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## 2011 Arkansas 4-H State Horse Show Wrap-Up

Mark Russell, Instructor - Equine

The 2011 4-H State Horse took place July 12-14 at the White County Fairgrounds. The show boasted approximately 125 participants from all over the state, for a total of over 450 entries.

Here is a breakdown of the winners.

### High Point Exhibitors



**Junior Speed:** Megan Howell, Garland County.



**Senior Speed:** Katherine Holsapple, Lawrence County.



**Junior Performance:** Hailey Henderson, Benton County.



**Senior Performance:** Lensey Watson, Benton County.



**High Point Pony Exhibitor:** Jaydon Jarnagan, Benton County.

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## Giving Horses Intravenous Shots

Mark Russell, Instructor - Equine

This article is a continuation of a series of articles on giving your horse a shot. In this particular article, you will see many of the same fundamental guidelines as seen in the last article (administering intramuscular shots). In this edition, we will specifically discuss administering intravenous shots.

During the course of owning or caring for horses, it may be necessary for you to administer an intramuscular shot. When you do, it is imperative that you use only the best areas to apply the shots and be aware of the repercussions of not properly applying the shots. You should always consult your veterinarian prior to administering any type of shot. There are four separate ways to administer shots to horses:

- Intravenous injections administered into a vein
- Intradermal injections administered into the skin
- Subcutaneous injections administered underneath the skin
- Intramuscular (IM) injections administered into a large muscle mass

When approaching your horse to administer the shot, it is best to spend a few minutes with the horse to ensure that he or she is in a calm state and ready to be handled. Horses that have had shots before tend to remember and may refuse if they had a negative experience or simply do not like shots. Keep in mind that a horse that objects to the shot can easily hurt the handler. Additionally, many drugs given to horses can have adverse reactions if absorbed into human skin or if accidentally injected into the handler or person administering the shots. It is crucial to discuss the drug with your veterinarian to identify any precautions that must be taken. It is also best to double-check the label prior to giving the shot to ensure that it is the correct drug, the expiration date has not expired and you are sure of the recommended dosage. In general, consider the following recommendations:

1. Apply generous amounts of alcohol to the area intended for the injection. If no alcohol is available or to achieve maximum sterilization, shave the area where the shot will be given.

2. With needle in hand, rub up and down on the injection site. This will distract the horse and desensitize the area.
3. While rubbing and in one continuous movement, insert the needle, continuing to rub the area after the needle is inserted. Practice is essential to make this go smoothly.
4. Observe the horse for any signs of allergic reaction for about 30 minutes after giving the injection.

Dr. Robert Remlinger, D.V.M., shares his knowledge on giving intravenous shots. In particular, he indicates the following procedures to follow:

- It is imperative that the medication be administered slowly (about one millilitre per five seconds) into the jugular vein. Accidental injection of many medications outside the vein (perivascular) will often result in damage to and possible sloughing of the surrounding soft tissue. Inadvertent administration of medication into the underlying artery can result in a life-threatening situation! Repeated intravenous injections can also result in infection and/or thrombosis (blood clot) of the jugular vein.
- IV injections should be performed in the anterior (top) third of the neck, and it is usually easier to do so on the left side. First, the injection site should be swabbed with 70 percent alcohol. Next, distend (raise) the jugular vein by applying digital pressure just below the venipuncture site.
- For a full-grown horse, a 19- to 20-gauge needle is aligned over the distended vein and inserted, on an angle, into the vein. Correct placement of the needle will result in the hub of the needle filling with blood at a moderate rate. Spurting of blood from the needle hub probably means the needle has accidentally entered the artery, and so the needle must be withdrawn and redirected into the vein.
- After correct placement of the needle, the syringe containing the medication is carefully attached to the needle. Pulling back on the syringe plunger should result in a

flashback of blood into the syringe if you still have the needle properly placed. The medication can then be injected intravenously. Take care to recheck the position of the needle by slightly pulling back on the plunger after every few millilitres are injected.

### Helpful Tips

1. Follow the recommended method of drug storage.
2. Do not mix individually packaged drugs in the same injection. It is better to play it safe and give the horse two separate injections.
3. Untie the horse and hold its lead rope or have someone else hold it.
4. If the horse tries to kick, pull his head toward you (this will swing his rear end away from you).
5. Make sure you use a sterile needle and syringe. Individually packaged, disposable sterile needles and syringes are the easiest way to ensure sterile equipment. Open the packages immediately before use, and dispose of them immediately after use. Never reuse a needle, because a contaminated needle can easily introduce an infection into a horse.

