farms-and-Facilities-c10.html>
Wallkill, NY

UHC Turk's Southwind Stables
www.turksouthwind.com
2178 Dean Road Lodi, NY 14860 607-582-6408
LODIQH@yahoo.com Tina Turk

NHT-EC-NP-HDF-HRS-ERN-HE-CWH Western New York Equine Sanctuary, Inc.
http://www.zootoo.com/animalsanctuaries/zip14094_westernnewyorkequinesanctuary
6781 Ridge Rd Lockport, NY 14094
CPiazza912@aol.com

HRS-HE-CWH Wind Haven Horse Shelter
128 Short Rd. Guilford, NY 13780 607-843-8793

FAS Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary
www.woodstockfas.org
PO Box 1329 Woodstock, NY 12498
845-679-5955 info@woodstockfas.org

UHC Wright Rescue
<http://www.freewebs.com/equinel/>
Manorville, NY 11949 516-220-8812 EquineLI@yahoo.com

United States Equestrian Federation (“USEF”)

The Performance Horse Registry (PHR) is part of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), which was formed in 10004 with the merger of the American Horse Show Association and the United States Equestrian Team. The USEF has more than 80,000 members who are riders and owners of horses who compete in several breed and discipline categories, including Olympic equestrian sports. USEF’s Equestrian Magazine’s demographic information on its readers and their spending profiles illuminate a researched market to tap for sport racehorses.

In 2009, the USEF founded a second sporthorse registry within the PHR. The America Performance Horse Registry (APH) registers only horses born in the U.S. Once registered as an APH horse, it is registered with the PHR. Upon registration with either, the horse’s pedigree information become available. An APH horse who obtains a USEF competition number may enter two separate year-end point award competitions, the PHR’s Silver Stirrup awards and the APH awards.

From USEF’s Web site (www.usef.org) as of November 30, 2011

Mission Statement. We are the National Governing Body ("NGB") of Equestrian Sport in the United States. We provide leadership and vision for equestrian sport by regulating competitions and promoting the safety and welfare of horses and riders while encouraging interest, participation, and excellence at every competitive level. We embrace the Olympic movement and the spirit of fair play while supporting all breed and discipline affiliates within the Federation family equally. We celebrate the equestrian lifestyle and the benefits of good health and outdoor exercise.

The USEF is dedicated to uniting the equestrian community, honoring achievement, and serving as guardians of equestrian sport. Since its inception in 1917, the Federation has been dedicated to pursuing excellence and promoting growth, all while providing and maintaining a safe and level playing field for both its equine and human athletes.

The USEF trains, selects, and funds our United States Equestrian Team which consistently wins medals at the highest level of international competition, including the Olympic Games. The USEF also licenses equestrian competitions of all levels across the United States each year.

As part of this pledge to protect equine welfare, the USEF continues to help support federal and state governments and works closely with other national equine organizations.

As National Governing Board for equestrian sports, the USEF has the following responsibilities:

- (1) Serve as the NGB for equestrian sport in the United States and member of the USOC;
- (2) Extend the universality of equestrian sport, and promote its visibility to the public . . .
- (4) Promote and encourage physical fitness, promote sportsmanship and public participation in equestrian events and activities in the United States, and educate members and the public with respect thereto; assist organizations and individuals concerned with the development of programs for athletes in equestrian events

- (9) Encourage and support amateur athletic sports programs for individuals with a disability and the participation of individuals with a disability in amateur athletic activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with a disability in programs of athletic competition for able-bodied individuals;
- (11) Develop interest and participation in equestrian sport throughout the United States and work with affiliate associations, breed and discipline organizations, and other organizations to encourage participation.
- (12) Serve as the coordinating body for equestrian activity in the United States;
- (13) . . . ; and provide for varying levels of regional and national competition in a wide variety of disciplines to increase the breadth and depth of the sport throughout the country. . . .
- (15) . . . and expand and enhance the image of equestrian sports. . . .
- (16) Encourage and support research in the areas of sports medicine and sports safety for both the human and the equine athlete and disseminate information that is developed.

Performance Horse Registry and American Performance Horse Registry

www.phr.com

When the Jockey Club, one of the nation's premier record-keeping bodies for registered Thoroughbreds, launched the new Performance Horse Registry (PHR) in 1994, many Thoroughbred owners raced to register their horses in what would become known as the first central database in North America to combine pedigree and performance records of Thoroughbreds and half-Thoroughbreds, documenting the influence of the breed in events away from the track.

Proud of their versatile Thoroughbreds, the founders knew that with careful breeding, exceptional all-around athletes could be produced—athletes that could excel in any equestrian discipline. With a new system in place to record and track career highlights, owners and breeders were able to measure equestrian performance against pedigrees, providing tangible evidence to support and enhance future breeding decisions.

These successes that followed were celebrated at the yearly Silver Stirrup Awards in an effort to recognize, reward and promote excellence among these Thoroughbred owners and breeders. At the time, no one quite knew the impact this registry, or this yearly awards program, would have on the equestrian world as a whole.

Two short years later in 1996, the PHR expanded its scope to focus on building a comprehensive database for the entire sport horse industry, spurred by the support of industry organizations, such as the American Horse Shows Association, the United States Equestrian Team and the Federation of North American Sport Horse Registries. This fulfilled one of the registry's primary commitments, to provide owners and breeders complete information on which to base future buying and breeding decisions. Despite its youth, the PHR uncovered sires and broodmare sires which were producing successful sport horses on a consistent basis.

During the formative years of the PHR, Warmblood registries such as the Belgian Warmblood Breeding Association/North American District (BWP/NAD), the Hungarian Horse Association, and the Dutch Warmblood Studbook in North America (NA/WPN) began recording their stallions and foal crops to add another dimension to the pedigree research already in place for the full Thoroughbred bloodlines, enabling the PHR to follow the bloodlines of half-Thoroughbreds.

Many positive changes followed in the years to come, including a move from the Jockey Club to the American Horse Shows Association, now the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), in September of 2000. In 2004, PHR became part of the USEF, and is now considered an official branch of the National Governing Body. With the move, the registry became the source for sport horse breeding for the Federation. Now the lineage of horses competing in the United States can be tracked and honored. The move provided a needed boost for the registry, ensuring it would have a valued impact on the sport horse world in the 21st century.

All breeds are now eligible for registration with the Performance Horse Registry in an effort to develop a comprehensive database of pedigrees and breeding influence on the sport horse world.

In addition, the Silver Stirrup Awards continue to recognize performances of PHR horses at all levels of competition in every major discipline, including widespread recognition in dressage and eventing disciplines. The program also recognizes leading sires, owners and breeders. For the 2004 competition year, the PHR presented 53 national championship awards at the USEF Annual Meeting, in addition to regional and state awards. Once registered with the PHR, a horse may be nominated for inclusion in the awards program on an annual or a lifetime basis.

Does the PHR still require my horse to be of 50% or more Thoroughbred blood to be registered?

No. The 50% or more Thoroughbred bloodline is no longer required. In September 2000, the PHR moved to its new home at the United States Equestrian Federation (formally American Horse Shows Association). The move came as a positive development for the registry. Support over the years from various Warmblood registries began to play an important role in assisting the PHR to move forward with the vision of providing meaningful information to owners and breeders with regard to performance and pedigree in sport horse disciplines. Changes to the registry have included the ability of Warmblood owners to now register their animals with the PHR. Previously, Warmbloods were only eligible to be recorded with the PHR, which simply lent their pedigrees to research. These horses were eligible to participate in the awards program, which provided more performance-related information. Both the influence of the Thoroughbred on their Warmblood counterparts and vice versa has become quite noticeable. All horses are now eligible for registration with the PHR, which is a step beyond being simply recorded, to develop a comprehensive database of all breeds, their pedigrees and influences upon each other.

Am I automatically joined in the Silver Stirrup Awards program when I register my horse?

No. The Silver Stirrup Awards program requires a separate nomination. Forms other than the registration forms must be filled out to nominate the horse. This can be done for a one-time lifetime fee, or on an annual basis. To join the Silver Stirrup Awards program, click [here](#).

How does my horse earn points for the Silver Stirrup Awards?

The Silver Stirrup Awards are based on points earned in USEF recognized competitions. Therefore, the first step is that the competition must be recognized by USEF. Secondly, the horse must be recorded with USEF, and the owner must be a member. (Remember: Only recorded horses earn points with USEF.) Finally, and most obviously, the horse must place in the class. All points are based on USEF's Horse of the Year program. Those rules and point calculations can be found in the USEF Rule Book. For dressage and eventing, those point scales can be found on the PHR website under Silver Stirrup - Award Rules.

American Performance Horse

The Performance Horse Registry and the United States Equestrian Federation has a new book [registry] for American-bred horses only. Beginning December 1, 2009, the American

Performance Horse (APH) will be open to all American-bred performance horses. The goal for the APH is to showcase performance horses bred in the United States.

How do I enter my horse into the APH?

You will need to fill out the request on a Federation Horse Recording form and submit a copy of the breed papers or a USEF Breeders Affidavit along with a \$10.00 processing fee.

If the breed registry has a data share agreement [Q would the Jockey Club consider having a data share agreement with the United States Equestrian Federation?] with the Federation, your horse (if eligible) will automatically be placed in the APH at no additional cost to you. (For more information on this, breed registries should contact Ken Ball, PHR Registrar, at kball@usef.org or via phone at 859-225-2035.) The following breed registries currently have a data share agreement with USEF:

- American Hanoverian Society
- American Holsteiner Horse Association
- Belgian Warmblood Breeding Association/NA District
- Continental Studbook
- North American Studbook
- Swedish Warmblood of North America

Does my horse have to be Recorded with USEF to be eligible for the APH?

No. Any horse born in the U.S. is eligible to enter the registry if they provide proof that they are American-bred. Horses enrolled by submitting breed papers or a USEF Breeders Affidavit will incur a small processing fee (\$10.00). [Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds are eligible however do not have a data share agreement with their bred registries, the Jockey Club being the breed registry for TBs.]

APH horses will appear on APH Rankings Lists and will be eligible for APH Year-End Awards. Unless the horse is also recorded with USEF, it will not be eligible for future Incentive Fund payouts, Silver Stirrup Awards or USEF Horse of the Year Awards. However, the horse will appear on the APH rankings list and will be eligible for the APH Year-End Awards.

How is the American Performance Horse recognized?

APH horses who are also USEF recorded will be designated with a special symbol in the USEF Horse of the Year standings. Additionally, if the APH horse is registered with a breed registry, that logo will appear as well.

Recorded and non-recorded USEF horses will be recognized on a ranking list for APH horses only. This list will also show the breed registry logo.

All horses enrolled will be eligible for APH Year-End Awards. If recorded with USEF, horses get APH recognition printed on their recording certificate, but will not receive extended pedigree papers like with PHR. APH horses can be enrolled in the Silver Stirrup Awards if they are also USEF recorded.



The Jockey Club is the breed registry for all Thoroughbred horses in North America. As such, it is responsible for maintaining *The American Stud Book*, which includes all Thoroughbreds foaled in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico as well as Thoroughbreds imported into those countries from nations around the world that maintain similar Thoroughbred registries.

The Jockey Club was formed on February 9, 1894, in New York City by several prominent Thoroughbred owners and breeders determined to bring a sense of order to the sport.

The organization is dedicated to the improvement of Thoroughbred breeding and racing, and it fulfills that mandate by serving many segments of the industry through its wholly owned subsidiaries, strategic partnerships and charitable foundations by providing support to a wide range of industry initiatives, including several focused on the safety of both horse and rider.

The Jockey Club Technology Services is a technology company formed in 2002 to maximize the benefits of state-of-the-art communications and data management technology in support of the continued growth of The Jockey Club and the industry at large.

Equibase Company LLC is a partnership between The Jockey Club and the Thoroughbred Racing Associations of North America and serves as the Thoroughbred industry's Official database for racing information. Its website features general information about the sport, a variety of statistics, a comprehensive menu of free entries, results and race charts as well as premium handicapping products.

TrackMaster is a wholly owned subsidiary of Equibase and a leading provider of electronic data to high-end handicappers. It is the only company to provide a complete line of handicapping products for the three major racing breeds — Thoroughbred, American Quarter Horse and Standardbred.

Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation is the nation's leading private source of equine research funding, having individually contributed more than \$18.1 million to 40 universities since 1983 to underwrite 279 specific projects aimed at enhancing the health and safety of horses.

The Jockey Club Foundation is a charitable trust created to provide financial relief to needy members of the Thoroughbred industry and their families. Since 1985, the foundation has helped over 1,000 individuals and their immediate families with more than \$13 million in support.

http://www.jockeyclub.com/about_tjc.asp

The Jockey Club Launches Incentive Program for Thoroughbred Sport Horses

News release dated October 14, 2011

The Jockey Club today announced the launch of the Thoroughbred Incentive Program (T.I.P.), which will recognize and reward the versatility of the Thoroughbred through sponsorship of Thoroughbred classes and high point awards at locally, nationally or internationally sanctioned horse shows. The Jockey Club has committed \$100,000 to the Thoroughbred Incentive Program for a pilot program in 2012.

“The Thoroughbred Incentive Program is a natural extension of our ongoing efforts in Thoroughbred aftercare,” said James L. Gagliano, The Jockey Club’s president and chief operating officer. “We encourage other groups to join us as we assist with the transition of Thoroughbreds into second careers.”

“Thoroughbreds are versatile athletes, which makes them ideally suited for any number of disciplines beyond the racetrack,” said Dell Hancock, a steward of The Jockey Club, a longtime Thoroughbred owner/breeder and a former horse show competitor. “The Thoroughbred Incentive Program will help showcase and reward the breed’s many talents at all levels of competition and will encourage the retraining of Thoroughbreds once they have finished their racing or breeding career.”

“Although a Thoroughbred named Kim’s Song never beat a horse on the race track, she went on to be a national hunter champion and put me on the map as a young rider in the 1970s, so I have a deep-rooted appreciation for Thoroughbreds competing in the show world,” said R. Bruce Duchossois, a horse owner and breeder and championship competitor in multiple equestrian disciplines. “I commend The Jockey Club for developing an incentive program for Thoroughbred sport horses and I strongly encourage show organizers to participate by offering T.I.P.-sponsored Thoroughbred classes and awards in 2012.”

Horse show organizers that would like to offer a T.I.P. Thoroughbred class and/or high point award at their show in 2012 should complete the T.I.P. application available at tjctip.com. T.I.P. sponsorships are available for a variety of disciplines, including eventing, dressage, hunters, jumpers and western and English pleasure, and will include ribbons, prizes and in some cases, purse money. The deadline for applications is November 30, 2011.

In addition to class and award sponsorships at shows, the Thoroughbred Incentive Program will also offer two annual awards in 2012:

The T.I.P. Thoroughbred of the Year Award will recognize a Thoroughbred that has excelled in a non-competitive career, such as equine-assisted therapy or police work. The award will include a \$5,000 grant to the non-profit organization associated with the horse or, if not associated with a non-profit organization, to a horse-related charity chosen by The Jockey Club.

The T.I.P. Young Rider of the Year Award will recognize a young rider, 18 or under, who owns or leases a Thoroughbred for use in 4-H, Pony Club or other activities. The winner(s) will be determined through an essay contest with a total award of \$5,000 annually that can be applied to the college of their choice or to their participation in an event that furthers their involvement with

horses. Applications for the T.I.P. Thoroughbred of the Year Award and T.I.P. Young Rider of the Year Award will be made available at tjctip.com in 2012.

Thoroughbreds registered with The Jockey Club will be eligible for participation in all T.I.P. classes and awards. Horse owners interested in participating in T.I.P. can find more information regarding eligibility and assistance with identification of Thoroughbreds at tjctip.com.

The Jockey Club, founded in 1894 and dedicated to the improvement of Thoroughbred breeding and racing, is the breed registry for North American Thoroughbreds. In fulfillment of its mission, The Jockey Club provides support and leadership on a wide range of important industry initiatives and it serves the information and technology needs of owners, breeders, media, fans and farms, among others. Additional information is available at jockeyclub.com.

Appendix _____

From the blog by Susan Salk entitled Off-Track Thoroughbreds.com

Link to the story below is: <http://offtrackthoroughbreds.com/2010/09/25/riddle-comet-shows-ex-racehorse-potential/>

The horse profiled is a New York-bred who finished his racing career at Finger Lakes.

Riddle: Comet a star among ex-racehorses

By [Susan Salk](#) on September 25, 2010



Photo by Mike McNally. Reprinted, permission by Becky Holder

Courageous Comet was no Secretariat on the racetrack.

But now well into his second career, the gorgeous gray horse seen bounding across dozens of YouTube videos—neatly clearing stadium jumps and enthusiastically throwing himself over water obstacles— has nailed it.

The off-track Thoroughbred has been to the Beijing Olympics, and recently took third at the 2010 Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. This month he swept the American Eventing Championship and is to compete at the famed World Equestrian Games, held in the Kentucky Horse Park beginning this weekend.

As he gallops his way across eventing challenges, those who seek to raise awareness of the talent and potential of ex-racehorses hold up Courageous Comet as a powerful example.

World-renowned Kentucky veterinarian practice Rood & Riddle instituted the Thoroughbred Sport Horse of the Year award this year, and Courageous Comet was the first recipient.

On Sept. 10, Tom Riddle, DVM, a founding partner of Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital, presented the honor at the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) 25th annual National Awards Dinner. As the decorative vase was presented to Courageous Comet's co-owner Tom Holder, husband of the horse's rider Becky Holder, the argument for giving ex-racehorses a chance seemed to crystallize.

"My goal in developing this award was to try to put the spotlight on Thoroughbreds and on their usefulness in careers other than racing," says Riddle in a telephone interview. "It's very important to me that these horses who have served us so well as racehorses be given other opportunities."

"They're amazing athletes," he adds. "People need to be aware of that."



Mike McNally photo. Reprinted permission of Becky Holder

Riddle hopes more ex-racehorse Thoroughbreds will be given the opportunity that Comet was, when the horse was purchased by the Holders in 2000.

"While some Thoroughbreds are raised specifically to be racehorses, others are finding greater success in their second careers as sport horses," Riddle said at ceremony. "Through this award, we hope to decrease the number of unwanted horses in the U.S. by demonstrating their value in these non-racing professions."

Courageous Comet was selected by a celebrity committee made up by George Morris, Mark Phillips, Patty Heuckeroth, Hilda Gurney and famed U.S. equestrian and race horse trainer Michael Matz. Using a point system, the horse's performance was weighed against other competitive Thoroughbreds in hunter, jumper, dressage and eventing disciplines.



Dr. Tom Riddle, left, presents award to Tom Holder. Photo by Bill Straus

To Thoroughbred advocates, the fact that Rood & Riddle partnered with the United States Equestrian Federation and The Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association to highlight achievements of ex-racehorses is a great step.

Alex Brown, internationally known Thoroughbred advocate, exercise rider, and chronicler of Barbaro's legacy, says the award helps spotlight the great potential of ex-racehorses.

“Sometimes a horse is just pursuing the wrong discipline,” Brown says. “When pursuing the right discipline, they can thrive.”

Michael Blowen, president and founder of Old Friends, an equine retirement facility for pensioned ex-racehorses, says, “Courageous Comet is one more magnificent example of what an amazing athlete can accomplish given the proper training and care.



Mike McNally photo. Reprinted with permission Becky Holder

“Winning the Sport Horse of the Year is not only a tribute to Courageous Comet, but it symbolizes what so many other ex-racehorses might do if given the same opportunities.”

Awards like this help to recast the image of ex-racehorses, says Stuart Pittman, founder of the Retired Racehorse Training Project.

“This award is brilliant because it honors retired racehorses as elite sport horses. We think of them too often as “rescues” while in fact, they are out there making ... careers for riders at the top levels of our equestrian disciplines. The award will remind people that there is no limit to what a good Thoroughbred can do after a racing career with good training and riding.”

Sharla Sanders, founder of The Second Race, an ex-racehorse networking organization, agrees. The new award helps raise awareness of just how good off-track Thoroughbreds can be.

“There is a continual stigma attached to the racing Thoroughbred” when being considered for a sport horse or performance career, she says; but, the Rood & Riddle award will help overcome that stigma by “honoring the versatility and athleticism of the Thoroughbred.”

SARATOGA THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

STEP is a therapeutic riding program devoted to improving the physical and psychosocial life of special needs children and adults using the horse as a therapy tool. STEP has been providing its services to the surrounding Capital District children and adults with special needs since 1986 in Glenville, NY. STEP has an all volunteer staff that maintains the facility and its ten horses year round. Volunteers train the horses, other volunteers, teach lessons, build trail systems, work with community service groups, assist therapists and instructors, and market and develop programs, while maintaining the business of STEP at the facility.

Ninety-six percent of all revenues obtained for the program are applied directly to the program expenses with less than four percent going towards administrative and fundraising. All administrative and professional services are provided on a volunteer basis with support from the general public community, volunteers and clients of STEP who donate all fundraising expenses.

STEP provides an outlet for community service groups, individuals, benevolent organizations, school groups, college groups, church youth groups, girl scouts, boy scouts and corporate groups. They help year round through special projects at STEP.

