

NEXT RIDES :

**Saturday, March 28,
Mile Marker 10** See
p. 4

Saturday, April 11:
Look-out Pass, East
Side of the Mountain ,
See p. 4

**NEXT
MEETING :**

Thursday, April 9:
Utah's Wild Horses,
Pat Evans (USU) 7
pm, race track bldg,
SL Equestrian Center

**TRAIL CLINIC
AND BURGER
BURN**

Saturday, April 25:
Puddle Valley, See
p.4

**THANK YOU
TO HORSE
EXPO VOLUN-
TEERS!**

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ISSUE :**

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Mountain Ridge

Back Country Horsemen of Utah

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E



*Ray Smith in an Authentic Cowboy Hat
complete with baling twine stampede string*

At our January meeting this year we scheduled and hoped to be able to ride with the Courage Reins therapeutic horse students again this year on Saturday April 25. However, Bob Baker has been in contact with them and they have decided to have smaller groups of two or three horses at a time in an area closer to them this year. We are not quite sure what prompted this change for them, maybe it was because it was one of the largest turn-out of riders from our group and their horses and the children involved got over-

whelmed, or maybe the liability factor became too great. Whatever the reason, we regret that we will not have the opportunity to ride with them this year and wish them the best of success in their mission to help handicapped children, maybe this event will come back in the future.

This being said we have a free Saturday on April 25, and after our first ride of the season on February 28 at Puddle Valley, we as a board along with the suggestion of Steve Johnson have decided to have a riding clinic out at Puddle Valley on the 25th. Steve felt that we could use the space at Puddle Valley to practice the principles that he will teach us.

This clinic will be only for current members or the Mountain Ridge Unit of Back Country Horsemen. This will be a hands on training , so bring your horse with all of it's and your peculiarities, and Steve will try to address them. Steve indicated that everyone should bring a chair because we will start with some basic skills practice and instruction with our horses on trail etiquette, what you should expect from your horse early in the year, what to do if your horse wants to move only with a certain group or horse, if they are not used to being in a large group, if your horse wants to always be in the lead, or wants to be at the back. How you can settle your horse down if they want to run, or what to do if they still want to run.

We will then have lunch and a Burger Burn. We will be providing burgers, plates, trimmings. Please bring something to share ie. salad, chips, fruit, cookies, cake, etc and their own favorite drink, We will then go for a short ride and practice the skills we have been taught. This should be a fun and educational event and will let each of us know what is expected of us and our horses when we are in a group ride so everyone has a good and safe experience.

May your trails always be clear and your vistas captivating. **Ray**

PUDDLE VALLEY RIDE, FEB 28



More Picts / GPS available on the [Snapfish](#) site. Email cfurse@ece.utah.edu

BCHU AT THE HORSE EXPO
HORSE PACKING FIVE WAYS
FOR MORE DETAILS/ INSTRUCTIONS [SEE BCHU.COM](http://BCHU.COM) (UNDER EDUCATION)

ONE HORSE PACKING



Western Bedroll: Buy a drop cloth at Home Depot, roll up your sleeping bag and clothes. Add saddle bags for misc. Details / Instructions at BCHU.com. [Paul Kern](#).



Western Saddle Pack: This is a commercial pack that fits over a Western saddle. May also accommodate a top pack. Lead your horse in, make camp, then you have a horse/saddle to ride from there.



English Saddle with pack: Use a commercial pack, add straps to the saddle to attach it. Details / Instructions at BCHU.com. [Cindy Furse](#).

TWO HORSE PACKING



Sawbuck Pack Saddle — Bruce Kartchner



Decker Pack Saddle — Carol Lang

MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCH 2009 SCHEDULE



Wild Horses Near Simpson Springs

Come Hear Dr. Pat Evans April 9

See video at YouTube.com (search Simpson Springs)

Saturday, March 28: Monthly ride, Mile Marker 10, near Mercur. Ride to the Cabin, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

Be ready to ride at 10. Bring a lunch. There are some rocky areas, horse shoes or boots are advised, although the ground may be soft enough for tough-footed horses. Ride is moderate, quite a lot of hills up and down, about 4 hours. There is no horse water on this ride.

Directions to the trailhead from the South: At the Lehi crossroads take state road 73 west through Cedar Fort. Follow past Five Mile Pass. Road will begin to turn north. Follow 5 more miles to mile marker 10. Parking is on the east side of the road.

Directions to the trailhead from the North: From Tooele, follow state road 36 through Stockton. Turn left (south) at state road 73. Follow 73 to mile marker 10. Parking is on the east side of the road.

