NEWS UPDATE

EQUINE SCIENCE CENTER

"Better Horse Care Through Research and Education"

WINTER 2007

Speaker Line-Up at Horses 2007 Features Experts on Equine Topics

Horses 2007, the educational conference being organized and hosted by Rutgers Equine Science Center on Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1, will feature an impressive roster of leading experts as speakers.

The conference will be held at the Cook Campus Center, conveniently located off Route 1 in New Brunswick, NJ. Complete information and directions are on the Equine Science Center website at **www.esc.rutgers.edu**.

The program at Horses 2007 is designed to appeal to all types of horse enthusiasts and professionals, regardless of their level of expertise or the particular breed of horse or equine pursuit they enjoy. The Saturday presentations will tend to focus on newcomers to horsemanship or ownership, but also will interest instructors, parents or anyone looking for basic science and information. On Sunday, the more experienced and/or professional horse community, including equine veterinarians, will benefit from the topics. Both days are open to all, and continuing education credits can be earned by veterinarians and vet technicians.

In addition to the main conference, a two-day Farm and Land Management Short Course will be conducted for farm owners and managers. Enrollment in the short course is limited to 80 persons. (For additional information and details, see the article on Page 7.)

As previously reported, Dr. Patty Hogan and Dr. Sue McDonnell will be the keynote speakers at Horses 2007. Dr. Hogan is a surgeon with the New Jersey Equine Clinic in Clarksburg, NJ. Her talk is "It's All About the Love of Horses: Saving Smarty Jones and Other Stories That Inspire."

Dr. McDonnell, a renowned equine behaviorist at the University of Pennsylvania, will address "Elements of Basic Horse Behavior" and "Current Research on Horse Behavior."

(continued on page 3)

Dr. Scott Palmer will moderate the panel on equine injuries at Horses 2007 and will also talk about orthopedic issues.

Index

EQUINE SCIENCE UPDATE (Pages 4-5)

From the Clubhouse

Dr. Karyn Malinowski, Director

Photo by Nick Romanenko

Let's Welcome Our Partners

The next time you visit the Equine Science Center's website (**www.esc.rutgers.edu**) you'll see a new, featured area: Equine Science Center Partners and Sponsors. As you navigate the website, we urge you to visit this area because the companies and organizations listed there have our – and your – best interests at heart.

Partners for 2007 include Merial and Rick's Saddle Shop as "Platinum" supporters, our highest level. (You can read more about these companies on Page Eight.) "Diamond" partners include Fort Dodge Animal Health, Kistler Buildings, and Cargill/Nutrena, with additional Diamonds to be announced.

The idea of bringing in partners and sponsors originated with the planning of Horses 2007, our major educational conference scheduled for March 31 and April 1. Early in the planning, it became clear that partners were essential if we were going to be able to provide the very highest level of science-based information and presentations AND keep the event affordable for all the horse people from the area who want to increase their knowledge.

Horses 2007 isn't going to be a typical expo, with hundreds of exhibitors and demonstrations. Instead, it will be an intensive educational occasion where delegates, presenters and partners will have plenty of time to learn from each other and to interact. The focus will be on the health and well-being of horses and horse farms, and everything from the topics addressed to the handouts and materials available at Horses 2007 will be complementary to this focus. (See the article on Page One for further information.)

The involvement of our partners will go far beyond Horses 2007. We envision that some or all of them will continue their cooperation with the Equine Science Center for years to come. They will become integral to the future of the Center and to the lives of our faculty, students and staff.

For instance, they will participate in our strategic planning sessions and our various outreach activities. Partners also will interface with our students in forums and job fairs – a definite win-win for our undergraduates and graduate students looking for cooperative education or internship opportunities and for new grads starting their careers in research and development, sales, marketing, product design and similar fields.

Beyond our Platinum and Diamond partners are another type of partner: members of the "Community of 50 for Equine Excellence." A special cadre of individuals and a few organizations, the Community of 50 is made up of folks dedicated to the advancement of the research, teaching and outreach programs of the Equine Science Center.

These supporters have pledged a tax-deductible $10,000 a year or more to benefit the Equine Science Center. Some of them are members of our board of advisors, others are merely friends of the Center who have made it their business to make sure our facilities and programs have the extra boost of support they need to be recognized as "excellent."