Clients Physical Benefits: At STEP the horses and volunteers help riders with the physical therapist to meet important physical therapy goals. The horse's body warmth and forward movement "exercise" the rider by stimulating unused, contracted, or spastic muscles. In addition, our developmental riding therapy program can improve gross and fine motor skills, posture, balance, equilibrium, and muscle tone; it also can enhance body awareness and perceptual skills in activities of daily living. Patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) demonstrate increased cognition, processing, stability, and improved socialization with increased physical improvements.

Psychosocial Benefits: The relationship between the rider and the horse, combined with the skill and discipline required for riding promotes an improved self-image and longer attention span. Focused and appropriate behavior for the activity and perhaps most important, a sense of self-confidence and achievement through a controlled and safe "risk taking" activity creates benefits. Social interaction is an integral part of our program. Our riders participate in horse shows and special events to help them to be an integral part of our surrounding community and to level the playing field between the able-bodied and those with special needs.

Volunteer Benefits:

- Gain job skills and experience both horse and non-horse related
- Learn the value of being needed
- Promote understanding of special needs individuals
- Give individual attention to participants in the community
- Obtain education opportunities
- Gain confidence in self and others-teamwork
- Develop professional work habits, references and job experience

Organization: Saratoga Therapeutic Equestrian Program, Inc. (STEP) is a not-for profit organization incorporated in 1986 under the laws of the State of New York and is exempt from federal income

taxes under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. STEP's primary purpose is the provision of therapeutic horseback riding and horse related activities for children and adults with special needs, both physically and mentally challenged. All "students" are referred to STEP through professional channels, including rehabilitation centers, medical doctors, family nurse practitioners, hospitals, school systems, special educations departments, and other human health and welfare agencies throughout the Capital District. STEP is a member of PATH, (formerly NARHA, the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association) and follows its procedures and guidelines in its delivery of services to these special populations. STEP also complies with requirement of the professional regulatory commission of State Education Department of New York.

Total Clients Served 2011: 465

Total Volunteers: 53

Total STEP Family & Friends: 658

Chief Administrative Personnel

President: Karen Stanley-White P.T, Executive Director, Physical Therapist, Master Instructor, Volunteer

Vice President: Jon Brower, Realtor: Owner Cyc., Volunteer

Treasurer: Lori Larson, Actuary Banking, Volunteer

Secretary: Debra Kazmierczak, Volunteer

Members: Chris Bagarose, Volunteer, Instructor;

Teresa Benosky/ Volunteer

Teresa Capovani/Volunteer

Executive Committee:

Karen Stanley-White P.T. Executive

Teresa Benosky

Lori Larson

Jon Brower

General Committee:

Ann Waytho, Volunteer Coordinator

Lynda Sherry, Barn Manager/Instructor

Carla Burroughs, Instructor

Suzie Simmons PT, Instructor

2012 and Three Year Goals

1. Have our sensory integration trail completed with proper footing and signage
2. Build and complete a classroom/viewing room attached to the indoor riding ring.
3. Expand our educational program and promote more community involvement in special educational events.
4. Increase our base of professional volunteer support and barn staff
5. Continue to grow financially through the Annual Appeal.
6. Continue developing business and management aspects of STEP.
7. Continue developing program and meeting clients' needs.
8. Train new equines for the program to replace those retiring.

9. Certify two instructors with NARHA.
10. Reintroduce the Driving for the Disabled program.
11. Increase funding for our scholarship program.

STEP Mission Statement

STEP's mission is to provide an opportunity for those with disabilities of all dimensions, a framework that will enhance their functional potential with ADL's (activities of daily life), utilizing both tested and innovative modes of equestrian rehabilitation and treatment.

Vision Statement

A shared vision and goals of volunteers, equestrians, and members of the board is to:

- Provide quality personalized equine rehabilitative services.
- Correlate complementary services with the needs of clients within the community.
- Promote education and training for participants, volunteers, and horses according to PATH (NARHA) and AHA standards.
- Provide service projects for Capital District Colleges, schools, and community organizations.
- Continue to promote research and advocacy of the benefits of therapeutic riding.

Professional Program Goals

- Provide quality personalized equine rehabilitation services
- Correlate complementary services with the needs of clients within the community
- Promote educational training for participants, volunteers, and horses according to PATH (NARHA) standards
- Provide service projects for Capital District Colleges, Schools and Community organizations
- Continue to promote research and advocacy on the benefits of therapeutic riding through public speaking and community health education

Program Services

Hippotherapy . STEP-Up therapeutic riding services, Equine Experiential Learning Program and Horses for Heroes are offered at STEP

STEP provides for children and adults ages 4 and up a unique form of therapy in which the horse is used as a partner to improve their ability to function in life. Included in the program are those with cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, traumatic brain injury (TBI), blindness, ADHD, PDD (pervasive developmental disorder), aspergers syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome, downs syndrome, learning disabled, at risk youth, apraxia, sensory integration and hearing impaired. Treatment is according to PATH (NAHRA) standards and approved by medical doctors.

After the initial evaluation is completed we provide a hands-on approach specifically tailored by a physical therapist; speech language pathologist, occupational therapist, instructor or psychotherapist to meet the needs of each child or adult. Both short term and long term goals are established and monitored through the season by progress notes. Children and adults are paired with the appropriate horse and volunteers in one of three areas of our program.

First, those that cannot be independent on the horse must receive passive care and are placed in Hippotherapy sessions. Second, those that can bridge the gap growing towards independence may start

in STEP –UP, our own copyrighted developmental riding program. Third, eventually joining others who can be independent in the therapeutic riding program and potential Special Olympics participants.

Our facility is handicapped accessible with a specially designed wheelchair-mounting ramp, handicapped bathroom, specially designed equipment, and grooming tools. Our horses are specially trained for the program and come from various areas of the horse world. Children and adults are offered choices of “ring work” and trail work on the sensory integration trails as part of their lessons.

Supporting Services

Financial Support:

We obtain scholarships for individuals who cannot obtain financial help or are in need. Local organizations that assist us are child and family services of Schenectady county, Epilepsy foundation, AIM, Center for the Disabled, the Lutheran Brotherhood, United way of Schenectady County and Catholic Charities, Saratoga Gaming & Raceway, The Karen and Gary Dake Foundation, the MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOUNDATION, The STEWARTS HOLIDAY MATCH Campaign, Freihofers Run/Walk for Women, and various charitable organizations in the Capital District. Supporting professionals donate their time to evaluation and implementing therapy to the children with the staff.

Community Service Groups

Physical Support:

We are provided with physical help from many community service groups including Living Resources (an adult group with special needs), GE. Research and Development, Alpha Phi Omega From R.P.I College, Lockheed-Martin, KAPL, IBM service groups, Local Rotary Organizations, St. George’s Masons, Trinity Baptist Youth Groups, The World Changers, Mohawk and Hudson River Girl Scouts, Boy scouts, G.I.V.E, Scotia Glenville Local School Honor Students, Russell Sage Physical Therapy Club and the Galway Lions Club. Our groups vary with each year and our list continues to grow.

Organization Activities

STEP provides not only therapeutic riding, hippotherapy, developmental riding and driving, it also provides an avenue for volunteers to gain experiences in a unique program with the surrounding community. STEP holds quarterly community fundraisers and events that bring both able-bodied and special needs people together. Every year in March we hold the candle ceremony and lighting of our tree of love called the Lights of Love. In March we hold an indoor “picnic party”, followed by volunteer training on Saturdays for new and returning volunteers. April signals the beginning of the Spring season with the “Open House” in May followed by the Teddy BEAR Picnic in August. More volunteer training continues in May and into June. Every July, we have a volunteer barbeque, and then begin our summer program for clients. In September we have our annual “Farm Family Fun Day’ community awareness event and “Horse Poop Bingo”. October is our annual horse show and “STEP out 2 the RACES” fundraiser followed by “STEP out with SANTA” in December which winds down the season. Our volunteer awards banquet has been combined with a Christmas party, for the past few years. We conclude the year and signal the beginning of the next with a NO-GO-NO SHOW New Year’s Eve party.



About EAGALA Military Services

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy, also known as “horse therapy,” is a growing modality of treatment which specifically benefits PTSD, issues surrounding pre and post deployment, family therapy, addictions, and builds resilience. It is important to note that just because horses are involved, it does not mean these treatment issues or needs are being addressed. Other approaches such as therapeutic riding or hippotherapy focus on physical and occupational therapy needs. Still others teach horsemanship and riding and although there are therapeutic benefits, are not focused on directly addressing the intensive psychological needs of service members and their families.

Founded in 1999, the Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA) is a nonprofit, international professional association with over 3,500 members in 40 countries. The EAGALA Model of Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) provides a focused comprehensive treatment and education approach to address presenting psychological issues where horses are incorporated in an experiential, hands-on, solution-oriented process.

The EAGALA Model is unique in that:

- Team approach – A licensed Mental Health Professional and a qualified Equine Specialist work as a team with the clients and horses. This level of care is provided in all sessions.
- Ground-based- No horseback riding is involved. Instead, effective and deliberate techniques are utilized where the horses are metaphors in specific ground-based experiences.
- Solution-oriented- The basis of the EAGALA Model is a belief that all clients have the best solutions for themselves when given the opportunity to discover them. Therapy-focused experiences allow service members and their families to explore, problem-solve, overcome challenges, and discover which leads to resiliency in all aspects of life.
- Code of Ethics – EAGALA has high standards of practice and ethics and an ethics committee and protocol for upholding these standards – ensuring best practices and the highest level of care.

Why horses?

- o As a prey animal, horses are very sensitive, highly alert, and exceptional at reading non-verbal communication. This high alert state is something service members relate to.
- o Because horses read non-verbals so well, they respond in ways which begin to feel very familiar, i.e. just like their wives, husbands, kids, unit, elusive dreams, fears, etc. They become very real symbols of these relationships and allow them the opportunity to work through how to change these aspects of their lives in an experiential, in-the-moment and emotionally safe method.
- o Size – Horses being big and powerful, multiple metaphoric opportunities arise such as facing overwhelming fears and challenges.

Service members and their families are able to interact in a peaceful environment with a horse that does not judge or label. Through experiential non-directive activities, participants are able to express their fears, worries, and struggles in a non-threatening environment.

Global Access

The EAGALA model is reproducible in virtually any community, making it accessible to every branch of service as well as Guard, Reserves, and Veterans. Activities are by design adaptable and can be applied to any group, whether a group of soldiers suffering from PTSD or a Gold Star family moving through the grief process, to assist in their therapeutic process.

EAGALA Military Services is the division of the EAGALA Model addressing the specific needs of veterans, active-duty service members and families. **EAGALA Military Services provides the highest level of care specific to addressing the psychological needs of the military population in a horse-centered treatment modality.** With the breadth of the EAGALA organization, EAGALA Military Services can be provided to military personnel and their families globally.

Support

“We have conducted a number of EAGALA EAP sessions with our veterans including a series of workshops focusing on coping resources, resilience and anger management. Across the board, veteran participants have told me that never have they found a group or individual session so useful and life-changing, and that they have found hope. After these workshops, many reflect frequently on the experience and skills learned then take them into their daily lives.” *Susan T. Lisi, AFGE Local 3306 Chief Steward, VA Medical Center, Canandaigua, New York*

“By being put into an unusual situation with animals, we learned much about ourselves. Our interpretations of how we interacted not only with the horses, but with the other participants, made us examine our own strengths and shortcomings as an individual and as a team member.” *BG(R) Roma Amundson, Nebraska National Guard*

“Horses are the best therapists for many veterans, because most vets don’t want talk therapy. Healing happens in nature, especially for the military. Equine sessions, as opposed to traditional talk therapy, are more impactful and shorten treatment time. A soldier’s relationship with a horse can provide emotional insights and self-understanding.” *Julie Giove Sardonia, MA, LMFT, California*

“The soldiers of my battalion have greatly benefitted from the training in many ways. When our battalion lost a soldier to suicide the retreat center graciously took a group of soldiers and leaders who were struggling with the loss and used the horses and equine therapy to help the group recover. Preparing for a deployment our battalion used the equine therapy for suicide prevention training. We took leadership and soldiers through a very unique equine assisted training that greatly enhanced our ability down-range to be able to not only detect high-risk soldiers but also know what steps to take to get high risk soldiers help.” *Brent Crosswhite, Chaplain (CPT), Fort Hood, TX*

"EAGALA work has been so successful that elite units from the Israeli Defense Force have come to the center for help coping with the loss of friends during service as well as to help them deal with the terrorism that surrounds them every day." *Dr. Yoni Yehuda, Director, Havayot Center, Jerusalem*

“In only a few sessions, one can see how these animals allow for the reestablishment of trust, safety, boundary-setting, patience, and tenderness - essential human qualities that are often damaged in a war zone. The metaphors for life and relationships abound. This modality of treatment, as an adjunct to traditional therapy, has been an ideal experience for allowing healthier longer-term functioning.” *Tracy Hejmanowski, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist, Program Manager, Deployment Health Center, Naval Hospital Jacksonville*

Saratoga War Horse reporting for duty: Therapeutic program for veterans will launch this month

Saturday, December 3, 2011

By PAUL POST
ppost@saratogian.com

SARATOGA SPRINGS — Getting soldiers back from overseas war zones is just half the battle.

The real challenge is bringing them all the way home — to a point of acceptance and trust — following exposure to traumatic combat situations.

According to a recent study, “Losing the Battle,” the U.S. Army had a record-breaking 33 suicides in July. It also reports that former service members commit 20 percent of all suicides in the United States.

Following years of planning, a new equine-based intervention program is getting off the ground that could stem the tide of this alarming mental health problem.

The Saratoga War Horse program will teach veterans to connect with horses, a process called “Join-up,” to work through the emotional scars of warfare.

“Reintegrating is the hardest part,” said Col. Eric Olsen, a New York Army National Guard chaplain. “We train soldiers for years to go into combat. It takes a long time to get back into a culture that is far removed from that military experience.”

The first soldiers are expected to take a three-day introductory class this month at the Ruggles Road farm of Dennis and Joann Walpole.

Program founders Bob Nevins, a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran, and prominent horsewoman Marilyn Lane want to lay the groundwork for a national model that can be implemented at military bases throughout the country. The two Saratoga Springs residents have enlisted support from the Veterans Administration’s Center of Excellence in Tampa, Fla., whose experts will analyze long-term results of the program’s effectiveness.

“We need a military, but there’s fallout,” Nevins said. “Anybody who’s been to war needs help. We’re hoping to draw veterans out, giving them the help they need. We aren’t here to fix anybody. We just want to get them back on track so they can be with their families and friends.”

The program benefits the racing industry as well — retired racehorses that can serve another purpose won’t wind up in foreign slaughterhouses.

Like soldiers, racehorses are highly trained and specialized and live in structured environments, so the program helps both adjust to new roles and situations as they learn how to understand each other.

Saratoga War Horse is based on the teachings of famed California “horse whisperer” Monty Roberts, author of “The Man Who Listens to Horses.” Horses by nature are flight animals. Soldiers are taught to gain a horse’s trust and

cooperation by learning the animal's language, called "Equus."

"For 8,000 years people have failed to understand that horses are trying to talk to us; I'll be your friend," Roberts said. "Good trainers can hear the horse talking to them. Great trainers can hear the little whispers."

Locally, the program will be led by a student of Roberts, Melody Squier, owner of Forget-Me-Not Farm in Tinmouth, Vt.

"What really is important is this end piece, this connection," she said. "It's pretty phenomenal when it happens. What we're looking for is a 50-50 partnership."

Soldiers are taught the same horse care basics as people just getting involved in the racing industry.

Officials from the Saratoga Springs Naval Support Unit were among those who turned out this week for a briefing at the Ruggles Road farm, where Saratoga War Horse is headquartered.

Sackatoga Stable managing general partner Jack Knowlton presented Nevins with replica saddle cloths from 2003 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes winner Funny Cide. Knowlton also belongs to the New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses that will be submitting a report soon on ways to care for older horses.

"This is an exemplary program that has both the human element and horse element involved," he said. "Hopefully it's one that's going to be beneficial for both."

And it seems the program is being launched at just the right time. The Steven Spielberg movie "War Horse" is scheduled to be released in theaters nationwide on Christmas Day, and the stage production of "War Horse" won worldwide acclaim at London's Royal Theater before coming to Broadway in New York City.

Nevins and Lane are counting on the upcoming movie's popularity to generate support for their program.

Former longtime Saratogian photographer and Army veteran Clark Bell, of Saratoga Springs, spent a year in Vietnam from 1968 to 1969.

"Every war the U.S. has been involved in, people come back damaged," he said. "They need a way to repair that damage or treat it. A horse is unconditional. They can be your friend, give you confidence and comfort."

Soldiers with no experience around horses sometimes make the best students because they come in open-minded, with no preconceived notions about what to expect. Horses, who naturally respond to leadership, are just as anxious to develop a bond of mutual respect.

"We have world-class horses helping world-class soldiers," Nevins said. "This isn't just a feel-good program. When you make these connections with a horse it opens you up in ways you never thought possible."

To view the study "Losing the Battle: The Challenge of Military Suicide," go to www.cnas.org/losingthebattle.

URL: <http://www.saratogian.com/articles/2011/12/03/news/doc4edadbd887c63698968078.prt>

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Forum on Synthetic Surfaces
Presented by The New York State Task Force on Retired Race Horses
July 29, 2008
Fasig Tipton Pavilion \ Saratoga Springs, NY

Forum Participants:

Jockeys

- Moderator: Joe Clancy, Publisher, Saratoga Special and Steeplechase Times Publishing, MD
- Johnny Velasquez
- Richard Migliore
- Javier Castellano

Track Management

- Moderator: Bennett Liebman, (then) Executive Director of the Government Law Center at Albany Law School, NY
- Bob Elliston, Turfway Park, Florence, KY
- Irwin Dreidger, Woodbine, Toronto, Canada
- Sally Goswell, Fair Hill Training Center, Fair Hill MD
- Charles Hayward, The New York Racing Association, Inc., NY

Veterinarians

- Moderator: Bennett Liebman
- Rick Arthur, DVM, Rick Arthur, Equine Medical Director for the California Horse Racing Board,
- Mark Cheney, DVM, Cheney and Norton Equine, Lexington, KY

Trainers

- Moderator: Mike Kane, (then) Communications Officer, National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, Saratoga, NY
- Dale Romans
- Nick Zito
- Todd Pletcher
- Mark Casse

Researchers

- Moderator: Brian Zweig, Zweig Fund for Equine Research, NY
- Mick Peterson Jr., Ph.D., University of Maine, Orono, Maine
- Sue Stover, DVM, Ph.D., Diplomate ACVS, University of California at Davis, CA
- Mark Hurtig, DVM, MVSc, Diplomate ACVS, Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Comparison of Racing Fatality Rates on Dirt, Synthetic, and Turf at Four California Racetracks

Rick M. Arthur, DVM

Racing fatalities declined 37% after main track dirt racing surfaces at four major California racetracks were converted to synthetic racing surfaces over the period of this study, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2009. The racing fatality rate was 3.09 fatalities/1,000 starts on dirt before conversion to synthetic surfaces and 1.95 fatalities/1,000 starts after conversion to synthetic racing surfaces. The racing fatality rate on turf was 2.44/1,000 starts over the same 6-yr period. The fatality-rate difference between dirt and synthetic was significant ($p < 0.001$). Author's address: School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, 1 Shields Avenue, Davis, California 95616; e-mail: rmarthur@ucdavis.edu. © 2010 AAEP.

1. Introduction

In 2006, the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) mandated synthetic surfaces at California racetracks conducting more than 30 continuous days of Thoroughbred racing in any calendar year after January 1, 2008. The impetus for this action was a 40% increase in racing fatalities at California racetracks between 2003 and 2006 reporting periods and a 85% decrease in racing fatalities at Turfway racetrack in Kentucky after a synthetic surface was installed in 2005 (Beasley R, personal communication).¹

There were five major racetracks in California that were subject to the CHRB synthetic surface mandate: Bay Meadows, Del Mar, Golden Gate Fields, Hollywood Park, and Santa Anita. One track, Bay Meadows, chose to close rather than meet the racing board's mandate and was not included in this study. Hollywood Park converted its dirt main track to a synthetic surface in September 2006, Del Mar converted in July 2007, and Golden Gate Fields and Santa Anita converted in September 2007.

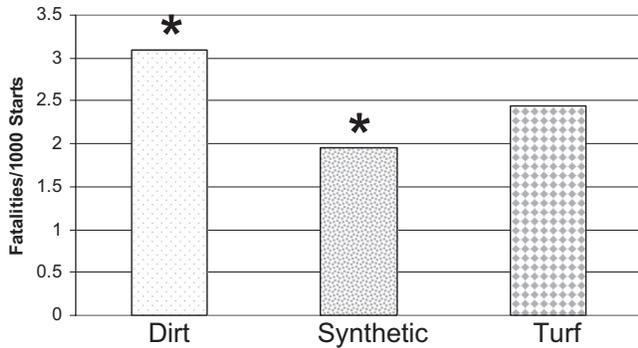
2. Materials and Methods

All horses dying within a racing enclosure under the jurisdiction of the CHRB are submitted to necropsy at a California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFS). CAHFS is a livestock diagnostic laboratory operated by the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California at Davis. CHRB records for all fatalities between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2009 were reviewed for this study. All racing fatalities were identified and classified as occurring on dirt, synthetic, or turf racing surfaces. Racing starts by racetrack and surface were obtained from a commercial source.^a Fatality rates between surfaces were compared using paired χ^2 analysis.