Thursday, April 9: Utah's Wild

Horses — Research on their Herd Behavior, Pat Evans (USU) Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Saturday, April 11: Monthly ride, Look-out Pass, East Side of the Mountain, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

Be ready to ride at 10. Bring a lunch and water. There is some water for the horses. Horses will need shoes or boots. Ride is medium difficulty, 4-5 hours with some steep sections. To get to the trailhead, take Hwy 36 through / past Tooele, turn on the scenic byway to Lookout Pass. Go about 4 miles. Turn to the right on a gravel road. Go about a mile (pass the corrals), and we will be parked on the left.



Saturday, April 25: Trail Riding Training and Clinic, Puddle Valley, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

Be ready to ride at 10. This is great training opportunity to work your horse in a group. See the President's message on p.1 for details. Puddle Valley is a sandy open desert with easy terrain and big, open sky views. Horse shoes not necessary. Bring a chair, a food item to share for lunch, something to drink. To get there, take I-80 west to exit 62. Turn right onto the frontage (dirt) road and go about 2 miles. We will be parked in a large open area on the left. If you cross the RR tracks, you have gone too far.

Saturday, May 9: Leave No Trace, 1 day abbreviated training, Dimple Dell, amphitheater (SE) Trail Head (time TBD) Contact Bev Heffernan for more details.

Thursday, May 14: Working Monthly meeting, Porter Rockwell cleanup instead of regular meeting. Doris Richards, 572-1253

Saturday, May 16: Monthly ride, Sheep Creek, Spanish Fork Canyon, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

Saturday, June 6: National Trails Day Event — Monthly ride, Mt Ridge Breakfast/Ride, Dimple Dell Amphitheater, info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

Thursday, June 11: Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Thur-Saturday: June 18-21: Monthly ride and campout, near Bryce Canyon, camp at Ray Smith Property, Info, Ray Smith, 969-0758, rayscki@yahoo.com

Thursday, July 9: Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Fri-Saturday, July 10-11: Service Project, Current Creek State BCHU Service Project. Paula Hill, trail

SCHEDULE (CONT)

boss, details www.bchu.com

Saturday, July 18: Monthly ride, Bench Creek, South of Woodland, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

Thur-Saturday, July 23-26: Monthly ride and campout, Island Park, ID, Paul Kern Property (Rides of 12 & 20 miles; not for the faint of heart), info Paul Kern, 942-8928
kernpr@gmail.com

Fit horses will be needed, at least one ride is 20 miles round trip and goes from 9,000 ft to 10,500 ft in elevation. Those who go will need a Coggins and health certificate, and your vet needs to call Montana for a trip permit number that goes on the health certificate. You'll also need your brand card or original papers. You can trailer camp or pitch a tent or bunk in cabins, or use rental cabins around the corner. If you want to fish, you'll need a state license and/or one for fishing in the park.

Fri-Sunday, August 7-9: Bench Creek Pack Trip. Self Support Pack Trip (Not Catered), info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

August 7 - 9, 2009 - Leave No Trace Training at Hardware Ranch Paula Hill and Paul Kern have indicated they would like to go for training. Anyone else, contact Ray Smith. rayscki@yahoo.com, 969-0758.

Thursday, August 13: Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Thursday, September 10: Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Saturday, September 12: Monthly ride, Strawberry River Ride, North of Strawberry Reservoir, info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

Saturday, September 26: Service project, Hemangog Trail Work, Corner Canyon, info Bob Baker, 801-572-3996, bobbucksnot@q.com

Thursday, October 8: Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Saturday, October 10: Monthly ride, Settlement Canyon, Tooele, info Bruce Kartchner

Saturday, November 7: Monthly ride, Look-out Pass, West Side of the Mountain, info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

Thursday, November 12: Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

Thursday, December 10: Annual Christmas Party/Auction, Sheriff's posse building, South Jordan Equestrian Center. Info, Ray Smith, 969-0758

Sunday Rides: There will also be some ad hoc rides scheduled for Sundays. Watch for more information.

Camp Outs: A lot of times people camp informally the night before and/or after BCH rides. Contact the ride leader to see if they know of anyone doing this.

Want even more rides? Remember, join one BCHU unit and you've joined them all. See [bchu.com](http://www.bchu.com)

FULL MOON RIDES



Apr. 9, 8:56 a.m. MDT -- Full Pink Moon. The grass pink or wild ground phlox is one of the earliest widespread flowers of the spring. Other names were the Full Sprouting Grass Moon, the Egg Moon, and -- among coastal tribes -- the Full Fish Moon, when the shad came upstream to spawn. This is also the Paschal Full Moon; the first full Moon of the spring season. The first Sunday following the Paschal Moon is Easter Sunday, which indeed will be observed three days later on Sunday, April 12.

Moon Information From

<http://www.space.com/spacewatch/090109-ns-full-moon-names-2009.html>

WHO'S THAT BUCKAROO?
TURN THE PAGE TO FIND OUT!