Members of the Community of 50 also are donors at the President's Council level at Rutgers University, which means they participate in the dialogue that takes place at very high levels. They are recognized by the Office of the President and the Rutgers University Foundation as special members of the University community.

It has become a fact of modern life that all great universities require the support of the private sector. This great University – and the Equine Science Center, specifically – give back to their supporters by bringing knowledge to the public and helping the horse industry thrive.

And, while I'm on the topic, I'd like to acknowledge two outstanding individuals who this year received our "Spirit of the Horse" award: Stephen P. Dey II, DVM, and David Meirs II, VMD.

Dr. Dey is a veterinarian, horse breeder, and owner of Heritage Hill Farm. His 40 years of service to New Jersey's equine industry include membership on the executive board of Monmouth County Board of Agriculture; past-president of the New Jersey Board of Agriculture; vice president of the Horse Park of New Jersey's Board of Trustees, and other posts.

Dr. Meirs, president of Walnridge Farm in Cream Ridge, NJ, also founded the Walnridge Equine Clinic. He is a former vice president of the New Jersey Board of Agriculture, and has served as a trustee of the Horse Park and the Monmouth County Historical Society. He has also been president of the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association and Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and is a founder of the New Jersey Equine Practitioners Association. In 2006 Dr. Meirs served as chairman of the New Jersey Sire Stakes Board of Trustees.

These two individuals have been long-time supporters of the Equine Science Center and serve on the Rutgers University Board for Equine Advancement (RUBEA). The Equine Science Center bestowed on them the "Spirit of the Horse" award, because it recognizes individuals whose lives have been profoundly changed by horses and who have given back to horses or the horse industry. The award was presented by Ms. Sandy Denarski of Johnson and Johnson, last year's recipient and a member of RUBEA.

Wishing you a happy new year – we'll see you in March at Horses 2007!

Horses 2007 (continued)

Additional speakers at Horses 2007 include the following:

Dr. Rick Doran is a New Jersey native who in 1987 became staff surgeon at Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center in Ringoes, NJ. He is a former Quarter Horse show competitor, and enthusiastically supports his wife's and daughter's "horse habit." He will be talking about soft tissue injuries during a panel discussion focused on the "Diagnosis, Treatment and Rehabilitation of Equine Injuries."

Dr. Brendan Furlong was born and educated in Ireland and is the long-time veterinarian to the United States Equestrian Team. He owns and operates the B.W. Furlong & Associates Equine Veterinarians in Oldwick, NJ, and Wellington and Ocala, FL. He also will be participating in the equine injury panel and will specifically address the latest diagnostic tools that are available.

Dr. Scott Palmer is hospital director and staff surgeon with the New Jersey Equine Clinic in Clarksburg, NJ. He has been very active in veterinary organizations and activities statewide, nationally and internationally and is past-president of the American Association of Equine Practitioners. He will moderate the panel and will also talk about orthopedic injuries.

Dr. Dan Keenan of Keenan McAlister Equine will give an illustrated talk on "Lameness: Giving Your Horse a Leg to Stand On." Dr. Keenan runs an ambulatory practice that serves a wide area of central and south Jersey. He has been active in the New Jersey Horse Council, distributes an information-packed newsletter and is a popular speaker.

Dr. Betsy Greene is the Extension equine specialist with the University of Vermont and a frequent guest lecturer who focuses on horse management, safety and production. She is a contributor to equine publications and she collaborated on a video, "Ground Handling Horses Safely." At Horses 2007, she will help prospective horse owners understand the true costs of ownership, including comparisons of keeping a horse on your own property versus boarding your horse. Her topic: "The Cost of Owning a 'Free' Horse."

Dr. Amy Burk, Extension horse specialist with the University of Maryland, is well-grounded in equine nutrition and will talk about what is known scientifically about the powders and liquids we ply our horses with in a provocative talk entitled, "Supplements: Fairy Dust and Hocus-Pocus?" Her lively lecture style is a result of her work with undergraduates at Maryland and her educational leadership of the state's 4-H horse program.