3. Results

From January 1, 2004 until synthetic surfaces were installed, Del Mar, Golden Gate Fields, Hollywood Park, and Santa Anita had a combined fatality rate on dirt from musculoskeletal injuries of 3.09/1,000 starts (Fig. 1). This totaled 181 racing fatalities

NOTES



* denotes a significant difference ($P < .001$)

Fig. 1. Racing fatalities by racing surface.

from 58,659 starts on dirt surfaces at 22 race meets. Nine fatalities that were clearly accidents or otherwise unrelated to track surface were excluded. There were six sudden deaths during or immediately after racing, one horse with a starting-gate injury, one horse that flipped while returning to be unsaddled after the race, and one horse that bolted through the outside rail after unseating her rider.

After conversion of their main tracks to synthetic surfaces, Del Mar, Golden Gate Fields, Hollywood Park, and Santa Anita have had a combined racing fatality rate of 1.95/1,000 (Fig. 1). There were 109 fatalities from 56,031 starts on synthetic surfaces over 21 race meets, a 37% reduction in racing fatality rate on the main track for synthetic surfaces compared with dirt surfaces. The same criteria were used to exclude racing fatalities on synthetic surfaces. Fatalities that were clearly accidents or otherwise unrelated to track surfaces were excluded. For synthetic surfaces, there were five fatalities excluded; they were three sudden deaths during or immediately after the race, including one from exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPH) and two from starting-gate accidents before the start of the race.

Turf has been considered a safer racing surface than either dirt or synthetic surfaces.²⁻⁴ That was not the case in California during the 6 yr of this study. Racing fatality rates on turf in California fall between dirt and synthetic track surfaces. Turf-racing fatalities were 2.44/1,000 starts (Fig. 1). There were 89 racing fatalities from 36,486 turf starts during the 6-yr study period. The same criteria were used to exclude fatalities that were clearly accidents or otherwise unrelated to track surface. For turf surfaces, there were three fatalities excluded: one sudden death immediately after racing and two fatal accidents, one during the post parade before the race and the other when the horse bolted through the inside rail during the race.

The data were analyzed using paired χ^2 analysis. There was a significant difference in fatality rates between synthetic and dirt surfaces ($p < 0.001$; rel-

ative risk (RR) = 1.59; 95% confidence interval [CI] = 1.25–2.01). There was no significant difference between turf and synthetic ($p = 0.011$; RR = 1.25; 95% CI = 0.95–1.66) or turf and dirt surfaces ($p = 0.07$; RR = 1.26; 95% CI = 0.98–1.63)

4. Discussion

Despite the 37% reduction in racing fatalities, the use of synthetic surfaces in California and elsewhere in North America remains controversial.^{5,6} There are a number of reasons for this. Many traditionalists simply oppose the change. Horse of the Year Rachel Alexandra passed the Breeder's Cup ostensibly because her owner, Jess Jackson, objected to racing her on a synthetic surface. Other prominent owners and trainers similarly oppose abandoning dirt surfaces. Influential members of the American racing press opposed the change to synthetic surfaces from the very beginning. Most members of the American racing press are professional gamblers. The common perception is that horses do not run to their dirt form on synthetics, and turf horses suddenly became factors in synthetic races. Furthermore, many handicapping services in the United States are based on speed ratings, which are perceived as less useful on synthetic surfaces. This has greatly complicated handicapping and caused frustration among the wagering public. For example, the Pacific Classic, previously one of America's premier Grade I dirt races, was won by Go Between after the conversion to synthetics. Go Between is a horse that had never raced on dirt and was considered a pure turf horse until synthetic tracks were introduced. For the same reason, the 2008 and 2009 Breeder's Cup during the Oak Tree meet on Santa Anita's synthetic surface encouraged many Europeans to compete with their turf runners.

Just as important, synthetic surfaces have proven to be terribly inconsistent and difficult to maintain for racing and training. Sunlight and temperature fluctuations have become important to track-maintenance procedures. Neither of these were factors on California dirt surfaces. Developed for international racing, synthetic surfaces have not been able to stand up to the heavy-training traffic typical at U. S. racetracks. Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, and Del Mar can easily have 1,500 or more horses train each day on their synthetic tracks before afternoon racing. The waxes or polymers dissipate more quickly than expected, and the fiber materials break down under the heavy usage and require maintenance procedures.

There have also been installation and design snafus such as at Santa Anita. Problems with improper materials and construction caused closure of Santa Anita for over 1 wk because of drainage problems. In the first 75 yr of racing, Santa Anita lost 4 days of racing to inclement weather on their dirt track; 14 days have been lost at Santa Anita since the synthetic surface was installed. Dirt surfaces are graded to drain horizontally; synthetic tracks

are designed to drain vertically, requiring below-surface drainage systems. Contrary to manufacturer assurances, all the California synthetic tracks have required constant maintenance and refurbishment. Synthetic surfaces are primarily sand-coated with a wax or polymer and mixed with various fiber materials. The waxes and polymers content changes dramatically over time, and the fiber materials breakdown or are otherwise lost. When constructed, all materials are thoroughly mixed together before they are put onto the track. Refurbishment *in situ* has proven more difficult. Uniformly mixing in added wax, polymer, or fiber with the material already in place has been difficult, time consuming, and ineffective. Many times, the refurbishment process has caused major changes in track-surface properties, disrupting training schedules and causing problems for track management because of marked changes in the surfaces after refurbishment.

Everyday maintenance has proven just as difficult and is often more intensive than for dirt. The synthetic surfaces were marketed as nearly maintenance-free. That is far from the case. Special equipment and maintenance procedures have been required. Some tracks require considerable watering rather than being water-free, as expected. Track superintendents have had to develop new maintenance techniques in an effort to keep tracks consistent for the heavy use on California tracks.

Although racing fatalities have decreased, many trainers are convinced that synthetic surfaces are associated with an increased incidence of long-term non-fatal injuries and an increase in hindlimb injuries. Unlike the decrease in racing fatalities, there does not seem to be a similar decrease in training fatalities on California's synthetic tracks. Efforts are underway to better evaluate the non-fatal-injury issue, but all objective parameters examined to date, including number of surgeries, ultrasound and radiographic examinations, nuclear scintigraphic examinations,^b and horses not finishing their races,^c have all failed to support that synthetic tracks result in increased long-term non-fatal-injury rates. Veterinarians and trainers report that synthetic surfaces are associated with a different menu of injuries than seen on dirt. This would not be surprising; many surgeons have reported a drop off in arthroscopic surgeries on synthetic tracks. Efforts are underway to objectively evaluate racing-injury distribution on synthetic surfaces and compare those with historical records.

Synthetic-surface opponents have contended that increased scrutiny with prerace examinations and more stringent medication penalties for non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) explains the significantly lower fatality rates on synthetic surfaces. However, using turf racing as an internal control, there is no difference between fatality rates from 2004 to 2006 (2.37/1,000 starts) and from 2007 to 2009 (2.50/1,000 starts). Numerous factors from

shoeing practices to genetics have been identified as possible factors contributing to the high fatality rate seen in U. S. racing. These have been well-discussed at racing-industry forums.⁷

California racetracks have spent millions of U. S. dollars converting to synthetic surfaces, but they have not been the panacea that some had hoped. Although racing fatalities have decreased, there is little confidence that the reduction in racing fatalities can be maintained. The synthetic tracks simply wear out much more quickly than anyone anticipated. The cost of maintenance and refurbishment will very likely prove too much for tracks to bear. Santa Anita, despite two very successful Breeder's Cups at their fall Oak Tree meet, is expected to reinstall a dirt surface at their first opportunity. The current synthetic track, although much safer for racing, has simply brought other problems. Just recently, the Jockey's Guild has expressed concern over synthetic surfaces after two jockeys were paralyzed with spinal-cord injuries within months of each other this summer after falls while racing on Arlington Park's synthetic surface. The jockeys contend that the synthetic surfaces do not allow jockeys to slide when they fall as on dirt or turf.

Synthetic surfaces are promising and may very well replace dirt surfaces in the future, but they are a novel technology. More research and development is needed before they can be recommended for the heavy racing and training use at major American racetracks. Some research is just beginning. There is very good evidence that the synthetic surfaces do have lower peak vertical biomechanical properties using an instrumented horseshoe compared with dirt and turf.⁸ The experiment in California and elsewhere with synthetic surfaces has stimulated a greater interest in track-surface research on all racing and training surfaces.

Anyone who has seriously examined the high injury rate in U. S. racing has recognized track surface to be just one of many contributing factors. The Jockey Club-sponsored Welfare and Safety Summit addressed numerous issues in examining the high injury rates in American racing. Track surface was just one of the many issues identified as a potential factor. The similarity of turf-racing fatality rates to the fatality rates on dirt and synthetic is contrary to reports outside of North America. Turf racing internationally on the flat is generally well below 1 fatality per 1,000 starts^{9,10}; California turf racing is two times that with over 2 fatalities per 1,000 starts. A reasonable conclusion would be high racing-fatality rates in North America are related to more than just track-surface factors.

Acknowledgment

Statistical analysis was performed by T.D.H. Par-kin, University of Glasgow.

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^aInCompass Solutions, Lexington, KY 40503.

^bBlea JA, McIlwraith CW, Non-catastrophic injuries in Thoroughbreds in southern California, Grayson-Jockey Club Welfare and Safety Summit 2008.

^cFravel C, Thoroughbred Owners of California Track Surface, Summit, 2010.

Racing Surfaces

White Paper

Michael “Mick” Peterson, Ph.D., University of Maine, United States

Lars Roepstorff, DVM, PhD, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden

Jeffrey J. Thomason, PhD, University of Guelph, Canada

Christie Mahaffey, MPhil, University of Maine, United States

C. Wayne McIlwraith, BVSc, PhD, Colorado State University, United States

This white paper has been drafted as a collection of published scientific papers and data. It is considered a work in progress and will be updated as new scientific studies and track data become available

PREFACE

Racing surfaces have received a great deal of attention in the popular and fan coverage of horse racing (see for example Schulman 2007, Rezendes 2007, Finley 2010). Additionally, track surfaces have recently been a topic of discussion in the scientific literature. Three general areas of inquiry have emerged: (1) characterization of the interaction of the hoof and the ground, (2) in-situ testing of the surface and (3) specific characterization of the materials used in the racetrack. A general understanding of the hoof ground interaction has been facilitated by dynamic horseshoe studies over the last decade (Dallap-Schaer 2006, Setterbo et al. 2009). Some of this information is summarized in a review of the loading of the ground and the hoof (Thomason and Peterson 2008). Some work has also looked at in-situ testing of the surface (Peterson et al. 2008) including differences in types of surfaces (Setterbo et al. 2008, Thomason et al. 2007) and the effects of maintenance and weather on the track surface (Peterson and McIlwraith 2008, Peterson et al. 2010). There is also more recent work which has emerged on the testing of the materials used in racing surfaces to both characterize the materials (Bridge et al. 2010) and to load the materials under in a manner that mimics the loading of the surface by the hoof (Bridge et al. 2010a, Bridge et al. 2011).

In these papers and in the discussion in the popular press, a common thread underlies the discussion: does a racing surface exist that combines performance and consistency with safety? How this challenge is approached requires that a common definition exist regarding the condition of the surface. This can be used to link to the epidemiological literature to descriptions of the surface which will enable injuries to be linked to particular surfaces and conditions. However, the relationship between surfaces and equine injuries presents additional specific challenges due to the differences in types of injuries and the effect of factors such as joint disease on the risk to a horse during a particular event.

Injury, in particular catastrophic injury, is a multi-factorial event that involves the complex interaction of a number of risk factors including but not limited to medication, genetics and training. The full scope of the problem is summarized in Figure 1, in which track-surface properties are isolated as the focus of this paper, from among several other known risk factors for injury. Given that the overwhelming majority of catastrophic injuries show clear evidence of preexisting disease, (Norddin et al. 1998, Stover 2003) improved racing surfaces have the potential to result in an improvement in the safety of horse racing for both riders and horses. Musculoskeletal injuries have a large adverse affect on the Thoroughbred racehorse industry due to both fatal injuries that have low prevalence as well as milder injuries that have a high prevalence. A number of candidates for injury prevention that have been proposed include, management practices to minimize low hoof heel angle, incorporation of more frequent, shorter high speed works or races in exercise regimens, avoidance of excessive accumulation of high speed distances over short periods of time, recognition rehabilitation of mild injuries and maintenance of uniformity of racing surface among racetracks within given environmental conditions (Riggs 2002, Stover 2003). Another specifically documented risk factor for injury is when a well trained horse changes from one type of surface to another and at the same time is expected to perform on maximum capacity, for example going from training on a soft surface to competition on a hard surface.

Yet, no other risk factor, except perhaps the quality of prerace examinations, has an impact on all horses racing at a particular venue on a single day. Therefore the development of a consistent and well-characterized racing surface is an important goal of the industry. This requires that a tool exist that can objectively quantify the functional properties of surfaces, particularly those properties in the causal pathway to injury. In fact, the role of surfaces in the debate over the safety of racing is sufficiently important that it may be that many of the other challenges facing the industry will only be addressed in a systematic manner after significant progress has occurred in understanding what constitutes a safe racing surface. Thus, improved racing surfaces should be regarded as a step on the path to improved safety of the racehorse and resulting in a safer sport for the riders.

This document considers only the effect of surfaces on the risk to the horse. Optimization of surfaces alone will never eliminate catastrophic injuries, and may not even be a primary factor in most injuries. However, the absence of well accepted characterization methods and basic science of racing surfaces is a significant obstacle to improved performance and safety. A critical aspect of the effort to improve surfaces is looking at the factors of which control the performance of racing surfaces in the context of the relevant biomechanics, the different types of surfaces, and potential testing and maintenance strategies.

BACKGROUND

Defining the scope of the problem

A safe surface is one for which the surface properties (to be detailed later in the paper) have been designed to prevent injury. Current evidence indicates that consistency of each surface and limited variability among surfaces seen by each horse are more important than the exact values of each property. Consistency allows for the horse to adapt through training. Having said that, a greater understanding of the role of the track in the causation of injury is a prerequisite for safer track and surface design. A trial-and-error approach to building a safe surface, without studying causes of injury, would be to lay down a number of surfaces, test the properties, and compare frequencies of injury among surface types. This is essentially the current situation, which is cumbersome and expensive (in dollar terms, as well as in the cost to horse welfare) as a means of identifying the qualities of a safe track.

A scientifically more robust approach is to aim for understanding of the combinations and ranges of properties that make a surface safe, and why those combinations prevent injury. This approach is complicated because there are four intervening categories – degrees of separation, if you like – between the surface properties and knowing how to prevent the many and varied injuries that occur in race horses. They are numbered in Figure 1.

Horse-hoof-track interaction – Energy from the shock of contact with the ground, and forces owing to changing the momentum of the legs and body are transferred through the hoof. It is well documented that the amount of energy and magnitude of forces depend strongly on the properties of the track surface, but there are several complicating factors. First, each surface property has a different affect on the energy and forces experienced by the horse. Second, the energy and force magnitudes change throughout the footfall (stance) and swing phase. Third, shoes modify the mechanics at the hoof-track interface. Fourth, the horse’s own conformation and anatomical construction contribute to the manner in which it interacts with the track, so it is important to study how the interaction varies among horses.

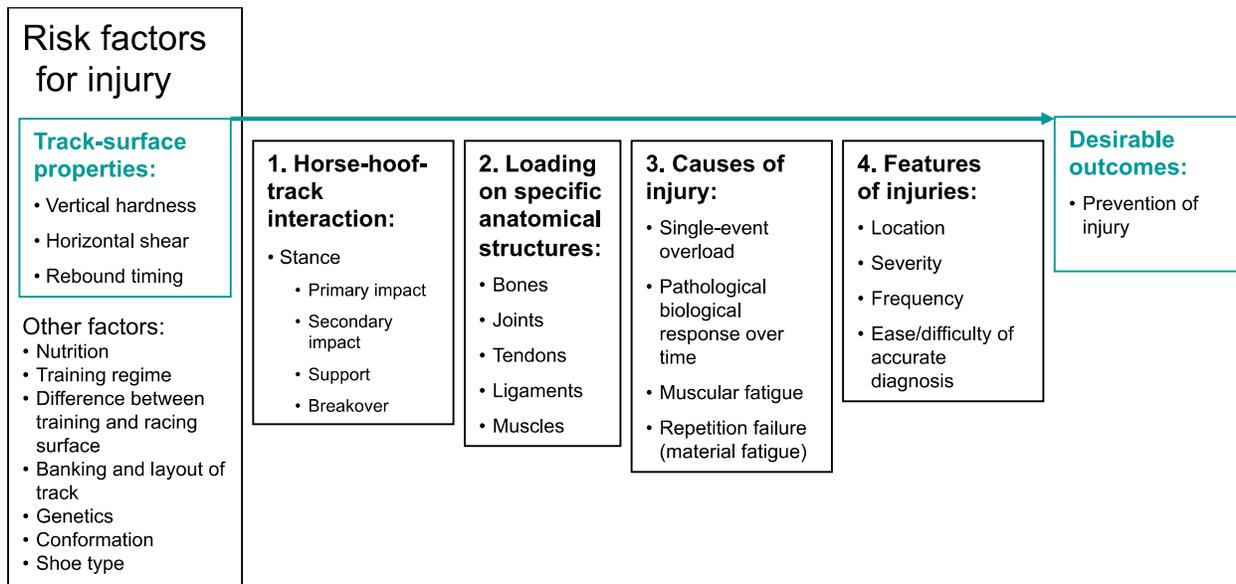


Figure 1. A pathway from track properties as a risk factor to the desirable outcome of prevention of injury, *via* the postulated mechanical underpinnings of the causes of injury, and relevant feature of injuries once they occur.

Loading on specific anatomical structures – The static and dynamic loads on the leg stress the materials of every anatomical structure in the leg including each bone, muscle, tendon and ligament. Each structure experiences its own resulting level of stress and strain at any stage of the stance and swing. It is the stresses that ultimately are responsible for injury, if they exceed tolerable thresholds. The specific threshold limits are defined both by each specific event as well as the stress history of the anatomical structure. For this reason being able to determine the range of stress experienced by each structure is the key to understanding how injuries occur.

Causes of injury – Injuries can principally occur in two different ways, either as a catastrophic injury due to acute overload or as degenerative changes due to repeated minor overload. Acute

overload results in immediate traumatic failure, usually of a bone. Degenerative changes occur because bones and muscles are made of living tissues containing cells that are sensitive to levels of stress and strain. Below a threshold level of stress, both types of tissue show normal, healthy adaptive responses to changes: increase the stress during exercise and bone and muscle mass increase. Even tendons and ligaments show this kind of response as well. But, if the threshold stress is exceeded repeatedly (for example, during every footfall at speed), the response can become maladaptive, causing pathological tissue degeneration. This inappropriate response is common in the bones and joints of racing and performance horses. The stress is not enough to cause immediate failure, but the damage caused by degeneration reduces the level of stress at which a bone will fail.

Features of injuries – Accurate diagnosis of injuries, together with information on their location, severity, and frequency of occurrence, provide valuable information in combination with the categories of data described in the preceding 3 subsections. Together they lead to a model for directly linking track properties with injury.

Linking track properties to injury – Achieving the goal of making a direct connection between track properties and specific injuries (not simply injuries in general) is a major step in minimizing the effect of the track on the occurrence of injury. Full understanding of the causes of specific injuries is an elusive goal that may never be completely reached. But we have the wherewithal with current technology to establish a link sufficiently well to reduce the risk of the track, i.e., make tracks as safe as possible. In concept an appropriate program of research can be described relatively easily. However, the cost and the logistics of mounting the program would be very challenging. Simply stated, it is relatively easy to combine the measurement of track properties, using some of the methods described below, with those of the hoof track interaction by direct measurement from horses on the track, at speed. If these data are combined for a sufficiently large sample of horses, with the features of those injuries (accurate diagnosis, location, severity and frequency), it should be possible to find concrete links between track properties and occurrence of injury. The challenge faced by such a research program is to effectively characterize both individual variations between horses and variations in surfaces and conditions to effectively represent the risk to horses under actual racing and training conditions.

Interaction of the horse and hoof with the track

At racing speeds reaching 38 mph (17 m/s), the hoof hits the track approximately 150 times a minute, remaining on the ground in the stance phase for a sixth of a second each time. The short duration of the stance hides from our eyes several stages that are distinctive in their mechanical characteristics (Figure 2), and which have very different potential for causing injury. The mechanics of each stage is also dependent on the design of the track (e.g., radius of turns, angle of banking), and the properties of the track. It is this dependence that gives us the basis for reducing injury rates by modifying track properties, because the shock energy and forces transmitted between track and hoof

underlie the causes of injury to bones and soft tissues in the whole leg. For the purposes of this paper we identify 4 stages: Primary impact, Secondary impact, Support, and Rollover.