WHO'S THAT BUCKAROO?
NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHT—
JUDY ZUMWALT

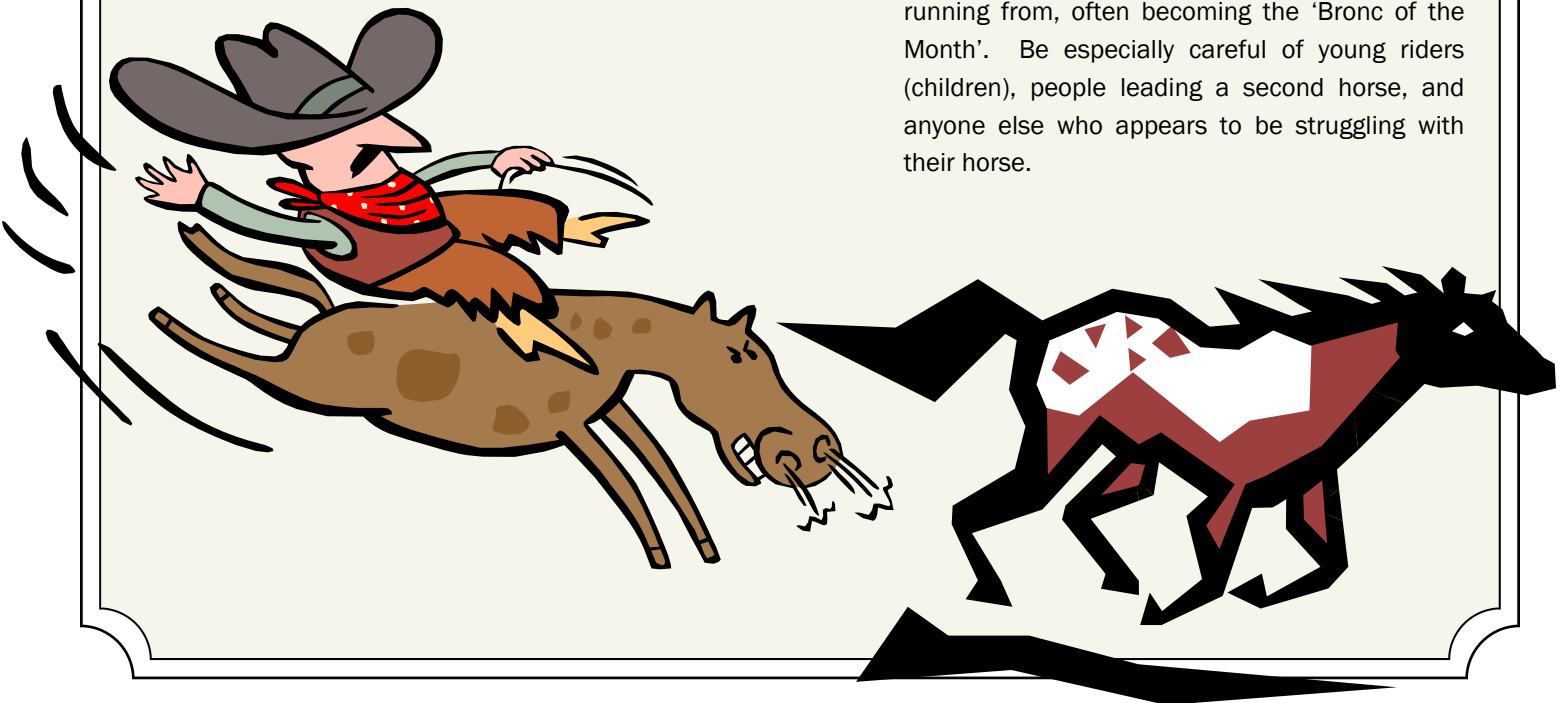
My dad got me a pony when I was a 5-year-old on a farm in northern Illinois. My horse habit continues to the present day. I live on a farm in Sanpete county with 8 horses (only 4 are mine!) a corgi, 3 cats and my husband, Glen, who likes things with motors. I trail ride and avoid riding in circles. My horses are barefoot (I am the trimmer--I use an angle grinder) turned out 24/7 and mentally and emotionally sound! (I got rid of the crazy ones). I have 2 Tennessee walker/arab cross geldings, one straight Tennessee walker gelding, and a retired rocky mtn. gelding. I am blessed to have good friends to ride with in the local hills and desert, and up Payson canyon in the summer. We are headed to St. George in March for 4 days of sun, sand and Slickrock (an annual trip).



Judy Zumwalt on Sam under Horseshoe Mtn. (east of Spring City)

TRAIL RIDING RODEO REDUCTION
TIP OF THE MONTH

Go the same speed. Don't trot or gallop past someone going slower than you are. If you want to pass another horse, approach at a walk, ask if the other rider is ready, pass out of the kick zone, and ask the other rider if he/she is ready before moving off at a faster pace. Be prepared to stop immediately if the other horse starts a rodeo! The horse left behind is likely to resort to his herd instincts and bolt after the faster moving horse, hoping to escape whatever he is running from, often becoming the 'Bronc of the Month'. Be especially careful of young riders (children), people leading a second horse, and anyone else who appears to be struggling with their horse.