Dr. David Marshall came to the University of Delaware via Pennsylvania, where he received his bachelor's degree from Penn State and his veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He pursues his love of teaching as an assistant professor in the university's Department of Animal Science and practices his medical skills as equine Extension veterinarian with the Delaware Cooperative Extension Service. He will be talking about "Tips for Happy, Healthy Horses."

Two scientists who recently earned their Ph.D. degrees and joined the corporate world are **Dr. Mary Beth Gordon** and **Dr. Bridgett McIntosh Byrd**. Dr. Gordon received her doctorate from Rutgers in 2005, having done ground-breaking work on the effects of exercise on the regulation of appetite in horses and why an equine athlete is often described as "off his feed." Dr. Byrd, who received her doctorate this year from Virginia Tech, studies carbohydrate profiles in feeds and forages and the avoidance of laminitis. Both she and Dr. Gordon are avid riders and horse show competitors.

When it comes to rotational grazing and pasture management, one of the region's go-to experts is **Dan Ludwig**, who is the grazing and grassland specialist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in southeastern Pennsylvania. Dan grew up on a farm that raised beef cattle, hogs, sheep and laying hens. He turned to horses at Penn State and later when he served with Maryland Cooperative Extension.

Several of the featured speakers at Horses 2007 are prominent members of the Rutgers faculty and are affiliated with the Equine Science Center.

Profiles of all the speakers and a complete schedule of presentations and events appear in a special area of the Equine Science Center's website at **www.esc.rutgers.edu/Horses2007**. Registration forms are available on the website or can be obtained by calling 732-932-9419 or e-mailing esc@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Equine Science Update Sheds New Light On New Jersey's Horse Industry

By Beverly Saadeh (Published courtesy of Horse News)

Dr. Karyn Malinowski, director of the Rutgers Equine Science Center, made an intriguing connection at Rutgers' annual Equine Science Update, held at the New Jersey Museum of Agriculture on the Cook Campus December 12. She connected all the dots for the evening's presentations for the audience of racing, show, 4-H, and pleasure enthusiasts, and in one short statement elevated the horse to a savior for the Garden State.

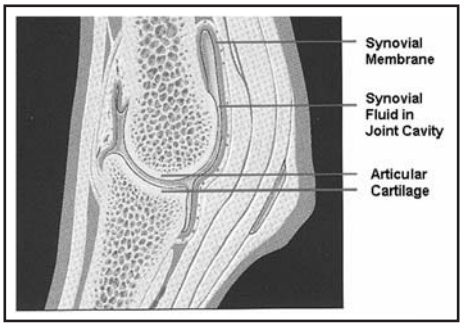
The horse and the industry it spawns play a critical role in the agricultural and green spaces of the state. Without horse farms and their need for agricultural products such as hay, legumes, straw, grain and pasture, the total acreage for the state's agriculture economy would receive a mortal blow.

Dr. Malinowski went on to divulge how Rutgers' Equine Science Center works to ensure the future of the horse in New Jersey through research on best welfare practices to keep the animal in peak performance, best farm practices to allow Jersey farms to be good neighbors, right-to-farm issues to keep horse farms from nuisance law suits and representation of all equine sectors to the Department of Agriculture.

Research Is Crucial

The Equine Science Center is committed to the well-being of the horse, and Dr. Kenneth McKeever, assistant professor of Animal Science at Rutgers, did a quick review of past research on medicines affecting the performance of the race horse. He was clear in his challenge of using medications which have not had their effectiveness researched and proven. Without proper research many medications can't be validated to be in the animal's best interest for health or performance.

Dr. McKeever reminded the audience of the fast promotion and acceptance of Lasix (furosemide) as a cure-all for exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhaging (EIPH). The research on Lasix occurred after the fact and its use to stop pulmonary hemorrhaging was not validated. Luckily, the medication has a short life in the horse's body and does not adversely affect the animal. It has been proven to enhance performance, but not due to effectively stopping EIPH — researchers suspect it has more to do with a weight change from the large volume of water loss brought about by the drug's diuretic effects.



The joint is an organ designed to facilitate pain-free, friction-free, and efficient movement, as well as support the musculoskeletal system and transmit load. Image courtesy of Bayer Health-Care 2003.