Primary impact -- When the hoof impacts the ground, it is moving downward at a high rate of speed but relatively slowly forward (because the backward swing of the leg on the body almost cancels out the forward speed of the body). Essentially the hoof hits vertically, like the head of a dropped hammer. As the hoof meets the ground it decelerates rapidly towards zero velocity (within 1-3 milliseconds on a firm surface). The rate of deceleration is of the order of 100g on racing surfaces (Dallap-Schaer et al. 2006). The shock of impact is heavily damped by the soft tissues of the hoof (with the assistance of the ground surface if it has the appropriate cushion) (Gustås et al. 2001). Forces on the foot are relatively low, because only the mass of the hoof and pastern participates in this collision. By keeping mass low, it is effectively only the mass of the digit; forces are also usually kept within the limits of strength of the bones and soft tissues of the hoof and limb.

Magnitudes of deceleration and shock energy during primary impact are extremely sensitive to vertical hardness of the surface. It has been hypothesized that metal shoes may exacerbate the problem; although no evidence to support this idea currently exists. It is likely that injuries caused by the shock of primary impact are confined within the hoof – e.g., collapsed heels, some quarter cracks, etc. This is because the shock-absorbing structures of the hoof (frog, digital cushion, heel bulbs, laminar junction) absorb 70% of the energy, based on both testing on cadaver legs (Willemen et al. 1999, Lanovaz et al. 1998) and in vivo experiments (Gustås et al. 2001).

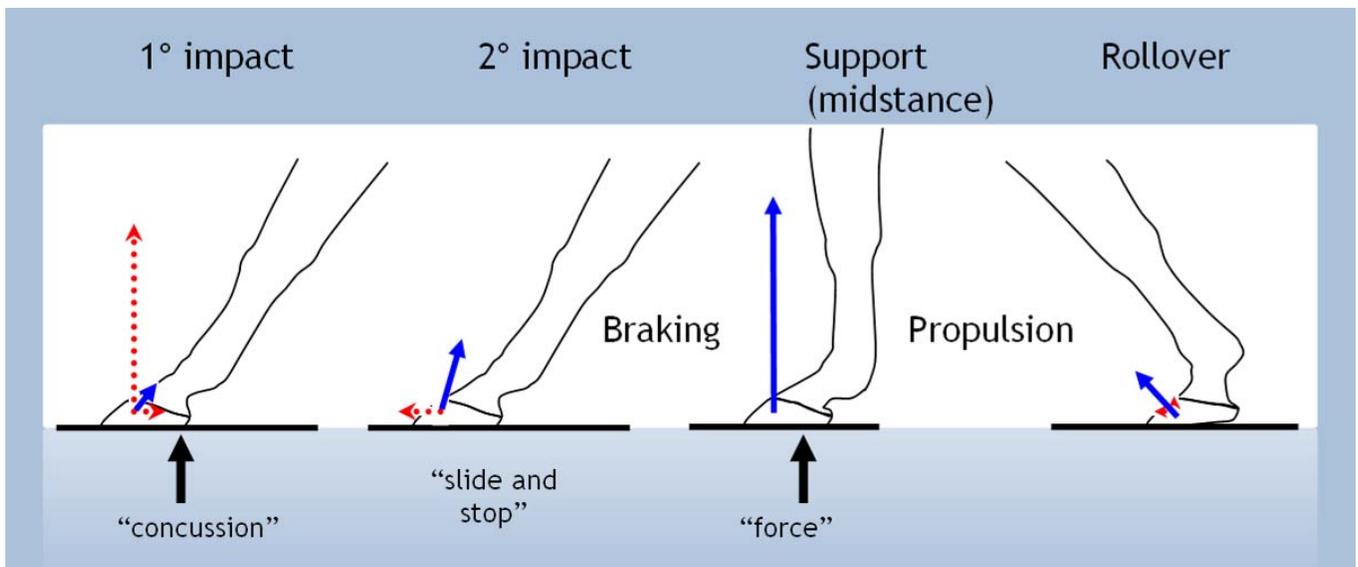


Figure 2. Stages of the stance showing the differences in acceleration (red) and GRF (blue) among the stages. When the GRF arrow is tilted, that indicates that both vertical and horizontal components of GRF are present. The arrow shows the direction in which the ground is pushing the horse.

Secondary impact (slide and stop) – As soon as the hoof is at rest on the surface, the body of the horse, which is still moving forward, collides with its own implanted and stationary leg (Ruina et al. 2005). The body tends to push the leg forward, forcing the hoof to slide and then stop (Pardoe et al. 2001). Forces acting on the leg now begin to rise dramatically; the hoof pushes into the ground and the ground exerts an equal and opposite force, known as the ground reaction force or GRF, which can be broken down into vertical and horizontal components. This force is transferred back up the leg and is absorbed by the musculoskeletal system of the horse (Clayton 2004).

While the hoof is sliding and stopping, the GRF has a horizontal component that tends to retard or brake the motion of the body, as well as a rapidly rising vertical component as the animal's body weight comes to bear on the leg (Hjertén and Drevemo 1994).

Secondary impact has the potential to have a large role in causing injury. During the normal slide-stop action of the hoof that occurs in this stage, the coffin bone may be forced forward, compressing the laminar junction between itself and the capsule. This action is certainly plausible, though it has not been conclusively demonstrated. If it does occur it might be one cause of bruising.

If the foot slips forward excessively, this action has the possibility of forcing the digital flexor muscles into rapid, unpredicted eccentric contraction, which can cause tears within a muscle. If the foot comes to too rapid a halt, it would exacerbate any forward motion of the coffin bone, as described in the preceding paragraph. Of possibly greater consequence, shortening the duration of the slide will increase the magnitude of the horizontal component of the ground reaction force, exerting larger-than-normal bending moments on the cannon bone (Pratt 1997). Even small increments in bending induce large stresses in long bones such as the cannon bone.

A key in reducing injury during this stage is matching the traction of shoes to the shear properties of the track. It is, in principle, easy to measure the grip of grabs and caulks of a range of sizes and shapes on a variety of surfaces with different shear properties. These data could potentially be made into a table so that when the shear properties of a track have been measured, the types of gripping device on a shoe that are appropriate for the track could be read from the table.

Support – This stage overlaps with secondary impact, extends through midstance and into the rollover stage. The distinctive mechanical characteristic of this stage is the rise and fall of the vertical component of the GRF, as the limb prevents the body from falling due to gravity and accelerates it upward into the next swing phase. The vertical GRF peaks around midstance, and may reach 2.4 times the body weight of the animal at a racing gallop (Witte et al. 2004).

The sheer magnitude of the forces on the foot midstance implicate this stage very strongly in causing traumatic bone fractures, and tendon and ligament ruptures or strains. Chronic joint problems will certainly be exacerbated if not initiated by joint loadings at this time. After midstance, the braking horizontal GRF changes to a propulsive force. Appropriate traction between shoe and surface is critical at this time.

Rollover – This stage is the last phase of unloading, beginning as soon as the heels leave the surface. Both vertical and horizontal GRF are falling from 30-50% of their peak values towards zero at toe off. The hoof itself unrolls then pushes off from the ground.

This stage is important in that altering its duration strongly affects the kinematics of the limb during the swing phase, which in turn affects the kinetics of the next stance. Forcing a shorter or longer stance, under those performance activities which induce higher loading conditions, will affect the forces and stresses acting on bones and soft tissues. If more muscular control is necessary to perform the activity, muscular fatigue may become a factor in injury. If breakover and toe-off are delayed, residual tension in the deep and superficial digital flexor tendons may flick the foot back sufficiently fast that rate-dependent injury to those tendons is possible. This speculative suggestion is supported by work that shows higher magnitudes of acceleration of the hoof after toe off in galloping Thoroughbreds than the decelerations on impact with the surface (Schaer et al. 2006).

How the track influences hoof forces

The resistance of the track to the impact and loading of the hoof (Burn et al. 1997) determines the rate of loading of the leg and thus the accelerations and forces encountered in the joints of the horse (Ryan et al. 2006, Setterbo et al. 2009). Early studies on track and surface design to prevent injury in trotting horses were done in Sweden (Fredricson et al. 1975, Drevemo and Hjérten 1991). The combined loading experienced by the leg is dependent on both the vertical and horizontal response of the surface (Zebarth and Sheard 1985). These complex movements of the distal limb have been elucidated in invasive and non-invasive models that demonstrate significant differences in the loading of the distal limb as related to surfaces (Chateau et al. 2006, Spännar et al. 2004). Hence, both the horizontal and vertical components must be examined when determining the dynamic response of the surface. In the vertical direction, the track decelerates the downward traveling hoof through compaction of the loose top layer cushion on a dirt or synthetic racing surface. The profile of the top section of a turf surface is more complex and may include a top layer that is either loosened mechanically or that may be covered by a surface layer of roots and organic material. As the soil or top layer of the turf compacts, it becomes stiffer and more resistant to further compaction, bringing the hoof to a stop (Thomason and Peterson 2008). Once the motion of the hoof has been slowed or has stopped, the weight of the horse is dynamically transferred to the hoof and then to the harder surface material beneath the hoof. This dynamic transfer of the weight of the horse to the hoof is the source of the acceleration, resulting in peak loads which may approach 2.5 times the bodyweight of the horse.

The hardness of the track influences how quickly the foot is decelerated and then the stiffness of the track when the load is being applied. This rate of deceleration controls the strain which is transferred to the leg and results in higher peak loads for stiffer surfaces. Repeated loading to the bone can cause micro fractures and the catastrophic fractures (Radin et al. 1972). It is also known that increased hardness of the surface increases peak load and load rates (Goldsmith 2001). Both the acute

and the repetitive impulsive and excessive loading have been proposed to be biomechanical risk factors (Radin et al. 1972, Johnston et al. 1995). Therefore it is reasonable to expect that above a critical strain and strain rate, there lies the potential for the propagation of cracks in the bone matrix which can result in catastrophic failure of the bones in the leg. This is a dynamic process which is not dependent strictly on the loading, but also on the degeneration and remodeling of the bone (Ehrlich and Lanyon 2002). “Hard” tracks generate a large impact force and high frequency vibrations due to the rapid deceleration of the hoof over a very short time period (Barrey et al. 1991). On a “soft” track, the deceleration occurs over a longer time period, reducing the peak impact force and reducing the rate at which the strain in the hoof is applied. However, too soft of a cushion can cause the surface to be deep which can be slow and tiring and may be a risk factor as well. In a soft surface the soil can continue to collapse as the horse tries to push off, resulting in a loss of forward momentum and speed with the associated increase in energy expenditure and resulting fatigue (which is an important causal factor in injury). However, it is important to recall that movement and loading of the lower limb is also affected by factors such as limb conformation, shoe material and type of shoe as well as the ground surface character (Barrey et al. 1991, Willemen et al. 1999, Roepstorff et al. 1999, Pardoe et al. 2001).

The horizontal response of the surface also plays a key role in determining the loading of the leg. During the first portion of the stance phase, the hoof slides forward before coming to rest (Pratt 1985). How quickly the foot is brought to a halt and hence the peak deceleration experienced is dependent upon the horizontal shear characteristics of the surface. As in the case of the vertical loading, a rapid deceleration increases the risk of excessive strain and the rate of strain application and thus potential injury to the leg (Johnston et al. 1994). If there is a partial shear failure of the track material as the hoof is brought to rest (i.e. there is some slippage of particles across one another), the deceleration will occur over a longer time period, reducing the magnitude of the deceleration. These braking shear requirements must be balanced with those required for forward propulsion after the mid-stance point. Optimally, it is expected that the surface would allow some slide during the initial impact. However, once loaded vertically by the weight of the horse, the surface would provide adequate carrying capacity and shear resistance to support the hoof without failure during the propulsive phase (Peterson et al. 2008). If the shear resistance is low it is sometimes referred to as a track cupping out since the hoof will slide and elongate the hoof print during propulsion. During breakover, the surface resistance to shear determines the extent of hoof rotation (Cheney et al. 1973, Zebarth and Sheard 1985). The hoof rotates gradually into a low shear strength surface such as sand during the loading, compensating for the changing direction of force (Riemersma et al. 1996, Hood et al. 2001). The low shear strength sand surface thus alters the loading of the joints and tendons of the distal limb during maximal loading of these structures (Chateau et al. 2006, Spännar et al. 2004). The loading of these structures while influenced by the footing, is also highly dependent on individual biomechanics. Conformation of the horse is very important since it will influence the angles and loads on the supporting structures as well as other factors such as shoeing and even perhaps training may also influence joint loading.

In addition to these mechanical properties, rough deformable surfaces increase the variance of vertical forces at the hoof and positioning of the load in the hoof (Kai et al. 1999). Surface properties and

maintenance are critical factors not only because of their influence on the properties of the surface, but also because of the consistency of the surface which will also impact performance and orthopedic health of the horse.

TYPES OF RACING SURFACES

Design

To date, little formal discussion has been given to design of the racing surface. The design of racetracks has generally been the purview of experts who have developed strategies that are appropriate to particular climates and materials. However, this approach has resulted in drastically different designs in close proximity which depends on the approach of the expert that was contracted for a particular job. This belies the claim that the design must adapt to local materials since very different designs are often located within close proximity. The adaptability of the horse has allowed this to continue, but ostensibly these different designs should have advantages with respect to safety, and if safety is not significantly different for these surfaces, then ease of maintenance and other considerations may result in an optimal design for a location.

Cushion and base

Perhaps the most notable difference between different racing surfaces is the configuration of the cushion, the pad (if applicable) and the base. Three basic configurations of a racing surface exist:

1. a shallow sand track with a solid base,
2. sand and clay track with a pad that is maintained on a regular basis and
3. a track with a developed base which has a shallow sand or sand and clay track material laid over a base which is not disturbed on a regular basis.

These three basic designs predominate regardless of the type of material used for the track. Traditionally, the design of the cushion and base has been assumed to depend on the climate and materials of a region. However, numerous examples exist of tracks with close geographical proximity with different designs. It is more likely that the design of the track is dependent on the experience of the designer as well as on the climate and material used in the track.

Shallow sand tracks over a hard base are typically used with very low clay and silt content. The mechanics of the hoof interaction with this type of track are characterized by a hoof print which is in very close proximity to the base during normal usage. The cushion is typically on the order of 3 ½ to 4 ½ inches deep and the hoof print during breakover is nearly in contact with the base. The low clay and silt content results in a track which must maintain higher moisture content in order to retain the effectiveness of the cushioning of the sand over the hard base. These shallow sand tracks are also typically very fast draining and thus can be used when heavy rainfall is common. While requiring high

moisture content to retain the cushioning of the surface, the track will rapidly recover from heavy rain since the surface is permeable and the water will flow both across the top of the compacted track surface as well as flowing through the permeable material toward the lower elevation at the inside rail of the track. The hard base can be composed of limestone screenings, soil cemented sand, compacted clay, porous asphalt or even concrete.

The second common design of a dirt racing surface uses the same material at a depth in the track that greatly exceeds the depth of the hoof print in normal operation. In this type of track a material which is similar to the top surface may extend from 8 inches to as deep as 24 inches above the base material. Within this type of design two distinct categories exist: tracks with a false base and tracks with a maintained pad. Tracks with a false base have a shallow cushion just like the shallow sand tracks that overlay a hard pan layer which may be as compacted and difficult to penetrate as the surfaces on the shallow sand track. The hardpan layer is developed through repeated harrowing of the surface at the same depth. A very high stress area exists under the teeth of a harrow which will compact the material below the teeth very effectively. In areas with heavy rainfall, the top surface will gradually lose fine material and will create a distinct cushion over the false base. Repair of the uneven portions of the base can be simply handled by rototilling the material followed by repeated harrowing of the surface to recreate the hardpan layer. This is not done on a regular basis but can be done after a period when the track has not been used or if some damage to the track has occurred due to racing or training on a very wet surface as a result of heavy rainfall.

The third design is a variation of the second design of surface. Like the second design the material is consistent to a depth much greater than the penetration of the hoof, even during breakover. This design however uses a regularly maintained pad under the cushion of the track. The pad is a partially compacted layer which is typically mixed one or more times per week to maintain a level of compliance in the layer below the cushion. Typically this partially compacted layer is 2 to 4 inches thick. The hardpan layer that develops below the harrow teeth is intentionally disturbed during a weekly maintenance procedure consisting of breaking and mixing of the layers. The composition of this type of dirt track is different from that of other dirt tracks since it typically has clay or other cohesive material. Most of the wax-based synthetic racing surfaces are also maintained in this fashion. The high clay content dirt tracks are most common in drier climates where the track can be operated with lower moisture content while still retaining the support required for the propulsive phase of the gait.

The distinctions between the types of track are less clear in turf tracks. Because of the need to maintain a growing medium throughout the root zone, a turf track is generally homogeneous throughout the entire depth of the portion of the track which the hoof contacts. A turf track also uses aeration and other mechanical means are used to maintain a softer top layer and to open up the surface both to increase permeability to the root zone and to help maintain a compliant top surface. The turf foliage and thatch layers are biomechanically analogous to the harrowed cushion on a dirt track. This surface overlies the soil with the associated root structure which will be more homogeneous due to the maintenance needs associated with a healthy turf layer. A primary distinction between turf tracks and types of turf will be the degree of compaction of the growing medium and the strength of the associated

root system which will affect both the hardness and the shear strength of the soil. In general though, choice of materials that resist compaction and the use of mechanical methods to reduce compaction will result in surfaces that closely resemble the dirt tracks with a pad in their mechanical performance. The consistency of the maintenance protocol for this type of surface can be clearly seen from the condition of the turf growth.

Below the maintained layers of sand, or sand and clay, or turf, the primary function of the base is to create a consistent level surface. The role of a base that is more than 12 inches below the top surface of the track is less critical. In those cases, maintenance of the pad or false base is of primary importance. However, a consistent base is still an important factor since it can be important for drainage and to provide a stable layer for installation and heavy maintenance of the track. For shallow sand tracks, the base is critical to maintaining a safe surface. The toe of the shoe will be in close proximity to the base and the base provides a significant percentage of the support required for the hoof during the loading phase.

Geometrical Configuration

While there has been little comparative research on the different designs of surfaces of racetracks, slightly more consideration has been given to the geometrical configuration of a racing surface. However, most of the rigorous and systematic work has been done with trotting horses rather than with Thoroughbreds. Understanding the methods of describing the geometry of a racetrack is critical to understanding risk to the horse and rider. Typical areas of interest include the slope and possible existence of a crown on the straights, the length of the straights relative to the turns, the banking or super-elevation of the turns and the radius of the turns and whether the radius of the turn is constant or varies through the turn.

On dirt or other surfaces where water is shed across the surface, even straight sections of the track will slope toward the inside rail. While some tracks have as little as 1% grade, the typical grade toward the inside rail is more than 2%. This allows the top surface of the track to be compacted with a float so that rain will drain to the inside rail. On wider tracks a crown is used so that the outside one quarter or one third of the track will drain to the outside rail. While harder to maintain, this crowning of the track reduces the amount of water that must be managed on the inside rail and, depending on the track material, can reduce loss of fine material on the inside rail. The biomechanical impact of running on a sloped surface has not been studied systematically. The common asymmetry of the riding position (acey-deucey) with the left stirrup lower than the right which is typically used for racing Thoroughbreds further exacerbates asymmetry of loading on the animal. In contrast most synthetic racing surfaces depend on vertical drainage and may have flat straight sections and have more flexibility in the banking used in the corners. This is an important area of investigation that has not been previously investigated in a systematic manner.

The banking in turns has been the subject of a large amount of discussion but only a small amount of systematic evaluation. The best understanding of the issues to be considered is in some articles outside of the scientific literature (Coons 1981). However, this work is based on engineering

concepts used in road building rather than biomechanics. In this and other articles, the definitions and concepts that are well established from road and railroad building are applied to horse racing. In particular, the spiral turn is defined and the applicability to horse racing is discussed. Developing true spiral turns in the current race tracks would be quite difficult because of the required changes in the geometry of the track and the limited space surrounding most racetracks.

While Thoroughbred racing has been the subject of discussion of the issues to be considered, previous work with banking has never linked this to loading on the legs. This is a complex issue for thoroughbreds because the horse has an ability to lean into the corner and the asymmetric loading of the jockey reduces lateral loading on the legs. These combine to make banking optimization specific to not only the speed and radius, but also to the positioning of the jockey and the gait of the horse. The most important work which has linked to the biomechanics of the gait and risk to the horse has been done with trotting horses and specifically links banking with injuries (Fredricson et al. 1975). This work has been repeated in other racing jurisdictions but also with Standardbred horses (Evans and Walsh 1997). No comparable study has been performed with Thoroughbred horses with the differences in loading and gait which makes extrapolation of the results from Standardbred horses problematic. There is a need to understand the optimal design of a racetrack, and understand the implications of the current design for the health of the horse.