POISONOUS PLANTS AND THE EQUINE

Clark E. Israelsen, Scott S. McKendrick, Clell V. Bagley — USU Extension
http://extension.usu.edu/files/publications/factsheet/Equine_Brochure.pdf

INTRODUCTION

Poisonous plants can be found in almost all plant communities. Like most other species of livestock, equine/horses will not usually choose to consume weeds or poisonous plants when quality forages are available. They do have discriminating tastes and exhibit a preference for quality legumes and/or grasses over less desirable poisonous plants. However, horses deprived of green vegetation when confined to stalls and fed dry hay, or horses restricted to marginal pastures, may sample a large number of green plants and accidentally or intentionally ingest poisonous plants into their system when allowed to graze. If large enough amounts of toxic plants are ingested, serious health problems and even death can result. In most cases, horses consume poisonous plants only when their pasture is overgrazed and quality forage is not available. This is because most poisonous plants are less palatable than quality forages. It is also possible for poisonous plants to be harvested and introduced to the horse simply as a matter of consuming its regular feeding of cured hay. Another scenario may arise when lawn clippings are fed to horses (never a good idea). A surprising number of ornamental trees and shrubs that are used for landscaping are toxic to horses. Green lawn clippings, often contaminated with cuttings from ornamental plants, are very tempting to horses, especially those that have been on dry or limited feed. Horses can easily ingest toxic poisonous plants as they anxiously gulp down green grass clippings. Horse owners should talk to kind and helpful neighbors and ask them not to feed any clippings to horses because of the risks involved.

It is also important to recognize that poisonous plants are usually more concentrated in their toxins during certain times of the growing season. Sometimes poisonous plants ingested in small quantities are not a problem, while at other times, even small quantities become lethal. Occasionally

a horse will develop an appetite for certain poisonous plants and must be watched closely when grazing at home or on the trail. Mineral deficiencies in the diet may also cause the horse to seek out poisonous plants. A well balanced and adequately available ration will usually alleviate this problem.

PREVENTION SUGGESTIONS

It is important for horse owners to carefully survey the local plant population within their area and learn to recognize as many poisonous plants native to their geographic region as possible. This fact sheet will identify common poisonous plants found in Utah horse pastures, but the list is by no means complete. Persistent efforts to eliminate or control poisonous plants in the home pasture are essential. If there are only a few plants, they can be dug out by hand and disposed of before they spread to a larger area. If the infested area is too large, troublesome plants can be sprayed with an appropriate herbicide. Perhaps the best defense against weed species is cultivating a healthy stand of grasses or legumes that can compete with them. This can be accomplished with proper fertilization, irrigation, controlled grazing and timely mowing. Too often, small pastures become overstocked, becoming holding pens instead of

productive pastures. Mowing pastures before weeds and toxic plants head out and go to seed will significantly minimize spreading. Care must also be taken when feeding harvested hays or when riding on the trail. Each county has a local Extension Agent who can help identify plants and control methods unique to their area. The USDA Poisonous Plant Research Lab is also on the campus of Utah State University in Logan. Researchers at that lab are a valuable resource to horse and livestock owners and veterinarians.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of equine poisoning are varied and diverse. Some cases may consist of slight illness and the horse's inability to perform to its fullest potential for a few days. More serious symptoms may include slobbering, tremors, uncoordination, erratic behavior, convulsions or even sudden death. A common symptom, especially for light-skinned animals, is photosensitization - which consists of blisters, swelling and lesions (like severe sunburn) on the white or light colored areas of the skin. Unfortunately there are other illness and conditions that may cause similar symptoms. As such, if poisoning is suspected call a veterinarian immediately. Because horses cannot vomit, other methods must be utilized to help rid the horse's digestive system of troubling plants.

Common Utah Plants Poisonous to Equine:

Poison Hemlock



A relatively common range or pasture plant often found along roadsides, fence lines, creek beds and in pastures. This plant kills a number of cattle, sheep and horses each year and is also toxic to humans. This plant is not very palatable and is unlikely to be ingested when other forage is available. However, since poison hemlock is one of the first plants to grow in the spring, horses



may eat this plant in the absence of other green feeds. Early in the spring, before the plant flowers, the leaves are especially poisonous. Common symptoms of poisoning include nervous trembling,

uncoordination and dilated pupils. The horse may be disoriented and appear to be unaware of his surroundings. Humans are poisoned when they confuse poison hemlock roots with wild parsnips. The toxic potential of this plant diminishes significantly as the plant dries. However, the seeds (both green and mature) remain toxic. As such, small quantities of poison hemlock accidentally baled into properly cured hay prior to seed production, are not considered a high risk. The best way to prevent exposure to poison hemlock is to make every effort to eliminate it from the field. It is also wise to provide adequate quality forage to horses.