*Thank you to Dr. Robert Remlinger, D.V.M., and Amy Harris for their contributions to this article.*

### Important Dates

#### 2011

**October 22-23** – Arkansas Stock Horse Association Clinic and Show in Jonesboro

**November 30** – Arkansas Farm Bureau Convention Horse Meeting

#### 2012

**March 19-22** – Spring Break Horse Camp

**April 13-14** – U of A Horse Festival  
**June 2** – NW District Horse Show at Fayetteville

**June 12** – Northern Arkansas

District Horse Show at Harrison  
**July 17-19** – State 4-H Horse Show

## Arkansas 4-H State Roping Show Wrap-Up

Mark Russell, Instructor - Equine

On June 18, Arkansas 4-H held its first annual State Championship Roping at the Saline County Fairgrounds. The weather was hot and so was the competition. Awards included buckles to each class winner, jackpot money, as well as a saddle to the all-around junior competitor and all-around senior competitor. Classes at the show included tie-down roping, breakaway roping, team roping and goat tying. The following is a summary of the class winners.

**Junior Breakaway:** Ryon Sutton

**Senior Breakaway:** Seth Driggers

**Junior Tie-Down:** Roy Lee

**Senior Tie-Down:** Britt Driggers

**Team Roping:** Brynna Buhrmester

**Junior Goat Tying:** Ryon Sutton

**Senior Goat Tying:** Ashley Baugh

The class winners are pictured showcasing their buckles won.

Arkansas 4-H would also like to recognize the all-around junior and senior winners who will each receive a custom rope saddle from Corriente Saddle Company.

**All-Around Junior:** Ryan Sutton

**All-Around Senior:** Seth Driggers

For more information about 4-H roping events or horse activities, please contact Mark Russell @ 501-671-2190 or [mrrussell@uaex.edu](mailto:mrrussell@uaex.edu).



## Equine Herpes Cases Could Affect Arkansas Horses

Kelli Reep, Reporter

The recent outbreak of EHV-1, or equine herpes, in Utah and California has horse owners, trainers and riders on alert for cases in Arkansas.

The virus, which is not sexually transmitted, is incurable and can be fatal to horses. While not considered dangerous to humans, EHV-1 can spread to horses and other equine animals through direct contact as well as through the air, bridles and other horse equipment, tack and clothing, and hands.

“It appears this outbreak started in Utah, but so far confirmed cases are in California, Utah and Texas with reports of other affected horses in Arizona, Idaho and Washington,” said Mark Russell, an equine instructor with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service. “Arkansans should be aware of this in case they travel to or accept horses from these states where any affected horses have been stabled.”

According to Reuters, all but one of the 33 confirmed cases involve horses

that attended a National Cutting Horse championship competition held in Ogden, Utah, from April 29 to May 8, an event that health officials have identified as the source of the outbreak. A total of 308 horses were present at the Utah event, and another 689 have been exposed by secondary contact or proximity, according to the Department of Agriculture (USDA), and seven of the infected horses have died or were euthanized, according to the USDA statement.

According to recent reports, EHV-1 causes abortion, respiratory and neurologic disease and is more likely to be transmitted by older horses that may not show visible signs of infection. Some of the symptoms of equine herpes are fever, runny nose, fatigue, stumbling and weakness in the hind limbs. The virus also tends to occur when horses are stressed and is more likely to be transmitted by older horses who do not present signs of the infection. While some horses may respond favorably to anti-viral drugs, others don't.

Riders and handlers should thoroughly wash their clothing and gear in hot water and disinfectant after coming in contact with horses. Horses exposed to large equine gatherings like the one in Utah should be isolated and kept under observation.

“The USDA also is putting together a database of the infected horses and other equine animals to help state health officials as they contain and eliminate this outbreak,” Russell said. “The best thing for horse owners, trainers and riders to do is get educated about equine herpes, talk to their veterinarians, keep informed of the outbreak from news reports and stay calm.”

For more information about horses and other equine animals, visit extension's Web site, [www.uaex.edu](http://www.uaex.edu), or contact your county extension agent. The Cooperative Extension Service is part of the U of A Division of Agriculture.

## Benton Stock Horse Show Wrap-Up

Mark Russell, Instructor - Equine

On May 7 and 8, the Arkansas Stock Horse Association held its annual Benton Show at the Saline County Fairgrounds, with a clinic on Saturday and show on Sunday. The clinicians and judges for the show were Cleve and Judy Weisgerber from Louisiana.