Composition and Design

No other aspect of racing is as firmly established as characterizing the use of basic composition measurements. At least a basic composition test is used at nearly all racing venues and is a key aspect of management of the surface. What is less well understood and has not been as carefully considered is the interaction of track design and composition. The demands on the composition control are quite different for a shallow sand track laid over a hard base. At the same time surfaces which can be effectively compacted are well studied to base materials and to tracks which have a false base of compacted material. There remains a need to continue to develop better quantitative methods of characterizing track material and to extend some of the new developments from synthetic track material characterization to the testing of dirt and turf track materials and to link these characteristics to the climate and design of particular tracks.

TESTING OF RACING SURFACES

Surface Material Characterization

The characterization of the racing surface materials is the best understood and most common type of racing surface monitoring. While important to the overall performance of the surface, material is just one aspect of developing an appropriate racing or training surface. Many of the discussions which revolve around the surface material, are really issues associated with weather or maintenance.

However, without consistent and appropriate material it can be difficult if not impossible to have a good racing surface.

Composition Testing

Most tracks make use of simple sieve and hydrometer testing (ASTM D422, 2007) to determine the sand particles size and percentage of clay and silt. The best established characteristic of the sieve data is the correlation between broad particle size distribution and the compactability of the material. However a number of other characteristics of the sieve and hydrometer data are less well established such as relative percentages of clay and silt and the effect of fine material mixed in with coarser sand. Serious concerns have also arisen regarding the suitability of the traditional hydrometer testing for the determination of clay content (Lu et al. 2000) which is a critical factor in the design of tracks in more arid regions. In addition, the introduction of synthetic surfaces in North America was not initially accompanied by extensive new methods, but some parts of the industry have worked to develop these methods as the surfaces have been in use over time. In general composition testing is useful for maintaining desirable properties of a surface that has been found to work. The simple composition tests must in the case of traditional dirt surfaces be supplemented with tests such as clay mineralogy, and in the case of synthetic surfaces full thermo-mechanical and chemical characterization of the wax is required to maintain the properties of the surface. However, beyond the details of sieve and gas chromatography is the big picture of material response.

Perhaps the most important characteristic of all the cushion surfaces is the shear strength of the material. Shear strength is a function of the cohesion of the material and the shear. The cohesion of the material is a result of bonding between the sand particles which is typically influenced by clay in dirt surfaces (Al-Shayea 2001) and wax in synthetic surfaces (Bridge et al. 2010a). In addition, friction between particles can be enhanced by the presence of fibers or roots which can further increase the shear strength. The frictional portion of the shear strength increases as the load on the material increases. Therefore in order to understand a change in the shear strength of a surface it is necessary to understand the details of the shape and size of the sand as well as understanding the exact nature of the components which increase the shear and cohesion such as fiber content, clay mineralogy and wax chemistry. The basic tests for dirt and synthetic surfaces are:

Dirt tracks	Synthetic tracks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sieve separation• Hydrometer tests of clay and silt• Organic content• Bulk density (as a function of moisture)• Salt content• X-ray diffraction for clay mineralogy• Sand microscopy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wax percentage• Fiber and rubber separation• Gas chromatography of wax• Differential scanning calorimetry of wax• Oil content measurement• Bulk density (as a function of moisture)• Sand weight percentage• Sand particle size distribution• Moisture holding capability

Laboratory Performance Testing

Composition testing has the distinct limitation that it only describes the material, not the results which occur from the composition of the material. For surfaces which may have unique local sand or clay, this is particularly problematic since the performance of the track may not be consistent with other tracks which have similar composition. As a result, there is a need for both laboratory performance testing to evaluate the performance of the components of the track material and to determine if the composition produces values similar to other racing surfaces. In addition the in-situ performance testing should be used to describe the overall performance of the material when combined with the design of the track.

Shear strength

The shear strength of the cushion material is the most fundamental characteristic of the performance of the track. A material with high cohesion will reduce the slide during the impact phase of the gait; low shear strength will keep the track from supporting the hoof during the propulsion phase of the gait resulting in cupping out. Finally, during breakover on many materials the toe of the hoof will penetrate into the track which is also characterized by the shear strength of the material. Figure 3 shows the configuration of the test cell used for the shear strength testing which is based on a standard test method (ASTM D4767, 2004). In the case of traditional materials the testing is done at a range of moisture contents, whereas the track material temperature is controlled for the synthetic materials.

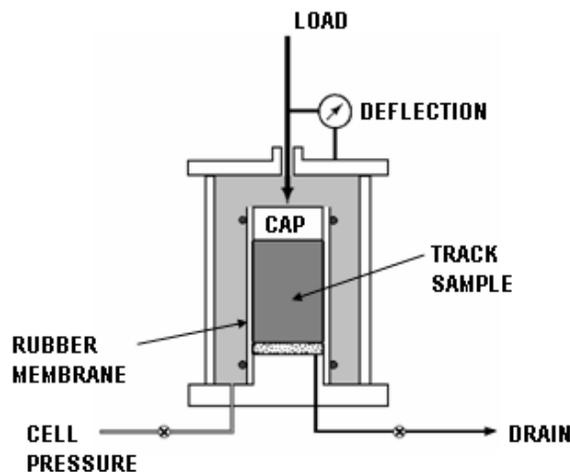


Figure 3: Configuration of the triaxial test cell used for the determining the triaxial shear strength of track cushion materials

In the triaxial shear the test is performed using a cylinder of the test material which is surrounded by a pressurized fluid. The top of the cylindrical test specimen is loaded and the deflection of the sample is measured. The point at which the sample begins to fail is the shear strength at a

particular confining pressure. The test is repeated for a range of confining pressures to evaluate the cohesion (the strength with zero load) as well as to determine the relationship between increased loading and the shear strength of the material. Typically twelve to 15 tests are performed to understand the effect of moisture or temperature on the cohesion and the frictional components of the shear strength. The link between these measurements and key aspects of the wax composition has been demonstrated for materials from a number of different synthetic racing surfaces (Bridge et al. 2010, Bridge et al. 2010a).

Compaction

The compactability of the surface material determines both the effect of horse traffic between maintenance of the material as well as the ability of a material to form a solid base under the track. These two goals are somewhat contradictory for a track where the top material and the base are the same composition. For example, the ideal track would have limited differences in the surface regardless of the amount of horse traffic which had passed across it. However, a good base material should be easy to compact. This is addressed in shallow sand tracks by using a different material for the base and the cushion. However, this means that under some circumstances the horses may end up running on a very hard surface, and maintenance of the base becomes critical. If a partially compacted pad is used, then a balance should be maintained between consistency of the surface and providing cushioning for the hoof. The compaction of the surface is a function of the moisture content of the material with maximum compaction occurring at particular moisture content. A modification of a standard test is used which allows a reasonable amount of material to be used for testing (ASTM D698 2007, Di'az-Zorita et al. 2001). The curve of moisture content versus bulk density is a tool that allows base material to be effectively compacted and to help understand the effects of moisture on the track when sealing or otherwise maintaining the track.

Impact Absorption and Energy Return

The manner in which energy is absorbed in the track material has not been previously investigated and must be better understood to develop a system which tracks both the safety and speed of surfaces. In general from the human literature it is known that deep and absorbing surfaces are tiring and may be associated with particular types of injuries (Kerdok et al. 2002, Barrett et al. 1997). At the same time it is clear that the proper tuning of a surface for humans can result in both a fast and a safe surface (McMahon and Greene, 1979). Understanding these dynamics for horse racing can be done to a certain degree with lab tests but is likely to also involve the design of the surface and thus will probably require in-situ measurements. The impact absorption during the initial impact stage is a function of the dynamic response of the hoof or the hardness of the impactor, as well as the modulus of the surface (referred to as the target in impact mechanics) (Abrate 1994, Goldsmith 2001). This same effect has been clearly observed in measurements on horses where the effect of surfaces is related in a complex fashion to the anatomy of the hoof (Burn, 2006). At this time no standard test is available but the potential exists for tests developed for other purposes to be used to characterize the energy return and the impact absorption of the surfaces (ASTM D3763, 2010). However, as with the triaxial and other tests, the test will need to be run with careful control of the moisture content and temperature for dirt

and synthetic surfaces respectively. Like most of the laboratory performance tests, these tests are poorly suited to turf tracks and are primarily applicable to dirt and synthetic surfaces.

Moisture Sensitivity

For both dirt and turf surfaces there is a need to understand the relationship between the water content and the surface performance. For these surfaces moisture is the single most important variable in the maintenance of the surface. For shallow sand surfaces aspects of the track design such as the type and consistency of the drainage along the inside rail is also important. For turf surfaces the wettability of the material and the design and maintenance of the irrigation system are critical issues. As synthetic surfaces wear it is also likely that the sensitivity to moisture will increase as the hydrophobic coating is lost from the surface. The relationship between moisture content and shear strength is well established (Al-Shayea, 2001), even for materials similar to those used in racing surfaces (Ratzlaff et al. 1997). In general the shear strength like the compactability reaches a maximum at a particular water content with lower shear strength at both lower and higher moisture contents. However, the percentage of moisture at which the maximum occurs is highly dependent on the material. Further, the sensitivity of the moisture content around the peak is also highly material dependent. These characteristics must be developed for each material and then monitored for change over time. The use of the triaxial shear test as a function of moisture content is useful for dirt track material much as it has been used for synthetic surface materials (Bridge et al. 2010).

Permeability must also be considered if the flow of water through the surface is an important aspect of the design of the surface. Again the permeability can be measured using standard test methods (ASTM D5856, 2007). For synthetic racing surfaces and turf tracks the water must be able to penetrate the surface for drainage and for turf health. Most sand tracks do not have significant permeability through the depth. However, on these surfaces a portion of the drainage toward the rail may occur within the track surface and a more permeable track will quickly recover from rain and will be more difficult to keep wet during dry periods. Generally with the exception of the drainage toward the rail for shallow sand tracks, permeability of the surface is not a major factor for dirt racing tracks since the surface is sealed before rain and the primary flow of water is across the top of the track toward the rail.

In-Situ Testing

Regardless of the utility of the laboratory tests, these tests are essentially limited to ensuring that a track stays the same over time. In addition to these laboratory measurements, the consistency of the track is determined by how the design is implemented and the effectiveness of the maintenance in keeping a consistent surface which is in keeping with the design. However, even these measurements are not a complete picture of the track. The complex interaction of climate, maintenance, usage and design occurs only at the racetrack where all aspects of the surface interact to provide a racing surface for the horses. Understanding a complete interaction of these factors requires in-situ performance measurements which do not presuppose a particular track design. These measurements can be quite complex. However, it is clear from looking at different designs in different locations, that a single

solution is not possible and that a track design which works in one location may not be ideal in all applications. Therefore eventually only performance measurements which do not presuppose the design of the surface can be used for evaluating the characteristics of a racing surface.

Operational Measurements

Basic operational measurements of the surface depend on the design of the surface as well as being influenced by the climate. Very few racetracks have a systematic approach to these measurements, even though they are critical to maintaining a consistent surface. These basic measurements have the potential to significantly improve the consistency of racing surfaces at those tracks that do not currently perform these measurements. Care must be taken to make the measurements in a manner consistent with the type of surface.

Moisture content

The single most important variable on dirt or turf surfaces is moisture content. For turf surfaces the moisture content of the surface both controls health of the turf and the mechanical properties of the surface. For dirt surfaces the mechanical properties are a function of the moisture content and can vary dramatically with even small changes in moisture content depending on the material. Moisture is challenging since it can change dramatically over a short period of time. In a shallow sand track the biggest challenge is getting enough water on the track during a dry period, since many of these tracks can take a lot of rainfall and will shed the water very effectively. On tracks which are capable of operating effectively during dry periods, the challenge is to keep enough water on the track to maintain the shear strength and to manage the track during periods of rain. Two separate factors need to be addressed: variation of moisture over the total track between days, and variation in the moisture content around the track or, more formally, the temporal and spatial variation of the moisture content of the track.

Spatial

In order to monitor the variation in moisture content around the track, a simple fast reading probe is needed. This is not simple for a racetrack because racing surfaces operate over a wider range of moisture contents than seen in most types of agriculture. Also, on a track which experiences heavy rain, the salt and clay composition can change over time as water passes through the surface. Both salt and clay composition will affect the moisture readings from most moisture probes. The best probe for the conditions of the racing surface is a Time Domain Reflectometry (TDR) probe. The TDR probe is affected by both salt and clay but can be calibrated, and it effectively averages through the depth of the cushion of the track. Several devices are available and a number of companies sell the same unit. These units are also available in a configuration that allows them to be used with a low cost commercial GPS system. Currently the communication to the GPS is not reliable and is not worth the bother until the communication with the GPS becomes more reliable. Without the GPS, data can be either written down or downloaded to a computer and manually mapped.

Typically it is best if the moisture content of the track is mapped after training and after racing. This gives an idea of wet and dry spots and can be shared with the maintenance team to identify

approaches that can be used to avoid wet and dry spots. In particular, attention can be brought to issues with track drainage, shading of the track from foliage and the grandstand, and overwatering the inside of the turns due to the shorter distance traveled by the inside nozzle on the truck.

Temporal

Temporal moisture measurement is more difficult to measure because the weather can change during training and racing and this should be considered in the water application and other maintenance such as floating of the track. Most experienced superintendents are good at observing these changes and responding in real time especially to rainfall. Evaporation is much more difficult. In some cases the evaporation rate is evident from the color of the track, but a light spray of water on the top can mask a gradually drying track. In precision farming this is handled with evapo-transpiration models. These are models that describe the loss of water from the leaves and soil in farming. Using a specially designed weather station these evapo-transpiration models can guide farmers in the irrigation of crops. While horse racing is similar, the models do not work for the main track. Since the track is harrowed between races and does not have crop cover, the evaporation rate for the dirt is much higher. While academic work has addressed some of the issues with evaporation from harrowed dirt surfaces, these models have not been implemented for the unique conditions of horse racing (Stroosnijder 1987, Mutziger et al. 2005). Factors such as the depth of the harrow need to be added to the model for the racing surface weather station. These models do not currently exist but weather stations that have been developed for precision agriculture can be adapted for use on the racetrack.

Depth

Depth of the cushion is a critical and relatively straightforward measurement on shallow sand track surfaces. Requiring nothing more than a marked probe, the surface on a shallow sand track can be probed regularly at evenly spaced intervals to ensure that a consistent amount of cushion covers the hard base. This can also be done at more closely spaced intervals and with higher accuracy using ground penetrating radar. The best case is a combination of regular probing of areas with known issues and periodic evaluation with radar to ensure that the overall surface consistency is good.

For tracks with a pad or false base design the depth is a more complex characteristic. For surfaces with a false base usually the depth of the cushion is referenced to the top of the track and as long as the base is firm can be measured in the same manner as with a shallow sand track. However if the base is not well developed or a pad is used, judgment is required to determine if the cushion is the same depth. In that case the relevant depth is based on the depth of the material after periodic rototilling and an assumption of accurate grades on the surfaces of the track. Alternatively, ground penetrating radar can in many cases be used to show the depth of the cushion and the depth of the pad if the difference in the density of the material is sufficient.

Material consistency

One of the continuing challenges for surfaces is differences in wear and movement of material in the surface. For a turf track this is mitigated by moving the inside rail on the track and spreading out the wear on the surface. However, for dirt and synthetic surfaces this is not done. Several factors will

alter the material composition across the width of the track including, heavy horse traffic along the rail, loss of fine material along the rail to the drainage system, drainage from chutes across the main oval of the track and physical movement of material due to the banking of the turns. Around the track variation in the composition can also occur due to movement of equipment and horses onto the track, more heavily trafficked portion of the track from the 6 furlong pole to the wire and traffic on the track unrelated to racing. In both cases measurements are needed which can be used to compare the track on the inside rail with material further out from the racing surface. Sampling protocols for laboratory testing can include samples from locations that are two distances out from the rail as well as sampling from locations with known issues such as the close to the rail on the track where water from the chute will flow toward the drainage system. The most basic sampling protocol used is for material to be taken from the track at the $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ pole at a location 2 meters from the rail, along with two samples at the wire and the $\frac{1}{4}$ pole taken at distances of 1 meter and 3 meters from the rail. This sampling method gives insight into the variation of the material at two distances from the rail as well as proving insight into any variability around the track.

Temperature

For synthetic surfaces which operate with minimal maintenance and have not worn significantly, temperature essentially takes the place of moisture for turf and dirt tracks in the discussion of key variables for the surface. With proper maintenance, this effect can be moderated if not completely eliminated. Like the effect of moisture, the effect is not simply linear but will result in maximum values for the shear strength as well as other effects such as high cohesion of the material leading up to balling of the material in the frog. Monitoring the effect of temperature on the surface allows the use of maintenance methods such as harrow depth variation and the addition of water to be used to reduce these effects.

Geometry

As discussed above, the geometry of the racetrack including the radius of the turns, banking and transitions from the straight to the banked turns have been demonstrated to be important in Standardbred racing. While scientific evidence does not exist to demonstrate the optimal design of the turn for a Thoroughbred, logic suggests that the transitions should be smooth and consistent. Epidemiological work suggests that the geometry of the turns would be considered as a possible source of risk for the horse. Thus it is important to consistently measure the banking and to ensure that the transitions are maintained. This can be done with laser or GPS and the positions can be either programmed directly into a GPS controlled grader or can be based on monuments placed on the perimeter of the track for reference purposes. This technology is well established, however the precision required for horse racing surfaces is much higher than that of many applications and thus suggests that care be taken when using off-the-shelf technology.

In-situ Performance Testing

Regardless of how carefully the various aspects of racetrack design and maintenance are performed, these factors must be combined in the real world to produce consistent results. These results can only be measured in-situ so that the combined aspects of the surface characteristics can be

understood. The ideal measurement method would replicate the horse moving on the surface. Direct measurements of people or horses are not typically used to characterize the surface because of individual variation in gait and other factors such as fatigue or injury (Shorten, 2008). However, this can be complex and expensive for an animal the size and speed of a racehorse. The other options for in-situ testing of tracks should also be considered.

Simple in-situ testing devices

Several simple devices have been proposed for the testing of racing surfaces and some of these devices are currently in use. However, with one exception, these devices have been adapted from other applications and typically require a significant amount of technique in order to produce repeatable results. The long term goal should be to develop monitoring methods that can be consistently applied and which cannot be easily influenced by the operator.

Clegg Hammer

In North American racing, the most commonly used measure of surface performance is probably the Clegg Hammer. The Clegg Hammer was developed primarily for looking at the compaction of base course layers for roadways. Because of the initial use of analog electronics in the early system, only the peak acceleration was displayed on the unit. The peak acceleration after four impacts of the mass on the surface was used in this unit to replicate the effect of equipment used to compact surfaces over which a roadway would be constructed. A significant body of work exists in the literature that related the Clegg hammer readings to parameters of interest, including some more recent work which even proposes the replacement of the nuclear density meter for some applications (Farrag 2006). The Clegg hammer has been shown in this work as well as other efforts to be capable of measuring the compactability of a surface if the moisture content is also measured. Clearly, however, the compactability requires that the moisture content be measured as well, since the moisture content has a first order effect on the compaction of materials (Al-Shayea 2001, Olu et al. 1989, and others).

This type of measurement is useful for racing surfaces for the evaluation of the condition of the base and in measurements which match those that are relevant to road building. If the maximum compactability of a surface is important such as with those surfaces which depend on a false base or hard pan layer to support the cushion, then the Clegg hammer is a useful tool for determination of this characteristic of the surface. The Clegg hammer does not, however, provide useful information regarding the peak load on the hoof because of the small weight and the repeated impact on a surface. The repeated impact of the surface with the Clegg hammer, which is necessary for influencing the surface below the top cushion, eliminates the influence of the top harrowed layer on the loading of the hoof. If the initial drop is evaluated, the measurement does not include anything except the top cushion layer. The standard Clegg hammer is 2.25 kg which means that at the modest height from which it is dropped, it underestimates the loading on the surface from a running human or a canine. With the exception of compactability measurements for civil engineering applications, ball sports and human athletics have recently begun to cast doubt on the simple analysis used with the Clegg hammer electronics for characterizing sports surfaces (Carré and Haake 2004). And most notably, this measurement is not a part of the standards used for tennis, soccer or other sports; instead systems

which are more closely based on the biomechanical motion of interest are considered not simply a measure which is convenient to perform like the Clegg hammer (Barry and Milburn 2000 and Cawley et al. 2003).

Dynamic Penetrometer

The most widely used tool for the characterizing of racing surfaces is the dynamic penetrometer. This device is made by Gill Engineering in Australia among other companies. Unlike the blunt weight of the Clegg hammer, this device penetrates the surface with a sharp tapered tool which measures the penetration resistance of the surface. The dynamic penetrometer has been used primarily in areas where turf racing overwhelmingly predominates. This is because this type of device presupposes that to the depth of penetration the surface is essentially homogeneous. The strong layering you see in any type of dirt or most synthetic surfaces will mean that the characteristics of recent maintenance will control the depth of penetration. However, for these types of homogeneous surfaces which exist for the turf health as well as part of the surface design, this is a well established tool which is supported in the literature (Murphy et al. 1996). However, it is necessary to correct these measurements for soil type and moisture in order to create useful data which will help to provide an understanding of the performance of a horse on a surface. Modeling of the surface interaction of the penetrometer makes it possible to create a general rating of turf conditions which can be compared between locations (Thomas et al. 1996).