Yellow Starthistle and Russian Knapweed



These invasive weeds are becoming more prevalent in Utah pastures and rangelands. Horses will not eat these plants unless good quality, palatable feed is gone. These plants are also toxic when dried in hay. Usually, horses must eat the plant over an extended period of time before

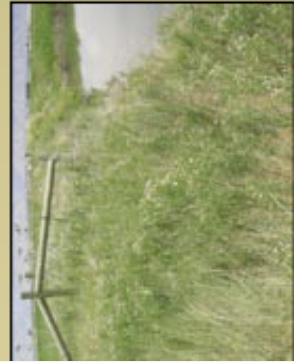
symptoms appear. The most common symptom is the horse's inability to chew or swallow, although it may attempt to do so. An infected horse may chew feed only to spit it out when it cannot swallow. Owners may think the horse has something caught in its throat. The horse may also chew without

having anything in its mouth and move its lips and tongue in a peculiar fashion.

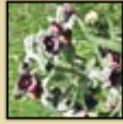
Drinking is difficult and the horse will often lap the water like a dog, and



dehydration frequently occurs. Since the ingested toxins cause damage to the brain, an infected horse may yawn frequently, roll its tongue, toss its head, hang the head low and/or push against solid objects. The prognosis for recovery once clinical signs appear is usually poor, usually resulting in euthanasia.



Houndstongue

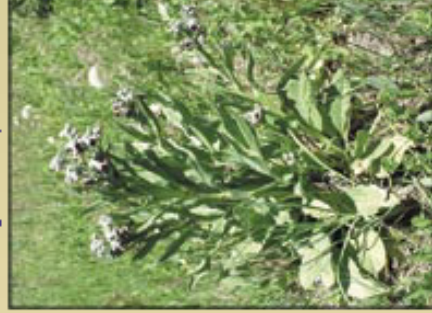


This biennial weed, often found in pastures and along roadsides, forms a rosette the first year and produces a flowering stalk the second year. The leaves are rough and resemble a dog's tongue. This plant is toxic, containing pyrrolizidine alkaloids that cause liver damage. This may result in jaundice, possible photosensitization (sunburn) and/or death. Houndstongue is not very palatable so horses generally do

not eat this plant

in pastures, unless there is a limited amount of quality feed. However, houndstongue

is invading an increasing number of alfalfa and grass hay fields and when baled into hay, horses are less discriminating and may ingest toxic amounts of the plant. Clinical signs may not be apparent



for several months after ingestion and the effects are cumulative, even if the periods of ingestion are months apart. The syndrome of liver failure progresses rapidly over a few days to a week. Clinical signs include weight loss, weakness, sleepiness, uncoordination, and with a yellowish discoloration to the mucous membranes. The horse may have shown no signs, but upon being ridden may seem to tire quickly and the clinical condition may deteriorate rapidly to death. Once affected, there is no effective treatment. The best prevention is to properly maintain pastures and hay fields to encourage the production of quality forages and to be sure that hay fed contains no houndstongue.

Locoweed



Locoweed is a range plant. Some years there is very little growth and other years there can be significant growth. Horses usually avoid Locoweed, but after they have sampled it a few times, they can become accustomed to it. Symptoms do not appear until horses have grazed this plant for a period of time and the most obvious signs may not appear until after the horse has stopped eating it. Common symptoms include aimless wandering, altered gait, tremors, weakness and erratic behavior. Horses poisoned with locoweed may also have impaired vision and actually bump into things or try to jump imaginary objects.

This cumulative effect of alkaloid poisoning may be irreversible, though mares fed good quality hay may regain their reproductive function. Some neurological damage may be permanent and horse owners should be warned that recurrent, aberrant



behavior may cause the horse to become unpredictable and dangerous, especially when stressed, loaded onto trailers or forced into working conditions. Horses are very sensitive to the toxin. Sheep can be managed and can graze locoweed intermittently, but horses should be kept away from ranges which contain it, especially during years of abundant growth. Locoweed seeds will survive in the soil for years, waiting for the right growing conditions.

Field Horsetail



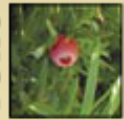
Field horsetail is a small herbaceous perennial that prefers moist, cool areas such as ditches, meadows or road sides. Like most poisonous plants, horsetail is most likely to be ingested when horses have very little quality vegetation to eat. Young horses are more readily affected than mature horses. Horsetail contains several



compounds, but thiaminase is the only one of clinical importance. Thiaminase is an enzyme that breaks down thiamine, a necessary vitamin for metabolism and central nervous system function. Horses need to ingest field horsetail for several

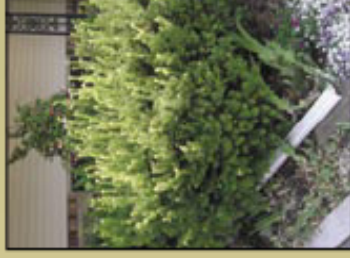
days, or even weeks, before adverse clinical signs of muscle weakness, uncoordination, paresis, convulsions and potential death appear. Therapeutic doses of thiamine, administered under veterinary supervision, followed by subsequent vitamin administration may prove successful in overcoming the effects of poisoning. Obviously, poisoned horses should be removed from horsetail infested areas and provided access to clean, good quality feed and water.