The clinic had 30 participants coming from all over the state. Most of those participants stayed for the show on Sunday. Reining, working cowhorse, ranch trail and ranch pleasure were the classes for the show, and there was a division for everyone. Exhibitors were able to showcase their all-around versatility skills throughout the day, making for a fun and exciting day. Look for future shows to also offer ranch cutting.

Pictured are the all-around winners from the show with president Nathan Wells.



*Non Pro All Around:* Jeremy Cox



*Novice All Around:* Jessica Otto

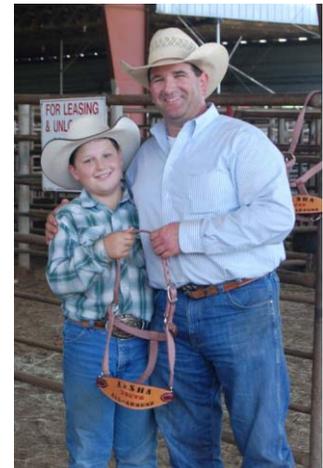
Please join us for the 2011 Berryville show and clinic on August 6 and 7 at the Carroll County Fairgrounds. The format will be the same as all shows, with a clinic on Saturday and a show on Sunday. Visit [arkstockhorse.org](http://arkstockhorse.org) for more information about upcoming shows and clinics, along with results from each show. We can also be found on facebook or call Nathan Wells at 870-219-3788 or Mark Russell 501-590-5748 if you have any questions regarding upcoming events.



*Green Horse All Around:*  
Jeremy Cox



*Open All Around:* Haley Pigue



*Youth All Around:* Dillon Cox

## Equine Infectious Anemia Reported in Arkansas

Mary Hightower

Assistant Director - Communications and Marketing

A virus fatal to horses has been reported in Johnson County and with the horse show season coming to its climax, horse owners need to protect their mounts, Mark Russell, extension equine specialist for the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture said Thursday.

The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission reported Wednesday that there were multiple positives in testing for equine infectious anemia, or EIA, in a herd in Clarksville.

"At present, the infection seems to be isolated to the single herd," the commission said. "There has not been any

information that warrants canceling horse shows, etc., in Arkansas at the present time."

Arkansas state law requires all equines that live in state for more than 30 days to be tested for EIA every 12 months – a test known as a Coggins test.

Horse show operators generally require horse owners to show proof of a current negative Coggins test.

With county fairs underway and the State Fair upcoming, many Arkansans are trailering their show horses around the state.

The best way to protect horses is to "get a Coggins test and only go to events where there will be a reliable individual who is a certified EIA verifier at the gate checking Coggins papers," Russell said.

The virus can be transmitted by blood-feeding insects such as horse flies, deer flies and mosquitoes and can also be transmitted by use of non-sterile surgical equipment.

"Controlling flies around the barn and using repellants are an important defense as well," Russell said."

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## EIA (cont.)

EIA is caused by a retrovirus that induces a long-lasting infection in members of the equine family, including horses, mules, donkeys and zebras. The disease can appear in three forms:

- Acute, in which animals are obviously very sick and likely to die.
- Chronic, in which the animal may suffer intermittent fever, hemorrhaging and become weaker. The episodes of symptoms can vary in severity and can be fatal.
- In the “inapparent” form, infected animals may appear normal, but they are carriers of the virus for life.

For information about EIA, contact your veterinarian. The publication, “Equine Infectious Anemia in Arkansas,” is available online at [http://www.uaex.edu/Other\\_Areas/publications/PDF/FSA-3032.pdf](http://www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/PDF/FSA-3032.pdf).

## 2011 Arkansas 4-H State Horse Show Wrap-Up (cont.)

### Champion Horse Judging Teams:

*Junior Team:* Benton County

*Senior Team:* Washington County

### Champion Hippology Teams:

*Junior Team:* Faulkner County

*Senior Team:* Faulkner County

### Champion Horse Bowl Teams:

*Junior Team:* Faulkner County

*Senior Team:* Faulkner County

### Individual Demonstration Champions:

*Junior Division:* Cody Isgrigg, Benton County

*Senior Division:* Jennifer Isgrigg, Benton County

### Team Demonstration Champions:

*Junior Division:* Abby Trammell and Jennifer Brooks, Dallas County

*Senior Division:* Amber Trammell and Francis Roberts, Dallas County

### Public Speaking:

*Junior Division:* Madison Powell, White County

*Senior Division:* Jacob Copps, Benton County

For more information about the 4-H Horse Program, contact Mark Russell @ 501-671-2190 or [mrrussell@uaex.edu](mailto:mrrussell@uaex.edu).