The primary limitations to the dynamic penetrometer are the inability to deal effectively with a layered surface such as most dirt and synthetic racing surfaces. Little discussion has also occurred regarding the applicability of the tool to some warm weather grasses which can create a layered root zone. The existence of a horizontal root system and perhaps even the existence of reinforcing fibers or grids in the surface can result in erroneous and highly variable readings from the penetrometer. In general, the characteristic length of any of the constituent materials in the surface should be several times smaller than the measurement device. For example, turf grids which are of the same size as the penetrating probe of the penetrometer will result in a measurement of the existence or absence of a turf grid under the probe, not a measurement of the strength of the soil. However, recognizing the limitations of the measurement and assuming proper calibration of the penetrometer to the soil type, along with simultaneous measurement of moisture, the dynamic penetrometer is a good tool for in-situ measurement of turf surfaces and one of the few methods with solid support in the published literature. Automation of the penetrometer data acquisition to eliminate the operator judgment currently required and linking of the data to GPS coordinates would provide a very promising tool for characterizing turf racing surfaces.

Agricultural Penetrometer

In North America, the term penetrometer is generally used to refer to a pointed probe which is pressed into the soil while the penetration force is measured. For agricultural applications this is an important measurement since crop yield is related to the compaction of the soil in the root zone and the profile of the soil compaction can be measured. Depending on the crop to be grown in a soil, the allowable compaction or penetration resistance at a depth may be well characterized. Because the

speed of penetration is not controlled, in damp soil the operator must take great care to ensure that the speed of the probe is sufficiently slow that the proper measurement of penetration which is relevant for roots is obtained. Like the Clegg hammer, the agricultural penetrometer is a useful tool for its intended purpose. In the case of the agricultural penetrometer, the quasi-static penetration resistance of soil may be related to the penetration resistance of a hoof on a surface, or it may be independent. Certainly at the high speeds at which a hoof penetrates the surface, the moisture content and thus the dynamic properties are of critical importance. Like the Clegg hammer the penetrometer can also make it possible to determine if a false base type surface has set up sufficiently, or if a track which uses a pad has set up excessively. While both of these measurements may be useful for daily maintenance support for the track surface, and to identify intervals at which the track should be have deeper maintenance, these measurement tools are not likely to be well suited for predicting either the performance or generally the risk to the horse.

Going Stick

At an intermediate level of complexity for in-situ characterization of racing surfaces is the Going Stick (TurfTrax Ltd, Cambridgeshire, UK). This device has two load cells and is used manually in a combined two axes of motion to measure the racing surfaces. The systems are best suited for use on the turf, which is consistent with the origins of the device in the UK where most racing is held on turf. Like the dynamic penetrometer, the Going Stick assumes that the track consists of a homogenous top layer. Unlike the dynamic penetrometer the Going Stick measures the force required to penetrate a flat blade into the surface. However, after the blade is placed in the surface the top of the Going Stick is then rotated about the base so that the handle is at a 45 degree angle to the vertical. By measuring the peak force in a two axis load cell, information about not only the penetration resistance but the shear strength of the surface is obtained. From a biomechanical perspective this measurement has some characteristics in common with the breakover and propulsion phase of the gait. While this may not be the most critical measurement with respect to injury to the horse, the propulsive phase is very important for the performance of the horse. As a result of the origins of this device as a tool for providing data for the public, the interpretation of the measurement physics of the Going Stick seems consistent with the goals of the device. While a narrowly focused study was published on the efficacy of some of the related hardware for determining horse position (Spence et al. 2008), in general, the Going Stick is not supported by any data which is published in the open literature. In spite of the absence of any scientific support for their approach, of all the simple devices for characterizing a surface, the Going Stick is the device with the greatest potential.

Several caveats exist with the Going Stick. While the penetrating probe is larger than the dynamic penetrometer, it is still much smaller than the foot of the horse. As such, any component of the track which may be on the same scale as the probe can be a problem. For example root structures in warm weather grasses and the rubber particles in some synthetic surfaces are as large as the width of the probe. Furthermore, the device is inserted manually into the ground. Speed of insertion is critical since soil is strain rate dependent especially at the higher moisture contents seen in many damp surfaces. This makes the operator technique very critical to the proper use of this tool. In the future, use

of this tool has very good potential for use with turf surfaces, especially for cool weather grasses. For some types of synthetic surfaces it may also be useful. Additional work is needed to understand the use of the measurement and to support any association with risk to the horse.

Biomechanical hoof tester

The Biomechanical Hoof Tester is a system that has been developed to make it possible to load the track at the rate and loads that are applied by a horse at a gallop (Peterson et al. 2008). This system mimics the point at which the fore limb contacts the track and the weight of the horse is transferred to the hoof. This is the period of the gait during which both the highest vertical loads and the highest shear loads are applied to the soil (Biewener, 2003). The device that has been developed is a two axis drop tower type of apparatus which impacts a synthetic hoof at an angle to the soil surface (Figure 3). Two non-orthogonal axes of motion allow acceleration due to the sliding of the hoof in contact to be measured as well as vertical loads and vertical acceleration. From Figure 3 the two axes can be seen as a long set of rails and a shorter linear bearing apparatus which is attached to the hoof. With gravity acting on the first axis, the long rails on which the hoof and instrumentation slides, the force is generated by accelerating this mass down the rails. The total mass of the portion of the system that drops on the long rails is 30 kg which provides energy at impact of approximately 540 J. This impact energy accounts for the energy of the hoof impacting the surface as well as the partial weight of the animal and associated musculature. A second set of shorter linear rails moves down as a part of the mass attached to the slide. This second axis is preloaded by a gas spring and only moves once the hoof is in contact with the soil. The difference in the angle between the first and second axes, 5 degrees from the long rail angle, forces the hoof to slide forward towards the toe as it impacts the soil and the second preloaded axis is compressed. The angle at which the hoof impacts the soil is adjusted to match the published biomechanical data for initial impact of the hoof (Ratzlaff et al. 1993). A total of five data channels are recorded during the testing. Attached to a stiff mass above the hoof is a three axis 100 g accelerometer. Load is transferred into the gas spring from the hoof mass using a dynamic load cell with a 0 Hz (DC) to 36 kHz bandwidth. Redundant data from the acceleration and the position measurement is used to estimate the penetration into the soil and to verify the velocity of the hoof at impact. The angle of the hoof with respect to the soil is adjusted to 7 degrees from the vertical to match treadmill data from horses at a gallop.

The two parameters which have been used from the Biomechanical Hoof Tester are the peak load and the accelerations in the horizontal and vertical planes. However, the entire data set consisting of loads and accelerations on the hoof are acquired which provides opportunities to consider other parameters which may be better suited to characterizing the performance of the surface including impact injury scores (Dallap et al. 2010) as well as total energy return (Nigg 1995) among others measures. One particularly important parameter which has not been considered is the effect of the tuning of the track on the energy return. As previously mentioned in the discussion of laboratory performance tests, the potential exists based on experience with human athletes to produce a surface which can be fast as well as safe, through the tuning of the natural frequency of the surface to the stride frequency of the athlete (McMahon and Greene 1979). Some data is currently available from the

Biomechanical Hoof Tester; however it remains to be shown that the dynamic response is correlated with the response of the horse at a gallop.

Although the machine is large and somewhat complex, unlike the other tools, the biomechanical hoof tester replicates the speed and impact of one of the most critical phases of the gait for risk to the horse. While the two measured characteristics, shear and impact force, are expected to be related to performance of the horse, it is even more likely that these parameters measured with the full load and speed of the hoof landing represent the risk to the horse of catastrophic injury to the forelimb. The biomechanical hoof tester has been shown to be capable of measuring the effect of typical maintenance on a surface (Peterson and McIlwraith 2008). A sufficiently large study has not yet been done which makes it possible to link these measurements to risk to the horse. The immediate effect of the availability of this tool is to be able to characterize those aspects of the surface which pose the greatest risk of catastrophic and career ending injury. Even in the absence of a large epidemiological study, methods which are likely to result in more consistent surfaces will move racing toward the goal of providing a safer surface. It is also likely that data will be available which can also be used to predict performance of the horse on a surface. This less ambitious goal creates a potential for the testing to provide information to the public which can help to support the need to do continued testing which will provide the data which can eventually be used to estimate the risk to a horse.

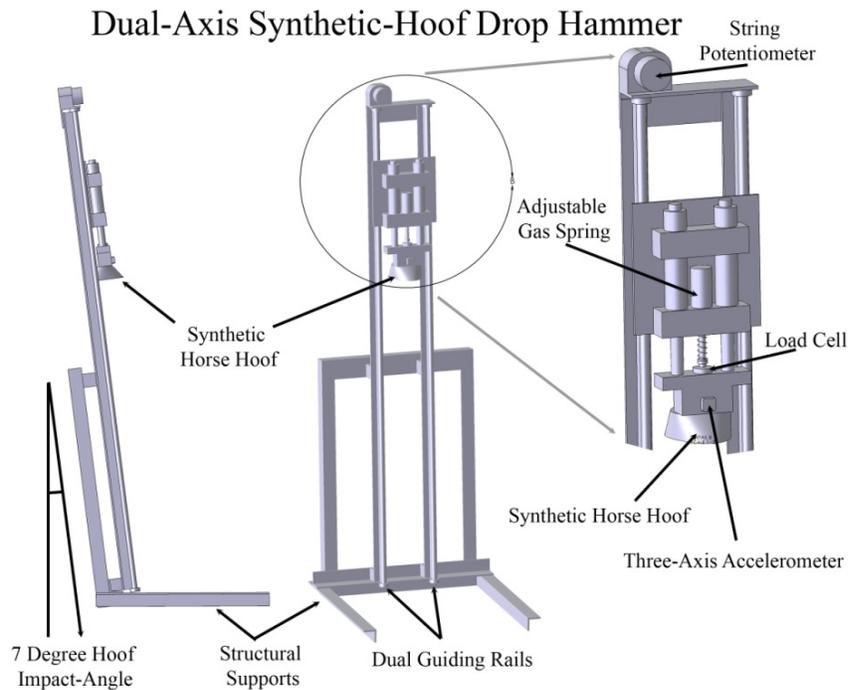


Figure 3: Biomechanical hoof tester used to replicate the speed and loading by the hoof on the racing surface.

UNDERSTANDING RACING SURFACE SAFETY

Beyond the tools needed for monitoring of racing surfaces, there is a need to understand what is done to the surface and how these surfaces are used. The condition of a racing or training surface is a result of maintenance, material, weather and usage. A complete understanding of the surface can only be obtained if these factors are all included to understand the outcome in terms of the resulting surface performance. The performance can then be measured relative to these inputs. In at least three cases this has already been done, the speed of a synthetic surface relative to the material temperature (Peterson et al. 2008), the effect of moisture on performance (Murphy et al. 1996) and the effect of maintenance on the measurements made with the biomechanical hoof tester (Peterson and McIlwraith 2008). These studies also show the correlation of inputs on the surface on the performance, which makes it clear that control and measurement of inputs has the potential both to create a more consistent surface and to understand the effect on the material of various environmental and other external characteristics.

Climate and Design

The first aspect of a large scale project is to understand the interaction of climate and track surface design. While to a certain extent the design of a track surface is a response to local materials and tradition, it is primarily a response to the local climate. In arid regions the retention of moisture and the ability to operate with a drier track have been dominant in the design of tracks. Conversely in areas with frequent heavy rainfall the priority is on a quick draining track that can retain the integrity of the surface even after a heavy rainfall. The first step in the project is a more comprehensive approach to mapping the use of different track designs and understanding what other confounding risk factors may exist such as turn radius and banking as well as the design of the surface drainage around the track. In order to be done properly the turns will have to be surveyed to understand the as-built and as-maintained geometry. This along with the climate of the area is the critical baseline information for understanding the decisions being made with a racing or training surface.

Monitoring of the Racing Surface

Once the track design is known, a protocol for monitoring can be developed. Aspects of the track which are crucial for some designs are less important for other designs. For example, cushion depth must be carefully monitored and measured for shallow sand tracks used in areas with heavy rainfall. In contrast, tracks which are maintained with a pad under the cushion have few issues with the cushion depth but can have a pad that either compacts excessively or does not compact sufficiently to provide the required support for the hoof of the horse during propulsion. These surfaces require that density and compaction of the surface be monitored on a regular basis.

Composition

Over a shorter time interval, movement of the material and the vertical segregation of the material due to water and maintenance can be an issue. Spatial variation in track composition is a key source of track inconsistency. Identifying the existence of variable track composition and the resulting differences in track performance provides an understanding of allowable tolerance for the separation of the material. This information can only be developed based on data from the track which shows the degree of material segregation and associated variability in surface performance. Similarly other factors in the track composition such as salinity or clay mineralogy must also be better understood prior to developing a complete understanding of the racing surface and allowable variability. Therefore the track material must be characterized as fully as possible at regular and frequent intervals so that variation can be tracked and laboratory testing of the resulting materials variability can be fully understood.

Maintenance

Unlike material composition of the track, the resolution of the maintenance monitoring that is required is well understood. Maintenance must take place on a daily basis and the frequency as well as the type of maintenance is always critical. Comprehensive monitoring of a racing surface requires that all of the track maintenance procedures must be constantly monitored and that the maintenance must be performed in a consistent manner. The only way that the effect of maintenance on the track surface can be understood is for all of the maintenance to be logged including type of equipment, depth, speed and number of passes. These factors combine to describe the operation of the equipment and -create the surface the horses run on.

Weather and Usage

Finally, the other two critical inputs are the usage of the track and the weather. Heavy usage will create a more inconsistent surface which will require additional maintenance. Similarly, weather defines both the frequency and type of maintenance. Heavy rain requires that a dirt track be compacted; dry periods and conditions of rapid evaporation require frequent water application and changes in maintenance which will reduce the track evaporation rate. These two input factors and the resulting response create a more or less consistent surface for racing and training.

Performance

A combination of factors: weather, usage, maintenance, composition and design result in a surface which is harder or softer, faster or slower and more or less consistent. To the extent that these factors can combine in a positive manner, the racing surface will perform better or worse and will be either safer or more prone to injury. The goal of the performance measurement is likely to be narrower, focusing on the result of uncontrolled inputs on the surface, weather and usage, and to understand the effects of the responses to these inputs, water, and maintenance and material modifications. While the most direct method of understanding the surface performance is to directly measure it, the complexity and cost of having consistent monitoring may be prohibitive. Therefore if the performance effect of each of the possible additives is known, then simply tracking the addition of materials to the surface may be sufficient. This type of indirect measurement is certainly reasonable, but it presents significant additional challenges for the research.

SAFETY AND THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL LITERATURE

Epidemiological studies on Thoroughbred race horses suggest that differences in injury risk exist based on training and shifts between surfaces. However, the large number of factors involved indicates that a need exists for more work in this area to link the surface properties to risk but also to clearly separate other risk factors. As a result, an understanding of other equestrian surfaces may provide some guidance in spite of the differences in loading and conditions.

The most common reason for lameness in sport horses is injury to the distal limb. As with racing, the interaction between the horse (distal limb/hoof/shoe) and supporting surface is often considered to be an important factor in mechanisms of injury. For instance, the surface and shoeing practices in show jumping during the recent Olympic Games (2004 in Athens, Greece) has been a great source of speculation in the causes of acute tendon injuries of three jumping horses competing. Review of the scientific literature reveals meager support for the understanding of the interaction of the horse and common surfaces. In a recent literature review on track surface injuries, the conclusion was that an understanding of the risk factors for musculoskeletal injuries is emerging while information to produce guidelines for the design and management of safer racetrack surfaces is insufficient (Stubbs et al. 2004). However, guidance for design of racing surfaces from arena design is unlikely. A review of scientific databases reveals essentially no scientific basis for the arena surface design for non-racing horses. In a popular text on arena surfaces, suggestions are derived from trial and error and even include parallels from racetrack surface experiences in spite of the differences in design and gait (Malmgren 1999). The need for objective information and methods to evaluate the relationships between the distal limb-surface and injury is fundamental for the development of safe surfaces in training and competition in all uses of horses.

Therefore, the Thoroughbred epidemiological database remains the most valuable existing collection of work. Correlations between injury types and surfaces have been established for both training and racing surfaces. Recent studies have demonstrated differences between training practices, surfaces, and risk for injury which are independent of other known risk factors such as nutrition, conformation, and genetic predisposition (Rossdale et al. 1985, Robinson et al. 1988, Pool and Meagher 1990, Kobluk et al. 1991, Mohammed et al. 1991, Moyer and Fisher 1992, Stover et al. 1992, Johnson et al. 1994, Oikawa et al. 1994, Peloso et al. 1994, Bailey et al. 1998, Estberg et al. 1998, Cohen et al. 1999, Nunamaker 2000, Hernandez et al. 2001, Hill et al. 2001, Verheyen et al. 2005ab, Parkin et al. 2005). While a comprehensive review of this literature is outside of the scope of this paper, the critical nature of the epidemiological work to link surface properties to the health of the horse cannot be overemphasized. Once the measurement methods exist to characterize surfaces, then data sets such as the Equine Injury Database can be used to link safety of the horse and rider to objective surface measurements. While the consistency and fairness of the surfaces can be improved by developing

measurement tools, actual linkage to health and safety will require broad and high quality data sets to develop surfaces which are engineered for safety of the horse and jockey.

ENGINEERED RACING SURFACES

At various stages during the development of synthetic racing surfaces these surfaces have been referred to as “engineered surfaces” rather than “synthetic” or even advanced racing surfaces. Regardless of the terminology used to describe the surfaces, for the most part the people developing the materials were not materials engineers, geotechnical engineers or biomechanical engineers. The surfaces were developed by people with a commitment to equestrian sports and racing with significant experience with installation of arenas, racing and training surfaces. A need thus remains to apply engineering principles to the design and maintenance of synthetic and traditional dirt and turf surfaces. With proper monitoring, these surfaces can then be tracked over time to determine the characteristics of surfaces which will result in safe, high performance footings.

The initial set of design requirements for engineered racing surfaces should consist of the modulus of the surface material, shear strength of the surface material, and the rebound or coefficient of restitution of the material. In the absence of knowledge about the optimal values for these parameters, the objective of an engineered surface should be to match surfaces which are acknowledged to have desirable performance characteristics and thus to have the measured values within the range of a typical racing surface. Determination of the optimal values will only come after large scale epidemiological studies have provided the required direction for reduced injury rates. This material must then be used in a track design that is similarly based on geometry and physical design which is optimized for maintenance and, to the extent possible, uses best practices for track surface design. For example, nearly all current race tracks do not transition the radius of the turn properly to allow a spiral turn design to be used. While it is certainly important to have the proper amount of banking in the turns, it is currently impossible to have smooth and appropriate transitions if turns of a constant radius are used for the track designs (AASHTO 2004). The idea of changing turn radius in a spiral turn which is used in highway design is applicable to Thoroughbred racing; however the degree of banking used in highway design is not applicable because of the compliance and adaptation of the horse and rider. It is unrealistic to expect the change in turn radius to be made to existing tracks, however the discussion of optimal banking in horse racing is often lost in more well established issues and this type of proper geometry is a key element of an engineered racing surface.

The final element of a truly engineered racing surface is the development of preventative and well defined maintenance protocols. Synthetic surfaces have in the last two years begun to approach this ideal as closely as any type of surface. As a result of extensive work on the wax thermal chemistry and resulting mechanical behavior, it is becoming more realistic to expect that the synthetic surfaces can be more consistent with temperature and that the degradation of the surface safety over time can be

reversed. The greater variability and complex chemistry of natural materials makes this a longer term effort for dirt surfaces.

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WHITE PAPER

Putting the Horse First:
**Veterinary Recommendations for the Safety and
Welfare of the Standardbred Racehorse**



**American Association of Equine Practitioners
4075 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511
(859) 233-0147 • www.aaep.org**

Introduction

The American Association of Equine Practitioners was founded in 1954 by 11 racetrack veterinarians. While the association has grown to serve nearly 10,000 members worldwide who work with all equine breeds and disciplines, the AAEP's horse racing origin brings a unique understanding of the health and welfare needs of the racehorse.

It is with this perspective and commitment to equine safety and welfare that the AAEP formed a Racing Task Force in July 2008 to evaluate the safety and welfare issues affecting Thoroughbred horse racing. Medication usage, injuries, and a changing societal view of the appropriate use of horses in competition present formidable challenges to those entrusted with the care of the racehorse and the structure of the industry.

In recognition of the breed differences inherent in Thoroughbred, Quarter Horse and Standardbred racing, the AAEP Racing Committee has created breed-specific recommendations, respectively, for each industry.

The AAEP Racing Committee developed this white paper with the intent of recommending practices that place the welfare and safety of the Standardbred racehorse first while supporting those who seek to make meaningful change. As equine veterinarians, we are committed to working with the Standardbred racing industry to implement procedures that protect the horse. In addition, the AAEP expects its veterinary members to abide by the rules of all jurisdictions where they practice.