Yews



Yews are common small ornamental evergreen shrubs or trees that are toxic during all

seasons of the year. Yews contain a cardiac depressant called taxine. Symptoms include trembling, uncoordination, collapse, a slowed heart rate and cardiac failure. These symptoms may not appear for several hours of they may occur within minutes after ingesting the plant. Some dead horses have even been found with yew leaves or twigs still in their mouths. Because this toxin acts so quickly, there is seldom time to initiate treatment and thus far, no known antidote is available. Most yew poisonings are the result of homeowners carelessly dumping lawn and shrub clippings into pens or pastures with curious horses. As stated earlier, horse owners should talk to kind and helpful neighbors and ask them not to feed any clippings to horses because of the risks involved.



Milkweed



This herbaceous perennial is common along roadsides, ditch banks, in pastures and even in cultivated fields. Colonies spread by underground rootstalks that are not disturbed during tillage practices.



The milky latex sap that exudes when these plants are cut or grazed is not palatable to livestock. The western whorled milkweed and labriform milkweed are the most toxic of the milkweed species. This plant is easily controlled with proper management.

Deathcamas



This native perennial is one of the earliest plants to emerge in the spring and grows on foothills and in meadows. As such, most livestock poisonings come from early spring grazing when other plants are still dormant. The

underground scaly bulbs are often mistaken for wild onions and can cause severe illness in humans as well. All parts of this plant contain a poisonous alkaloid at all stages of growth. Pastures containing deathcamas should not be grazed in early spring and should be sprayed with herbicides early in the season when other plants are still dormant.

After other forages become available, horses will usually not consume this toxic weed. Symptoms of poisoning include excessive salivation, rapid breathing, weakness, staggering and convulsions. Severely poisoned animals usually die, while those less affected may recover.



Arrowgrass

Arrowgrass is a native perennial that starts growth in early spring and reproduces from seed and rhizomes. This plant contains hydrocyanic (prussic) acid, especially when drought or frost



can affect horses. Typical signs include loss of nerve function to the hind legs and bladder. It is most apparent as horses demonstrate an inability or reluctance to back up. If the horse loses the ability to urinate normally, there will be constant urine dribbling, urine scalding of the hind legs and potential bladder infection. There are no adequate treatments available after clinical signs appear. It is safest to avoid pasturing horses on Sorghum or Sudangrass.



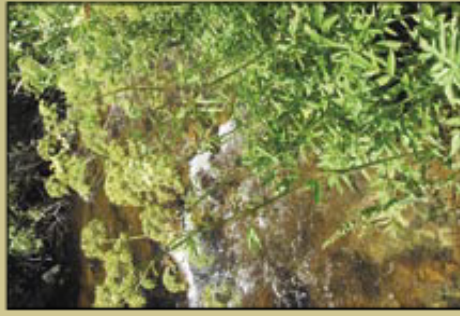
stressed, making it highly toxic to horses. Symptoms include nervousness, convulsions, respiratory failure and sudden death. Cured hay containing arrowgrass has also been reported toxic to young stock. Supportive medical treatment may prove valuable, but death is common.

Water Hemlock



This plant frequently grows in moist areas such as wet meadows and pastures, or on the banks of ponds and streams. It resembles the taller poison hemlock plant, though the leaves are different, and also has hollow stems with occasional purple streaking near the lower portion of the plant. Water hemlock can be easily identified by the cross-sectional chambers in tuberous roots. The knife used for cutting must be cleaned thoroughly or it can carry the toxicity. All parts of the water

hemlock plant contain a toxin called cicutoxin. Young leaves, tubers and green seed are especially toxic. Some consider this to be one of the most poisonous plants in the U.S. Poisoning most often occurs in the spring when young, vegetative growth is eaten before most other forages are available. Cicutoxin acts quickly as a direct stimulant to the nervous system. Clinical signs such as muscle twitching, teeth grinding, convulsive seizures and excessive salivation may appear as early as 15 minutes after ingestion. Death, resulting



from respiratory distress, may occur as early as 45 minutes after ingestion. The best way to prevent water hemlock poisoning is to consistently destroy the plants and to provide adequate quality forage early in the spring.