Amicar (aminocaproic acid) is the new favorite bet to stop EIPH. It is a human drug designed to inhibit clot breakdown and a proposed regulation is currently before the racing commission that would allow a horse receiving Lasix to also receive administration of Amicar. Its efficacy in the horse has not been determined and in humans it has been shown to have life threatening side effects of stroke and cardiac arrest if given during the clot forming stage. Without proper research, it cannot be known if this is a risk in the horse as well.

These were just two of the medications Dr. McKeever reviewed.

Also included were EPO, Ventopulmin, and the practice of milkshakes (feeding sodium bicarbonate). Each drug was discussed in terms of research done on its use in the horse and the potential for benefit or harm.

Emily Lamprecht, a doctoral candidate, has a goal of identifying preventative or early treatment options for horses with joint inflammation due to use trauma. "Joint-related lameness is the number one cause of diminished athletic performance and wastage. Current treatments are expensive, even cost prohibitive, and often yield suboptimal results," she said.

Lamprecht picked nutraceuticals to evaluate as they are popular among the equine community, less costly and easier to access than traditional therapies. Nutraceuticals use naturally-occurring substances and, unlike prescription drugs, are not regulated by the FDA. The lack of a watchdog has Lamprecht concerned; 84 percent do not meet their ingredient claims. There has been research done on other species (dogs, humans, rodents), but not the horse.

"A lot of the claims made about the various joint nutraceuticals come from data extrapolated from species other than the horse. This is disturbing because physiological and biomechanical differences warrant research to be done in the horse. Most of the ingredients in these supplements have not been evaluated for bioavailability or efficacy with controlled research in horses," she said.

Photo by Nick Romanenko

Christopher C. Obropta, Ph.D., P.E., Extension specialist in water resources at Rutgers' New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is leading the design for stormwater runoff and water control measures at the Ryders Lane Best Management Practices Demonstration Horse Farm.

Lamprecht found she could use interferon gamma spikes to track inflammation markers in joints. This confirms there is a method to scientifically track if a substance has an effect.

With this test, Lamprecht can go on to the next research stage, determining if the acting ingredient is digested and enters into the horse's system and then if it has an effect on the joint disease. Lamprecht reminded the audience to always be cautious about accepting product claims.

A Model Horse Farm

Dr. Carey Williams, equine Extension specialist at Rutgers, gave an update on the model horse farm being built on Ryders Lane for the Equine Science Center. Dr. Williams has been heading up the development of Best Management Practices for horse farms to submit to the state. Last year she defined guidelines on housing, pasture care and stocking rates for horses. This year her group did topographic and ground saturation evaluations at the farm from which they are developing suggestions for fencing and keeping pastures from becoming swamps. They are re-examining everything done on a farm and coming up with new ideas, standards and even equipment. Witness to this was seen in the mower purchased to run behind a tractor. Most farms use a brush hog when mowing large pastures. Dr. Williams and her colleagues found it scalped the tops of uneven ground, creating bald spots and wasting good pasture. The finishing mower they eventually decided on sits on a series of rollers and "floats" across the ground, preserving the forage.

They have also put up diamond mesh fencing and built a new manure storage and composting area. This is a long-term project from which the state will base much of its best practice guidelines. Details of what has been accomplished so far can be found at the Equine Science Center Web site, **www.esc.rutgers.edu**, under Ryders Lane Farm.

Coming Soon To Your Town…

The wheels at Trenton turn slowly and Mike Westendorf, Ph.D., associate professor, Rutgers, continues to apply patience to the state's development of an animal waste management rule. The federal government's EPA is requiring all states to come up with such a plan. New Jersey's is close to the proposal stage, at which time it will be available to the public for comment. The Equine Science Center is anticipating hosting a public meeting to go over the proposed regulations and serve as a platform for public comment, once the regulations are announced.

All New Jersey horse farms, no matter how many horses, will need to be aware of the regulations and have an animal waste management plan. The number of horses in an operation and stocking rate will dictate whether the owner needs to file a plan with the soil conservation district or just needs to have addressed the issue and have a plan in the drawer should the state knock on the door. This is an important topic that will be the future of every farm with animals of any form, throughout the nation. Westendorf played the role of messenger during the Equine Science Update, while working hard in Trenton to bring reason to the regulations.