General Principles

The AAEP has long held position statements that address many aspects of racehorse health and safety. We encourage the Standardbred racing industry to support the following essential elements of an overall industry structure that promotes horse safety and welfare:

- Commitment to the humane treatment of horses, modern and progressive horse care as insured by periodic examination and disease prevention by licensed veterinarians.
- The adoption of uniform rules of medication usage, testing, security and enforcement by all industry participants.
- Priority funding for regulatory functions, including state-of-the-art testing and racetrack security.
- Continued identification and implementation of procedures and strategies that will significantly reduce the injury rate of horses, such as pre-race inspections, identification of safe shoeing practices and optimization of racetrack surfaces.

The AAEP makes the following recommendations for the Standardbred racing industry in four key areas: societal change and the public perception of horse racing, the racing business model, the owner-trainer-veterinarian relationship, and medication.

Societal Change and the Public Perception

Since the turn of the century, American society has drifted far from its agrarian roots to the point that only 15 percent of Americans today are involved with agriculture of any form. The horse, which was once an icon of American agriculture and general transportation, has become less of a beast of burden and is now viewed by some to be a companion animal, much the same as a dog or cat. In this societal context, welfare issues affecting the horse resonate with the public like never before. Dog racing was recently eliminated in the state of Massachusetts, a bellwether event that serves as a stark warning to all animal spectator sports.

On the other hand, the history of Standardbred racing is such that there are closer ties to agriculture and farm life than with Thoroughbred racing. The Standardbred industry has a close relationship to the original transportation use of the horse. Nevertheless, if we do not take care of the horse both during the racing years and after he or she can no longer compete, the public will not support racing and will turn their attention elsewhere. While there are a number of welfare initiatives in place in the Standardbred industry throughout the U.S., consistency is needed to demonstrate a sincere industry-wide commitment to equine welfare.

To address any change in societal perception of the Standardbred racing industry, the AAEP recommends:

- Racing industry support for a strategic plan that places the safety and welfare of the horse among its highest priorities. The AAEP recognizes and supports existing efforts by the United States Trotting Association (USTA) and The Hambletonian Society to accomplish this goal.
- The continued collaboration of multiple racing organizations (USTA, RMTC, AQHA, NTRA, TOBA, HBPA, ARCI, The Jockey Club, AAEP, racetracks and sales companies and others) to address the challenges that affect racing of all breeds.
- When the substantive issues of race horse welfare have been addressed by the industry, an aggressive public relations effort must be mounted to educate the public about what is being done to protect the welfare and safety of the horse (e.g.: racetrack injury reporting program, racetrack surface testing and medication studies).

The Business Model of Standardbred Racing

The Standardbred racing industry is a \$4.5 billion industry in the United States. The business model of Standardbred racing favors an extended racing career with horses racing until 14 years of age, or even greater in amateur racing. While their peak earning potential is in the three-year-old year, there is increased emphasis on support for racing older horses.

Standardbred race horses are raced in three general categories. County fair racing includes both purse only and pari-mutuel wagering events. Overnight and claiming horse racing at pari-mutuel racetracks is the largest segment of the industry based on number of horses entered and number of races conducted. The stakes or Grand Circuit horses race in age, gender, local and entry restricted races. These races require various payment programs from the owners to boost the purse fund and perpetuate the stakes program. These stake races are the high purse races that showcase the best racehorses and the horses often travel from track to track to participate in the stakes programs throughout the country.

Standardbred racing operates on a year-round schedule in 17 separate racing jurisdictions in the United States. Standardbred racehorses frequently race on a weekly schedule, with qualifying races required if the horse is out of racing for a period of one month. Stakes events often require entry in preliminary races in order to qualify for the final race. These races are usually scheduled seven days apart. Although this business model of racing does not appear to be associated with a high prevalence of catastrophic injury, racing at short intervals does place the Standardbred racehorse at risk of musculoskeletal injury due to the frequency of high-speed cyclic loading.

A concerning trend in the spread of the racino business model is an increasing number of racing executives that do not have experience in horse racing or horse care. We believe it is imperative that senior racetrack management become knowledgeable about the issues and business practices that directly affect the welfare and safety of the horses that race at their tracks. We recommend that a senior executive in these organizations act as a liaison between horsemen and facility management. Further that racing executives review USTA on-line publications that provide insight into the important operational considerations that help to assure the health and welfare of the horse.

Other practices that will improve the safety of the racehorse include the development of a consistent protocol for pre-race examinations by regulatory veterinarians as well as uniform criteria for scratching horses. The consistent use of a thorough pre-race inspection is a valuable tool available to help decrease racing injuries. Currently there is variation in these procedures among the 17 harness racing jurisdictions in the U.S. There also is lack of uniformity in reporting racehorse injuries, particularly those that occur during morning workouts. Judicious application of a standardized reporting system will increase the racing industry's ability to monitor and reduce racing and training injuries.

The AAEP encourages continued attention to risk factors associated with Standardbred racing. Underrun heels and long toes have been recognized as risk factors for injury in the Thoroughbred racehorse. This conformation may be found in Standardbred racehorses as well and may predispose them to fetlock injury as well as tendinitis of the flexor tendons and desmitis of the suspensory ligament. The Standardbred trains and races at a gait and speed that is unique. Even though the catastrophic injury rate of Standardbred racehorses may be less than that seen in other racing breeds, it is important for Standardbred race tracks to consistently participate in a national standardized injury-reporting system in order to accurately document the prevalence of injury in horses that are racing. This is a necessary component of a strategic plan to reduce injury in Standardbred racehorses. The USTA ETrack reporting system is an important commitment to this initiative. However, at this time participation is voluntary and the reporting by individual racetracks is sporadic. Initial data review confirms the existing impression that catastrophic

injuries in harness racing are rare and are usually associated with racing accidents. Efforts should be made to achieve consistency in injury reporting throughout the harness racing industry. The InCompass Solutions Equine Injury Database operated by The Jockey Club should serve as a model for a similar injury reporting system that could be developed by the USTA and used to document injury rates in Standardbred racehorses. The Thoroughbred racehorse injury summit held in 2006 resulted in an action plan that primarily addresses Thoroughbred racing. Some of the bullet points apply to Standardbred racing as well. The AAEP recommends that the Standardbred industry organize a similar summit for harness horses.

The “gold standard” of the Standardbred racing industry is the finish time recorded by the winning horse. Racetracks are conditioned to be hard and fast to encourage continual improvement of race times. While this paradigm is well-engrained in the Standardbred business model, it should be recognized that this emphasis will eventually result in diminishing returns. Based upon recent research by Mark Denny from Stanford University, there are natural limits to racing speed, and as we approach that speed, the structural limitations of the horse will be more likely to fail. This viewpoint should be given consideration in the long-range strategic plan of the Harness racing industry.

At this time it is appropriate for the industry to consider wide-spread adoption of best practice procedures that will emphasize safety of the racing surface. Continued USTA efforts are encouraged to monitor and improve driving techniques. Standardbred racing officials should continue to be proactive in the safety and humane issues of the equipment the horse wears, shoeing and hoof care, and the safety of the race bikes. Track surface recommendations, banking of turns, and racing under certain weather conditions should be re-evaluated and racing programs adjusted to provide for the welfare of the horse. If necessary, research on these factors should be initiated to provide the best and safest environment for the racehorse. The AAEP is willing to help partner in these safety and welfare initiatives. Standardbred racing organizations are to be commended for programs to educate judges who are trained to consistently apply the rules and penalties for drivers throughout the U.S. and Canada, as many drivers regularly drive in several states and both countries each week.

The USTA has created additional initiatives to ensure the health and welfare of the racing Standardbred racehorse, including enforcement of drivers’ uniform whipping reform, support of the industry’s Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) and national movements through the Association of Racing Commissioners International for uniform medication rules. The Hambletonian Society supports the American Horse Council, the RMTC and the Standardbred Investigative Services (SIS).

In most racing jurisdictions there is no institutional program to care for horses that can no longer race. The view of most racing facilities is that the responsibility for the care of horses rests entirely with the owner. This point of view may be justified on the basis of the individual owner’s obligation to care for his own horse. However, if a horse owner does not provide responsible care for retired racehorses, the industry becomes vulnerable to attack for apparent lack of concern for equine welfare. The resulting negative impact on horse racing's image can contribute to disenfranchisement of racing fans. Fortunately, many retired Standardbred race horses can transition into second careers because they are versatile and adaptable to training for other disciplines. A few Standardbred racetracks support events that benefit the Standardbred

Retirement Foundation and New Vocations, which are rescue and rehabilitation organizations that are devoted exclusively to providing secondary careers and homes for racehorses.

The USTA supports the listing of all retired Standardbred racehorses in the horses available section of The Horse Magazine website (www.thehorse.com) and provides a forum on their own website for the adoption, retraining and maintenance of Standardbreds that can no longer race. In addition, the Standardbred Pleasure Horse Organization has chapters in many states and provides opportunities to show retired Standardbred racehorses in horse shows. The USTA and other Standardbred groups support the Unwanted Horse Coalition.

The AAEP acknowledges that the following recommendations for modification of the business model of racing will have significant economic implications (some positive, some negative) for racing managers. We do not make these recommendations lightly. Further, we emphasize that one of our highest priorities as an industry must be to reduce equine injuries and improve the welfare of our equine athletes. The greatest potential for decreasing injury exists in making procedural and policy changes within the business model of racing, particularly in the claiming arena.

In order to put the safety and welfare of the horse first in the business model of racing, the AAEP recommends:

- Continued vigilance by the Standardbred racing industry of the safety and welfare implications of the current schedules, procedures and policies surrounding the conditioning, sale and racing of two-year-old horses.
- Trainers and racing managers are encouraged to adopt a long-term view of a horse's racing schedule that incorporates a period of rest in order to provide an opportunity to refresh and diminish the volume of persistent cyclic loading that occurs in the absence of rest.
- Every horse entered to race shall be on association grounds in sufficient time to have a pre-race veterinary inspection for racing soundness performed by a regulatory veterinarian who is experienced in diagnosing equine health conditions. Regulatory veterinarians should be given authority to scratch horses with lameness conditions discovered during this examination. Field size should not be a consideration in the determination of suitability of an individual horse to race.
- Standardization and enhancement of pre-race and post-race veterinary examinations by veterinarians experienced in diagnosing equine health conditions with mandatory cross-jurisdictional sharing of information in order to prevent horses that are on the vet's list at one racetrack from entering to race in another jurisdiction until they are cleared to race by a regulatory veterinarian.
- Horses should be removed from the Veterinarian's list when, in the opinion of the official veterinarian, the condition which caused the horse to be placed on the Veterinarian's list is resolved and the horse's status is returned to that of racing soundness.

- When warming up a horse prior to coming to the gate, the trainer/driver must, in all cases, jog his horse in a location of the racetrack that allows regulatory veterinarians a clear and unobstructed view of the gait of the horse.
- Uniform participation by all jurisdictions in injury reporting, using standardized forms for both racing and training injuries.
- Investment by all racing venues in capital improvements of the racetrack that will enhance the safety of the horse and driver. For example, all racetracks should ensure that an equine ambulance and trained personnel are available during the hours of racing.
- The development in all racing jurisdictions of a formalized relationship between racetracks and organizations dedicated to the rehabilitation, retraining and adoption for horses whose racing careers have ended. These programs should reinforce owner responsibility and support a secondary market for racehorses. Programs should be widely publicized in order to encourage participation by horsemen and increase public awareness of efforts by the racing industry to care for horses after their racing careers are ended. Any new programs can be linked nationally with the Unwanted Horse Coalition, currently operated by the American Horse Council. Whenever possible, there should be efforts made to follow-up on the ultimate destination of these horses in order to ensure their welfare and safety.
- The generation of funds by all participants in racing to assist in the transition of horses from racing into second careers.
- All racetracks should plan for and have protocols in place for prevention and management of infectious disease outbreaks within their enclosures. Such protocols should be based on guidelines recommended by the AAEP Infectious Disease Committee.
- All racetracks should have a response plan in the event of a natural disaster occurrence. Working with the State's emergency response team can assist in rapid implementation of procedures to benefit the welfare of the horses and personnel working at the track when such events occur.
- Governance change within the horse racing industry to establish uniform regulatory authority to accomplish widespread and consistent compliance throughout the industry.
- Development/coordination of continuing education and accreditation programs for owners, trainers, drivers, stewards, judges, grooms, starters, farriers, veterinarians and security personnel that make the health and welfare of the horse a clear priority.

Claiming Races

There are essentially two groups of harness horses that compete at the racetrack in pari-mutuel races. The sport's top level competitors, representing approximately 20 percent of the total racing population, compete in stakes and invitational races, while the majority of horses (80%) compete in condition, or claiming races. Because the schedules and physical demands on these two groups of horses are unique and quite disparate, the AAEP recommends the following changes to the structure of claiming races in order to protect the welfare and safety of claiming-level horses:

- Claimed horses must be subjected to post race drug testing, as is currently the rule in New York. Horses that test positive may have the claim rescinded at the discretion of the buyer.
- When appropriate, horses that are scratched by the regulatory veterinarian should re-qualify between races in order to display fitness and soundness. This is a practice that is now in place in some jurisdictions, but varies from state to state and even from track to track, based on the reason that the horse was scratched. A uniform policy is recommended.
- Claims should not be announced to the public or horsemen until after the race.
- Horses that do not finish the race or those that sustain a catastrophic injury during the race, or while leaving the track surface should remain the property of the original owner, unless the individual claiming the horse decides within 30 minutes to accept the horse, allowing for circumstances in which horses do not finish the race due to broken equipment or an accident in the race.

Owner-Trainer-Veterinarian Relationship

Open and consistent communication between the owner, the trainer and the veterinarian will develop a relationship built on trust and shared philosophies. The result will be decisions that are made in the best interest of the horse. The current reality of racetrack operations is that the owner is often excluded from the communication chain, and we as veterinarians would like to change that. State-of-the art veterinary services to optimize performance in race horses come at a cost. It is important for the owners to know that veterinary care is not given to any racehorse without the trainer's direct or implicit approval. Without open communication, differing management philosophies often result in confusion and dissatisfaction. In order to provide complete transparency for the owner-trainer-veterinarian relationship, the AAEP recommends the following:

- Trainers should include horse owners in all major health care decisions.
- In circumstances where the trainer requests veterinary services on behalf of the owner(s), signed documentation should be used to affirm that the trainer is acting as agent for the owner when doing so.
- Owners should have a thorough understanding of the medication and training philosophy of their trainer with particular emphasis upon the level of medical care provided to their horses.

- Veterinarians should be readily accessible to owners and trainers for consultation and discussion of medical treatments. When appropriate, veterinarians are encouraged to provide information to owners and trainers regarding the estimated costs and potential risks associated with invasive medical or surgical procedures.
- Veterinary invoices should accurately indicate all examinations, treatments and procedures performed on individual horses. Both the invoice and the medical history should avoid colloquial terminology and use common medical terminology. It is recommended that the invoice with payment history be delivered directly to the owner or owner's agent with a copy to the trainer at least monthly. All communication with owners and trainers should be consistent with a transparent owner-trainer-veterinary relationship.

Medication

While much progress toward uniformity has been made by industry stakeholders such as the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium in recent years, medication remains the flash point for much of the public's scrutiny of horse racing today. There is a common perception by casual racing fans, core fans and racing insiders that medication use in harness racing provides an unfair advantage to a small segment of horsemen. U.S. racing jurisdictions impose medication regulations that vary from one jurisdiction to the next. This disparity in medication rules presents significant challenges to owners and trainers who race horses in more than one jurisdiction, and often leads to confusion about how to best implement appropriate therapeutic regimens. In addition, many racing jurisdictions have their own testing laboratory, which currently do not operate by a uniform accreditation standard. World Anti-Doping Agency testing protocols may be the ultimate model to adopt in racing medication testing (<http://www.wada-ama.org/>).

While the veterinarian is ultimately the provider of medical care for the horse, treatment philosophies should be determined in conjunction with input from the owner/trainer and based primarily upon the safety and welfare of the horse. Veterinarians accept full responsibility for treatments they administer to horses and are held accountable by state licensing boards to this effect.

The racing industry should address the reality that individuals other than veterinarians currently are medicating horses on the backstretch and at training centers without veterinary input or oversight. Veterinarians cannot be held accountable for the acts of other individuals who medicate race horses without the knowledge or approval of the attending veterinarian. Such behavior ultimately is not in the best interest of the horse, and may place the attending veterinarian, trainer and owner in jeopardy of the consequences of a medication violation.

With regard to medication policy in the United States, the AAEP recommends the following:

- Universal adoption in all racing jurisdictions of the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) model rules, as proposed by the Racing Medication

and Testing Consortium (RMTC), including no race-day medication except furosemide (Salix®). The industry should work with the RMTC, where advisable, to make progress toward uniform medication rules that are in the best interest of the horse.

- Continued research, with industry support, to determine the causes and appropriate treatment of exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPH) in the race horse.
- Collaboration between the RMTC and the IFHA to create an international model rule of racing that can be uniformly administered worldwide.
- Establishment of a limited number of regional confirmation/reference laboratories that are adequately funded to meet the current challenges of drug testing.
- Establishment of minimal requirements, accreditation and monitoring of all testing laboratories.
- Development of uniform testing protocols for accredited laboratories.
- Adoption of uniform out-of-competition testing protocols by all racing jurisdictions.
- Adoption of uniform Total Carbon Dioxide (TCO₂) testing protocols by all racing jurisdictions. TCO₂ testing is intended to limit the potential performance-enhancing effect of elevated levels of TCO₂ that would counter the natural accumulation of lactic acid during a race, thereby limiting fatigue and increasing endurance.
- Universal adoption of the penalty structures recommended in ARCI model rules and proposed by the RMTC.
- Adoption of uniform reporting practices for medication violations by all racing jurisdictions.
- Management of medication violations by racing jurisdictions with three objectives in mind: (1) to discover how the medication entered the system of the horse in order to determine responsibility and to prevent future positive tests; (2) to manage and report sub-therapeutic levels of therapeutic medication overages in a way that does not further degrade the public image of racing; and (3) to sufficiently penalize violators whose horses test positive for illegal performance-altering drugs and discourage further attempts to violate the rules
- The key to successful implementation of these medication recommendations is increased racetrack security to promote enforcement and achieve uniform compliance. Since many Standardbred racehorses are stabled in training centers or fairgrounds off the grounds of the racetrack and ship in to race, arrangements must be made to provide an appropriate degree of security at all facilities that are under the regulatory authority of the local racing commission. The USTA is to be commended for their support of Standardbred Investigative Services, which conducts investigations into alleged wrongdoing, and for creation of the USTA Integrity Hotline as a source of intelligence used to maintain

- Further clarification on the uses and any side effects of intra-articular medication. There have been many advances in equine joint therapy including the use of intrarticular (IA) Polysulfated Glycosaminoglycan (PSGAG) (Adequan™), IA and systemic hyaluronic acid (HA), and Interleukin-1 Receptor Antagonist Protein (IRAP™) based on scientific research and addressing specific biological targets. The proper use of IA corticosteroids is also appropriate but there are differences between products. The AAEP is going to produce a position on IA corticosteroids in the near future and this will be based on scientific review of their efficacy, the durations for which they are effective, as well as other advantages and disadvantages relative to newer biological therapies.

Horses Intended for Sale at Public Auction

The treatment of horses intended for sale at public auction should be regulated in a similar way as for horses that are racing. The adoption of similar regulations will protect the horse and ensure the integrity of the sales process, recognizing that the sales process is a unique experience for immature horses.

The AAEP recommends the following actions in regards to medication usage in race horses intended for sale:

- Yearling and mixed training sales should institute stringent medication rules that are similar to RMTC guidelines.
- Yearling and mixed training sales should institute random testing of horses consistent with RMTC testing protocol recommendations.
- Any health problems that require medical treatment on the sales grounds must be announced in a timely manner, giving the buyer time to consult with a veterinarian prior to purchase.
- A list of all medications administered to a horse while the horse is on the sales grounds and being displayed to potential purchasers should be submitted to the sales company. If testing results vary from this list, the sale may be voided at the buyer's discretion.
- Penalties for medication violations at auctions must be significant to deter consignors from medication practices that may place the horse at increased risk of injury and/or compromise the integrity of the sales process.

The AAEP's mission is to promote the health and welfare of the horse. The focus of the AAEP Racing Committee has primarily been the Thoroughbred racing industry, but nearly all of the recommendations put forth are relevant to other racing breeds in the United States. The Racing Standardbred Sub-Committee has addressed differences between the Standardbred racing industry and the Thoroughbred racing industry in this document and emphasized the need for consideration of all aspects of horse care. In summary, the AAEP is eager to assist the Standardbred racing industry in reforming policies and practices in order to enhance the safety and welfare of the horse by putting the horse first. We believe that this effort, based upon what's best for the horse, will also be the key to restoring public confidence in the racing industry. Simply put, what is good for the horse is good for racing.