Sorghum and Sudangrass



These productive grasses are excellent livestock feeds when grown, harvested and cured correctly. Under certain conditions however, especially when stressed with drought or frost, these plants can accumulate cyanogenic glycosides and nitrates. Nitrates can create problems for ruminants, but the cyanogenic glycosides



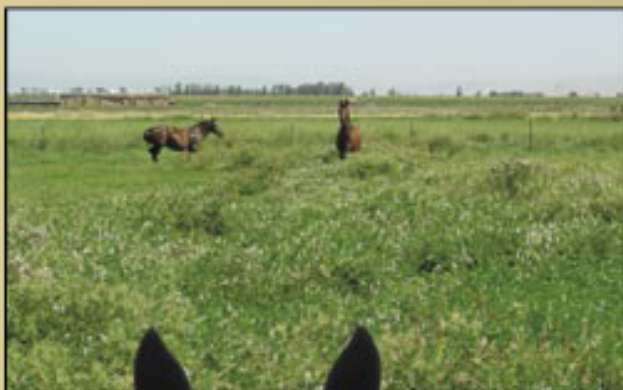
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Goatsrue



This tap rooted, perennial legume was intentionally introduced from the Middle East as potential livestock forage, but was found to be unpalatable and highly toxic.

Unfortunately, it was allowed to escape and has spread primarily by irrigation water to pastures, fence lines, roadways and marshy areas. Most goatsrue plants can be found in Cache County, Utah, where an intense eradication program is underway. Unless horses are near starving, they will not eat this plant.



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Additional Poisonous Plant Resources:

"Small Pasture Management Guide for Utah," Utah State University Extension AG 508.

"Weeds of the West," Western Society of Weed Science, P.O. Box 963, Newark, CA.

The USDA ARS Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory, UMC 6300, Logan, UT 84322.

http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/site_main.htm?modecode=54-28-20-00

"Plants Poisonous to Livestock and Horses," Oregon State University, <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/linn/content1/poisonplants.php>.

<http://www.horsequest.info/>

Design by: Peak Media, Logan, Utah

Photos courtesy of: Peak Media, Cache County Weed Department, Richard Old, William & Wilma Follette @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA NRCS, Dr. Charles Hart and Bruce Barnes.



GPS ONLINE RECORDS AND MAPS OF OUR RIDES

http://www.ece.utah.edu/~cfurse/GPS_info/GPS.htm

This includes:

- Ride name, date, mileage, time, brief description
- Directions to trail head
- Googlemap link to trailhead (use this to get detailed directions and approx travel time from your home)
- Full GPS track of ride
- Map produced from the GPS
- Photo of the typical terrain

FROM USU

[USU Horseshoeing School](#) will be held in May this year. For more information contact:

Scott S. McKendrick
(435) 797-3591
(435) 770-0725 Cell
(435) 797-3317 Fax
Scott.McKendrick@usu.edu

For More Info, Updates, info sheets, sign up for the USU newsletter, etc.:

<http://extension.usu.edu/equine/>

DRAPER TRAILS – CORNER CANYON IMPORTANT UPDATE!

Draper trails sends a special reminder to please stay off the trails when they are wet. It causes a great deal of damage and erosion, which must later be repaired by volunteers.

Also, Corner Canyon houses a protected watershed where Draper's drinking water comes from, and it has special rules to make sure the water stays clean. Signs will be installed this spring in Corner Canyon regarding this watershed protection area. The signs will identify restrictions in watershed sensitive areas, including Ghost Falls Trails and some secondary hiking trails along Burnham Creek. A new Canyon Hollow Trail will be made, for equestrians and hikers with animals. Horses will be allowed by permit on the Bear Canyon trail to access the loop/lone peak. We do not yet know what 'by permit' means. NO dogs are allowed North of Orson Smith, even on leash, and loose dogs elsewhere will be ticketed. This is a joint project that includes Draper City, Jordan Val-

ley Water Conservancy District, Metropolitan Water, Sandy City and Salt Lake City and the new trail is sponsored by WaterPro.

Volunteers needed for the Draper Trail Patrol. The next Refresher Training Meeting will be Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Animal Shelter located at 12375 South Galena Park Blvd. (550 West). Steve or Greg will discuss Water Pro regs and new pet trails.

For updates and more information, contact Ann Parr ann.parr@yahoo.com. Or google '[Draper Trails](#)'.



Rinda and Lakota above Provo

REDUCE UNWANTED HORSES: FREE GELDING SERVICE
SGS pays your veterinarian directly for 100% of the standard gelding fees. SGS will not pay for any additional procedures or after care, hospital care, IV fluids or anything beyond the normal gelding procedure. No procedure will be paid for where one or both testicles have not de-

scended. The owner is responsible for all care after the gelding procedure has taken place. This service is offered to those who could not otherwise afford the cost of the gelding procedure, while funds are available.

stalliontogeldingsupport.org/index.html

EXTREME COWBOY CHALLENGE

How cowboy are you? The extreme cowboy challenge is coming to Grantsville, Utah April 4&5. For any additional information or questions, please contact Justin Beck at 360-259-0988 or beckj06@msn.com

GPS HOW-TO INFORMATION

Here is more information on how to use your GPS. See the REI website:

<http://www.rei.com/expertadvice/articles/gps+receiver+howto.html>

FLY MISTING SYSTEMS

Is your fly misting system safe? This article discusses the information that is on the labels of several common fly sprays that are used in some fly spray misting systems at stables. Download this article from www.ece.utah.edu/~cfurse/ftp or call me, and I'll send you a hard copy. Cindy 581-9225.