Susan Craft, executive director of the State Agriculture Development Committee, and Paul Gottlieb, Ph.D., associate professor, Rutgers, announced some of the tax reform measures the state legislature is looking at for Farm Land Assessment. There are a number of changes being proposed in an attempt to discourage development of farmland. There seems to be confusion as to the extent and nature of all the tax changes currently under consideration. One thing known for sure, it will require a constitutional amendment to make any changes in this area.

The two hours of presentations topped an enjoyable dinner hosted by the Equine Science Center and was attended by over 160 people this year. Earlier in the evening there was an opportunity to meet the new research weanlings that Dr. Ralston uses in her teaching program, and watch a Standardbred pace on the department's treadmill. Rutgers' Equine Science Center; Department of Animal Science and Extension Service prove themselves, every year, to be an invaluable resource to the horse community. Dr. Malinowski and the ESC are on to something big: the horse is the key to keeping New Jersey agriculture.

A well-drained manure storage structure is integral to a good waste management plan. This one was designed with the aid of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Young Horse Teaching and Research Program Studies Ways to Detect Endocrine Disorders

By Sarah Ralston, VMD, PhD, dACVN

Horses have a high incidence of diseases associated with hyperinsulinemia (abnormally high blood insulin), including laminitis, pituitary dysfunction, equine metabolic syndrome and, in young horses, developmental orthopedic diseases (DOD) such as osteochondrosis and flexure deformities.

Hyperinsulinemia is usually due to insulin resistance, which can be caused by high carbohydrate diets or metabolic defects that may be breed- or age-related. The diagnosis and dietary treatment of insulin resistance in horses has received a lot of popular press recently, without much scientific backup. The focus of the Young Horse Teaching and Research Program is to provide some science-based answers for the problem in young horses.

Our research investigates metabolic and endocrine responses of horses using "low dose oral dextrose" (LDOD) and feed challenges and metabonomic analyses of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) of both blood and saliva to detect differences between treatment groups and individuals. Cutting-edge NMR-based metabonomics (integrated analysis of metabolic changes) evaluates all metabolites in the biofluid samples, not just glucose and insulin, permitting identification of previously unidentified metabolic changes and markers of abnormalities.

Our previous research with young draft cross horses suggested that certain breeds/bloodlines (Percheron and/or Thoroughbred crosses) were more predisposed to hyperinsulinemia and DOD than were the Belgian/Quarter Horse crosses, and that lower carbohydrate rations could apparently mitigate these problems.

Therefore this year we are comparing the metabolic responses of six horses with Thoroughbred/Percheron/Hanoverian bloodlines to six Belgian/Quarter Horse crosses. Half of each group is fed either a "standard" ration of a concentrate formulated for growth (Nutrena Safe Choice) and hay or an experimental ration of low carbohydrate total mixed ration (TMR) cubes.

The horses have had their weights and wither and rump heights recorded once a week since they arrived at Rutgers in September 2006. Their dietary treatments began in October, and since then their feed intake has been recorded daily. Blood and saliva also have been collected on a weekly basis for NMR metabonomic analyses and analyses of markers of bone formation.

Photo by Liz Houston

RU Atticus and Young Horse Teaching and Research Program student Chelsea Bullock take a moment to get to know one another.

The horses were all given a LDOD challenge in October before the dietary treatments were started to determine if there were any that had abnormal responses. In December, after six weeks of being fed the two rations, blood was taken from the weanlings at intervals for four hours after they ate their morning meals of concentrate or cubes to determine their metabolic and endocrine responses to the feeds. The LDOD was repeated the following week to see if the rations affected the responses. The horses will be tested again in February and March 2007.

The tests are designed to be minimally invasive and easy to conduct. For example, in the LDOD we deliver measured amounts of dextrose (glucose) powder mixed in unsweetened applesauce. Most of the horses gobbled up the concoction almost faster than it could be dispensed from an oral dose syringe! This could be a useful technique for any horse owner who has to administer an oral drug. When repeated blood samples are taken in the meal tests and LDOD, we place an intravenous catheter so the horses only need to be pricked once.