Respectfully completed by the AAEP Racing Committee:

Jay Addison, DVM	Chip Johnson, DVM
Kathleen Anderson, DVM	John Kimmel, DVM
Rick Arthur, DVM	Robert Lewis, DVM
Don Baker, DVM	Wayne McIlwraith, BVSc, PhD
Jeff Blea, DVM	Nicholas Meittinis, DVM
Larry Bramlage, DVM	John S. Mitchell, DVM
Tom Brokken, DVM	Foster Northrop, DVM, Vice Chair
Doug Corey, DVM	Gary Norwood, DVM
Reynolds Cowles, DVM	Scott Palmer, VMD, Chair
Tom David, DVM	Gregg Scoggins, DVM
Steve Dey, VMD	Mary Scollay, DVM
Kevin Dunlavy, DVM	Bruce Solomon, DVM
Jim Gilman, DVM	Keith Soring, DVM
Eleanor Green, DVM	Harry Werner, VMD
Scott Hay, DVM	Nat White, DVM
Steve Hurlburt, DVM	John Whittaker, DVM
Martin Ivey, DVM	Daniel A. Wilson, DVM
	Bryan Young, DVM

Modified by the Standardbred Racing Sub-Committee

Scott Palmer, VMD
Foster Northrop, DVM
John S. Mitchell, DVM
Steve Dey, VMD
Daniel A. Wilson, DVM

Approved by the AAEP Board of Directors, May 2010.

INCEPTION OF THE TASK FORCE AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

2005 Inception: In 2005, the New York State Legislature passed a measure establishing a Task Force on the utilization of retired racehorses for productive and beneficial purposes. On July 26 of that year, the act was signed into Chapter 342 of the Laws of 2005.

Specifically, the law called for the Task Force to consist of 13 members:

- The Chairperson of the state's Racing and Wagering Board
- The Commissioner of the state's Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Five appointments by the Governor
- Two appointees of the Temporary President of the state Senate
- Two appointees of the Speaker of the State Assembly
- One appointee by the Minority leader of the state Senate
- One appointee by the minority leader of the state Assembly

The Executive and Legislative appointees of the Task Force were required to be representative of:

- Owners and breeders of Standardbred and Thoroughbred horses
- Persons with expertise in training horses for uses other than racing, such as riding schools, steeplechase competitions, show horse competitions and other recreational uses
- Persons with experience in the potential farm or other rural economic business applications for horse
- Persons familiar with the use of horses for recreational or therapeutic uses.

The mission of the Task Force, as detailed in Chapter 342 of the Laws of 2005 is to “identify productive, although not necessarily profitable, and beneficial, to both horse and human, uses for retired racehorses and to increase the number of retired racehorses made available for such uses and so used. In furtherance of this mission, the term “retired racehorses” shall be broadly construed to include those horses that were actually used in racing and those that were bred and intended to be used but were not so used. Moreover, the Task Force shall develop and identify new and innovative ideas and methods that can utilize private and public funding sources to place retired racehorses in such productive and beneficial uses, and to increase both the number of horses so used and the scale of variety of such uses.”

The law calls for the Task Force to investigate and research the feasibility of promoting the use of retired racehorses in such activities as, but not limited to:

- The therapeutic use of horses in the medical, psychological, or rehabilitative care or treatment of patients
- The expansion of the use of horses at federal, state and local correctional facilities and youth detention facilities to train the inmates thereof for careers, after their release, in the racing industry, in the care of horses for recreational purposes, or as large animal veterinary assistants or technicians
- Facilitating the retraining and financing of the retraining of retired racehorses to be used for other purposes
- Other potential uses for retired racehorses

Additionally, the law calls for the Task Force to investigate and research the feasibility of:

- Promoting and facilitating a larger market for the purchase and sale of retired racehorses
- Supporting the work of the “Performance Horse Registry” (managed by the United States Equestrian Federation), which is a central database used to track the performance of Thoroughbreds, half-Thoroughbreds, and non-Thoroughbreds for non-racing disciplines, helping to market and sell a higher volume of horses by informing prospective purchasers of the pedigrees of the horses under consideration and the suitability of the horses for the prospective purchasers’ intended uses
- Supporting existing or establishing new Standardbred and Thoroughbred adoption programs that are supported by private donations or racing industry funding sources
- Studying and ultimately promoting the alteration of current Racehorse training regimens so that retired racehorses can more readily be retrained for other economically viable uses
- Encouraging colleges and universities to utilize retired racehorses at a higher rate in those of their programs that currently utilize horses

In conclusion, the law called on the Task Force to report to the governor and the Legislature on its activities, findings and recommendations by July 26, 2006. This legislation also called on the Task Force to expire on December 31, 2007.

2007 Re-establishment and expansion: On July 18, 2007, an extension and reestablishment of the Task Force on Retired Racehorses was signed into Chapter 293 of the Laws of 2007. In addition to its original mission as dictated in the 2005 law, the measure did the following:

- Extended the life of the Task Force and the deadline for its report to December 31, 2009
- Directed the Task Force to study the feasibility of installing artificial turf at race tracks to reduce injuries to horses and jockeys.
- Mandated that Task Force members be appointed by November 15, 2007.

2009 Extension: On August 26, 2009, the Task Force on Retired Racehorses and its mission was extended to December 31, 2011 via Chapter 392 of the Laws of 2009.

2011 Veto: On July 21, 2011, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo vetoed a bill that would have extended the Task Force on Retired Racehorses for two more years and required two additional reports. The Task Force’s must complete its work on or before December 31, 2011.

Timeline of Task Force

- February 25, 2008: Members of the Task Force on Retired Racehorses are formally announced.
- February 29, 2008: Task Force meeting at the Department of Agriculture and Markets’ Office in Albany, N.Y.
- May 6, 2008: Task Force meeting at Racing and Wagering Board’s Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- July 29, 2008: Task Force Synthetic Surface Forum at Fasig-Tipton’s Humphrey S. Finley Sales Pavilion in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.
- November 13, 2008: Task Force meeting at Racing and Wagering Board’s Office in Schenectady, N.Y.

- January 28, 2010: Task Force meeting at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- February 27, 2010: Task Force Conference Call
- June 17, 2010: Task Force meeting at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- November 30, 2010: Task Force meeting at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- September 7, 2011: Task Force Report Development Workshop at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- October 20, 2011: Task Force Report Development Workshop at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- November 16, 2011: Task Force Report Development Workshop at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- November 29, 2011: Task Force Report Development Workshop at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- December 13, 2011: Task Force Report Development Workshop at Racing and Wagering Board's Office in Schenectady, N.Y.
- December 20, 2011: Task Force Conference Call

Members of the Task Force

- Darrel J. Aubertine, Commissioner, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
- John D. Sabini, Chairman, New York State Racing and Wagering Board
- Karin Bump, Ph.D., Equine Professor (Cazenovia, Madison County)
- Fiona Farrell, Attorney who focuses on equine matters; rider, hobby farmer, former breeder and current owner of retired Thoroughbreds (Saratoga, Saratoga County)
- William Hopsicker, Thoroughbred Owner (Oriskany Falls, Oneida County)
- Jackson Knowlton, Thoroughbred Owner (Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County)
- Dr. Christopher Nyberg, Dean, School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Morrisville State College (Morrisville, Madison County)
- Liz O'Connell, Thoroughbred Owner and Professional (Red Hook, Dutchess County)
- Margaret Ohlinger, DVM, Equine Veterinarian (Bloomfield, Ontario County)
- Diana Pikulski, Director of External Relations of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County)
- Martin Scheiman, Esq., Thoroughbred Owner (Sands Point, Nassau County)
- Alice Calabrese Smith, President & CEO of the Humane Society of Greater Rochester (Webster, Monroe County)

Past Members

- Daniel Hogan, Former Chairman, New York State Racing and Wagering Board
- Patrick Hooker, Former Commissioner, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Grace "Jean" Brown, Standardbred Farm Director (Wallkill, Orange County)

- This bill is not active in this session.

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

7649

2005-2006 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

April 26, 2005

Introduced by M. of A. MAGEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering

AN ACT to amend the racing, pari-mutuel, wagering and breeding law, in relation to establishing a task force on the utilization of retired race horses; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law is
2 amended by adding a new section 910 to read as follows:
3 S 910. TASK FORCE ON RETIRED RACE HORSES. 1. THERE IS HEREBY CREATED
4 IN THE STATE RACING AND WAGERING BOARD THE TASK FORCE ON RETIRED RACE
5 HORSES. THE TASK FORCE IS TO BE COMPRISED OF THIRTEEN MEMBERS. SUCH
6 TASK FORCE SHALL HAVE TWO EX-OFFICIO CO-CHAIRPERSONS, ONE OF WHOM SHALL
7 BE THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STATE BOARD AND THE OTHER OF WHOM SHALL BE THE
8 COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS, OR THEIR DESIGNEES. FIVE
9 MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE
10 APPOINTED BY THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE
11 APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED
12 BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, AND ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED
13 BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY. THE APPOINTED MEMBERS OF SUCH
14 TASK FORCE SHALL BE REPRESENTATIVE OF: (A) OWNERS AND BREEDERS OF STAN-
15 DARD BRED AND THOROUGHBRED HORSES, (B) PERSONS WITH EXPERTISE IN TRAINING
16 HORSES FOR USES OTHER THAN RACING, SUCH AS RIDING SCHOOLS, STEEPLECHASE
17 COMPETITIONS, SHOW HORSE COMPETITIONS (E.G., DRESSAGE, HUNTER/JUMPER,
18 ENGLISH, WESTERN, AND COSTUME COMPETITIONS), AND OTHER RECREATIONAL
19 USES, (C) PERSONS WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE POTENTIAL FARM OR OTHER RURAL
20 ECONOMIC BUSINESS APPLICATIONS FOR HORSES, AND (D) PERSONS FAMILIAR WITH
21 THE USE OF HORSES FOR RECREATIONAL OR THERAPEUTIC USES. ANY VACANCY ON
22 SUCH TASK FORCE SHALL BE FILLED BY THE ORIGINAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY.
23 TASK FORCE MEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES, BUT

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
{ } is old law to be omitted.

LBD11123-01-5

A. 7649

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1 SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY TRAVEL EXPENSES INCURRED IN
2 THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.
3 2. THE MISSION OF THE TASK FORCE IS TO IDENTIFY PRODUCTIVE, ALTHOUGH
4 NOT NECESSARILY PROFITABLE, AND BENEFICIAL, TO BOTH HORSE AND HUMAN,

5 USES FOR RETIRED RACE HORSES AND TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF RETIRED RACE
6 HORSES MADE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH USES AND SO USED. IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS
7 MISSION, THE TERM "RETIRED RACE HORSES" SHALL BE BROADLY CONSTRUED TO
8 INCLUDE THOSE HORSES THAT WERE ACTUALLY USED IN RACING AND THOSE THAT
9 WERE BRED AND INTENDED TO BE SO USED BUT WERE NOT SO USED. MOREOVER, THE
10 TASK FORCE SHALL DEVELOP AND IDENTIFY NEW AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS AND METH-
11 ODS THAT CAN UTILIZE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FUNDING SOURCES TO PLACE RETIRED
12 RACE HORSES IN SUCH PRODUCTIVE AND BENEFICIAL USES, AND TO INCREASE BOTH
13 THE NUMBER OF HORSES SO USED AND THE SCALE AND VARIETY OF SUCH USES.

14 3. THE TASK FORCE SHALL INVESTIGATE AND RESEARCH THE FEASIBILITY OF
15 PROMOTING THE USE OF RETIRED RACE HORSES IN SUCH ACTIVITIES AS, BUT NOT
16 LIMITED TO:

17 (A) THE THERAPEUTIC USE OF HORSES IN THE MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, OR
18 REHABILITATIVE CARE OR TREATMENT OF PATIENTS;

19 (B) THE EXPANSION OF THE USE OF HORSES AT FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL
20 CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND YOUTH DETENTION FACILITIES TO TRAIN THE
21 INMATES THEREOF FOR CAREERS, AFTER THEIR RELEASE, IN THE RACING INDUS-
22 TRY, IN THE CARE OF HORSES FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES, OR AS LARGE ANIMAL
23 VETERINARY ASSISTANTS OR TECHNICIANS;

24 (C) FACILITATING THE RETRAINING AND FINANCING OF THE RETRAINING OF
25 RETIRED RACE HORSES TO BE USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES; AND

26 (D) OTHER POTENTIAL USES FOR RETIRED RACE HORSES.

27 4. THE TASK FORCE SHALL INVESTIGATE AND RESEARCH THE FEASIBILITY OF:

28 (A) PROMOTING AND FACILITATING A LARGER MARKET FOR THE PURCHASE AND
29 SALE OF RETIRED RACE HORSES;

30 (B) SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE "PERFORMANCE HORSE REGISTRY" (MANAGED
31 BY THE UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION), WHICH IS A CENTRAL DATABASE
32 USED TO TRACK THE PERFORMANCE OF THOROUGHBREDS, HALF-THOROUGHBREDS, AND
33 NON-THOROUGHBREDS FOR NON-RACING DISCIPLINES, HELPING TO MARKET AND SELL
34 A HIGHER VOLUME OF HORSES BY INFORMING PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE
35 PEDIGREES OF THE HORSES UNDER CONSIDERATION AND THE SUITABILITY OF THE
36 HORSES FOR THE PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS' INTENDED USES;

37 (C) SUPPORTING EXISTING OR ESTABLISHING NEW STANDARD BRED AND THOROUGH-
38 BRED ADOPTION PROGRAMS THAT ARE SUPPORTED BY PRIVATE DONATIONS OR RACING
39 INDUSTRY FUNDING SOURCES;

40 (D) STUDYING AND ULTIMATELY PROMOTING THE ALTERATION OF CURRENT RACE
41 HORSE TRAINING REGIMENS SO THAT RETIRED RACE HORSES CAN MORE READILY BE
42 RETRAINED FOR OTHER ECONOMICALLY VIABLE USES;

43 (E) DEVELOPING AND PROMOTING COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, SECONDARY SCHOOL,
44 BOCES, OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS TO SUPPLY STUDENTS TO
45 STAFF PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE THE MAINTENANCE OF RETIRED RACE HORSES OR
46 THAT FACILITATE THE MARKETABILITY OF RETIRED RACE HORSES; AND

47 (F) ENCOURAGING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO UTILIZE RETIRED RACE
48 HORSES AT A HIGHER RATE IN THOSE OF THEIR PROGRAMS THAT CURRENTLY
49 UTILIZE HORSES.

50 5. NOT LATER THAN ONE YEAR AFTER THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE BECOME A
51 LAW, THE TASK FORCE SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE ON
52 ITS ACTIVITIES, FINDINGS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

53 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
54 deemed repealed December 31, 2007.

.SO DOC A 7649

END

BTXT

2005

- This bill is not active in this session.

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

5511

2007-2008 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 15, 2007

Introduced by M. of A. MAGEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering

AN ACT to amend the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, in relation to the task force on retired race horses; and to amend chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a task force on the utilization of retired race horses, in relation to the effectiveness thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 910 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breed-
2 ing law, as added by chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, is renumbered
3 section 912.

4 S 2. Subdivisions 1, 4 and 5 of section 912 of the racing, pari-mutuel
5 wagering and breeding law, as added by chapter 342 of the laws of 2005,
6 such section as renumbered by section one of this act, are amended to
7 read as follows:

8 1. There is hereby created in the state racing and wagering board the
9 task force on retired race horses. The task force is to be comprised of
10 thirteen members. Such task force shall have two ex-officio co-chairper-
11 sons, one of whom shall be the chairperson of the state board and the
12 other of whom shall be the commissioner of agriculture and markets, or
13 their designees. Five members shall be appointed by the governor, two
14 members shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, two
15 members shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly, one member
16 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate, and one member
17 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the assembly. ALL APPOINTED
18 MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE APPOINTED OR REAPPOINTED WITHIN ONE
19 HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS OF
20 TWO THOUSAND SEVEN WHICH AMENDED THIS SUBDIVISION. The appointed members
21 of such task force shall be representative of: (a) owners and breeders
22 of standardbred and thoroughbred horses, (b) persons with expertise in

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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A. 5511

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1 training horses for uses other than racing, such as riding schools,
2 steeplechase competitions, show horse competitions (e.g., dressage,
3 hunter/jumper, English, Western, and costume competitions), and other
4 recreational uses, (c) persons with experience in the potential farm or
5 other rural economic business applications for horses, and (d) persons

6 familiar with the use of horses for recreational or therapeutic uses.
7 Any vacancy on such task force shall be filled by the original appoint-
8 ing authority. Task force members shall receive no compensation for
9 their services, but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel
10 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

11 4. The task force shall investigate and research the feasibility of:

12 (a) promoting and facilitating a larger market for the purchase and
13 sale of retired race horses;

14 (b) supporting the work of the "Performance Horse Registry" (managed
15 by the United States Equestrian Federation), which is a central database
16 used to track the performance of thoroughbreds, half-thoroughbreds, and
17 non-thoroughbreds for non-racing disciplines, helping to market and sell
18 a higher volume of horses by informing prospective purchasers of the
19 pedigrees of the horses under consideration and the suitability of the
20 horses for the prospective purchasers' intended uses;

21 (c) supporting existing or establishing new standardbred and thorough-
22 bred adoption programs that are supported by private donations or racing
23 industry funding sources;

24 (d) studying and ultimately promoting the alteration of current race
25 horse training regimens so that retired race horses can more readily be
26 retrained for other economically viable uses;

27 (e) INSTALLING AT RACE COURSES, ARTIFICIAL TURF THAT HAS AN IMPACT
28 ABSORBING QUALITY WHICH CAN MINIMIZE OR ELIMINATE CATASTROPHIC INJURIES
29 TO HORSES AND JOCKEYS THAT RACE ON SUCH COURSES. SUCH INVESTIGATION AND
30 RESEARCH SHALL INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF THE COST AND BENEFITS OF SUCH
31 ARTIFICIAL TURF;

32 (F) developing and promoting college, university, secondary school,
33 BOCES, or other educational internship programs to supply students to
34 staff programs that promote the maintenance of retired race horses or
35 that facilitate the marketability of retired race horses; and

36 [(f)] (G) encouraging colleges and universities to utilize retired
37 race horses at a higher rate in those of their programs that currently
38 utilize horses.

39 5. Not later than [one year] THREE YEARS after this section shall have
40 become a law, the task force shall report to the governor and the legis-
41 lature on its activities, findings, and recommendations.

42 S 3. Section 2 of chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the
43 racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a
44 task force on the utilization of retired race horses, is amended to read
45 as follows:

46 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
47 deemed repealed December 31, [2007] 2009.

48 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amend-
49 ments to section 912 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding
50 law made by sections one and two of this act shall not affect the repeal
51 of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.

- This bill is not active in this session.

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

. 8017

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 1, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. MAGEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering

AN ACT to amend chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a task force on the utilization of retired race horses, in relation to the effectiveness thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 Section 1. Section 2 of chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the
 2 racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a
 3 task force on the utilization of retired race horses, as amended by
 4 chapter 293 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:
 5 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
 6 deemed repealed December 31, [2009] 2011.
 7 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
 [] is old law to be omitted.

LBD11670-01-9

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

6877--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

April 5, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. MAGEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, in relation to the task force's report, and to amend chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a task force on the utilization of retired race horses, in relation to the effectiveness thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 909 of the racing, pari-mutuel
2 wagering and breeding law, as amended by chapter 293 of the laws of
3 2007, is amended to read as follows:
4 5. Not later than [three years after this section shall have become a
5 law] DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER,
6 the task force shall report to the governor and the legislature on its
7 activities, findings, and recommendations.
8 S 2. Section 2 of chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the
9 racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a
10 task force on the utilization of retired race horses, as amended by
11 chapter 392 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:
12 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
13 deemed repealed December 31, [2011] 2013.
14 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately provided, however, that
15 the amendments to subdivision 5 of section 909 of the racing, pari-mutu-
16 el wagering and breeding law made by section one of this act shall not
17 affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed there-
18 with.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

LBD10532-02-1



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

V E T O # 24

TO THE ASSEMBLY:

JUL 20 2011

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bill:

Assembly Bill Number 6877A, entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, in relation to the task force's report, and to amend chapter 342 of the laws of 2005, amending the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law relating to establishing a task force on the utilization of retired race horses, in relation to the effectiveness thereof”

NOT APPROVED

This bill would extend for two more years, the Task Force on Retired Race Horses (“Task Force”), which was originally established in 2005. The purpose of the Task Force was to address the future of retired race horses and make findings and recommendations to develop and promote their use and well-being.

The Task Force’s report was originally due in 2006. This deadline has subsequently been extended several times and the Task Force is now due to complete its work on or before December 31, 2011. This bill would once again extend the life of the Task Force so that it may complete its work by December 31, 2013.

Upon taking office, I pledged to New Yorkers that it was a new day in Albany. I promised that the days of the needless proliferation of government bureaucracy were over. Approving this bill – for which there exists no compelling reason – would be contrary to my pledge to the people of this State.

The bill is disapproved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Cuomo', written in a cursive style.