PONY EXPRESS UPDATES

If you would like to receive the newsletter from the Pony Express (re-ride), email Vicki Hood ggeditor@guernseygazette.com and request the email newsletter.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Online [Forms](#) & Instructions

Send yours to: [Doris Richards](#)
10508 Weeping Willow Dr
Sandy, Utah 84070
(H) 572-1253

Tuesday, April 14: Volunteers needed for the Draper Trail Patrol. The next Refresher Training Meeting will be Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Animal Shelter located at 12375 South Galena Park Blvd. (550 West). Steve or Greg will discuss Water Pro regs and new pet trails. Contact Bev Heffernan for more details. 572-3304
b.heffernan@att.net

Saturday, April 25: Service project cancelled.

Thursday, May 14: Working Monthly meeting, Porter Rockwell cleanup

Many of you have helped with our annual Sandy Pride Day cleanup of Sandy equestrian portion of the Porter Rockwell Trail (also called the UTA Trail.) This multiuse trail, running along the

railroad tracks from 10200 South to the south end of Sandy at 11400 South, is an important link to a system of multiuse trails within and outside of the Salt Lake Valley. This annual cleanup project has proven to go quite quickly and smoothly and has helped MRBCHU maintain an urban presence. We are also participants in Sandy's fledgling Adopt a Trail program; this is the annual group contribution.

As luck would have it, Sandy Pride Day will be May 16 this year---our scheduled Sheep Creek outing date! In the interest of efficient volunteerism, we plan to have our monthly meeting, May 14, as a work party to continue our unbroken chain of involvement with Sandy City Parks and Recreation. Details are still in formulation, but we can meet either before or after the project. Please set aside Thursday May 14 for a "working meeting!"

July 10-12 Strawberry area Current Creek Project (regional project for all chapters) Paula Hill reported that the last project was successful with funding available. Several mangers were repaired and 2 corrals were build, 6

more need to be. Donations of materials and work effort are needed. More details to come on bchu.com.

Aug 15-23 Crystal Lake Bridge in the Uintas (regional project for all chapters). 15 packers + pack animals have taken in 1/3 of the needed corduroy for bridges. The rest needs to be packed in, and the bridges built. Will be scheduled for a week long project with a base camp set up. More details to follow on bchu.com

Saturday, September 26: Service project, Hemangog Trail Work, Corner Canyon, info Bob Baker, 801-572-3996, bobbucksnot@q.com

**SAVE
A
STAMP**

We are sending this newsletter via both email and US mail to everyone on our list. If you are not receiving it, OR if you would rather NOT receive the hard copy, please let me know. That would Save a Stamp for BCHU.

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Featured Websites in this Edition:

Back Country Horsemen www.bchu.com
BCHU Forum: utahbackcountryhorsemen.myfastforum.org Contact Carol Nudell (pasobaby@yahoo.com) with questions.

Mountain Ridge Photo Sharing Site: email cfurse@ece.utah.edu for an invitation.
GPS Sharing Site: http://www.ece.utah.edu/~cfurse/GPS_info/GPS.htm
USU Equine Extension extension.usu.edu/equine

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
BCHU.Com

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Name(s): _____

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Liability Release: **MUST BE SIGNED**

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse/mule use is involved, which can cause injuries to horse/mules, riders, and spectators and also recognizing the fact that Back Country Horsemen of Utah, including units, officers, directors, or members cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience of riders or horses/mules taking part in trail rides or other BCHU functions, I do hereby release the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children or horses/mules.

By signing this release, I/WE recognize the following Utah State Law, "UCA 78-27b- Limitations on liability for Equine and Livestock Activities." It shall be presumed that participants in equine or livestock activities are aware of and understand that there are inherent risks associated with these activities. "Inherent risk" with regard to equine or livestock activities means those dangers or conditions, which are an integral part of equine or livestock activities. The equine activity sponsor is not liable for those inherent risks. If you are unwilling to assume these risks for yourself or for those under your supervision, you should not participate in these activities.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Signed _____ Date _____

Make check payable to Mt. Ridge BCH, individual \$30/year, family \$40/year. New _____ Renewal _____

GET MORE MILEAGE OUT OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP ! Pass this on to a friend.

**MRBCH Editor
Cindy Furse
9400 Emigration Canyon
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108**