The weanlings also were inspected in the first week of the trial and again in December by Dr. Carey Williams, equine Extension specialist, who was "blind" to the treatment groups. She carefully examined their legs and scored them on their degree of DOD (epiphysitis, flexure deformity, limb deviations), if any, and assessed their overall body condition on a scale of 1-10. So far we have two individuals that had developed significant DOD before the study was initiated and several others that have developed mild problems (mainly just epiphysitis) over the course of the study.

(continued on page 7)

Dr. Ralston is associate professor in the Department of Animal Sciences in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences at Rutgers University and associate director of teaching with the Equine Science Center.

Farm and Land Management Short Course at Horses 2007

By Carey A. Williams, Ph.D., Extension Specialist in Equine Management

The Best Management Practices (BMP) Showcase at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station's Ryders Lane Equine Facility is in development as a demonstration working horse farm to benefit horse farm owners and managers in and around the state of New Jersey.

The goal of this project is to create a research and education venue at the Equine Science Center that will:

- implement stormwater controls to minimize water quality impacts;
- conduct research on the effectiveness of these procedures;
- implement pasture management strategies that protect the environment;
- create an effective manure management system to minimize the environmental impacts of animal waste;
- conduct educational demonstrations and workshops for stakeholders.

Many of these goals have already been completed and are ready to be showcased.

Horse owners and other farmers will be invited to the facility for the first time on March 31st and April 1st, 2007, when the Equine Science Center, Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), and Rutgers Cooperative Extension will host a Farm and Land Management Short Course in conjunction with "Horses 2007."

The specialists involved in this BMP project will participate in the short course, providing an invaluable opportunity for small animal farm operators and horse owners to see a variety of BMPs that have been designed to address conditions that may exist on their farm. They also will have the opportunity to talk with the people who designed, constructed and maintain the BMP farm.

On Saturday, March 31, New Jersey and Pennsylvania Extension agents and representatives from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will give presentations on pasture, manure and stormwater management issues. Course participants will learn the principles of pasture growth and rotation, weed identification and management along with a variety of other topics.

Sunday, April 1, will focus on manure disposal and storage options and water quality strategies. Each day will start off with lectures at the Geiger Turfgrass Education Center, followed by an afternoon of pasture walks and demonstrations at the Ryders Lane Equine Facility. Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) continuing education credits are available.

The Ryders Lane Equine Facility at Rutgers' NJAES can serve as a showcase for New Jersey, combining agricultural and environmental engineering principles. These principles will not only apply to equine facilities but also to many livestock operations. The project targets constructing stormwater controls to address several potential sources of pollution at the Ryders Lane Facility, including roadways, paddocks, pastures, rooftops, and agricultural fields. The farm will also be used to demonstrate the results of good pasture management practices that minimize environmental impact, such as properly timed soil test-based fertilizer applications, weed identification and control, frequent mowing, rotation, and renovation.

Attendance at the Farm and Land Management Short Course is limited to 80 participants, and is filling up quickly. To register and see the full weekend program, visit **www.esc.rutgers.edu** or call 732-932-5529.

Dr. Williams is the equine Extension specialist at the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and associate director of outreach with the Equine Science Center.

Endocrine Disorders (continued)

The blood and saliva analyses are in progress, but we hope to be able to detect specific metabolic differences in the horses that developed problems from those that did not. We also expect to see differences in the endocrine and physical responses to the two rations. This will help horse breeders identify foals at risk of DOD early on and then be able to prevent problems with specific dietary manipulations.

The other focus of the Young Horse Teaching and Research Program involves teaching students to teach the young horses their basic ground manners. This work is on-going throughout the school year. In mid-March the yearlings are used in the Ag Animal Fitting and Handling class, where they are prepped by a new batch of students to be shown "in hand" in the Annual Ag-Field Day horse show (Saturday, April 28, 2007). The yearlings are then sold the next day at the Annual NAERIC Yearling Auction at the Round House (Sunday, April 29). The auction proceeds help fund the following year's program, which, thanks to donations and the success of the auction has been self-funded for the past six years.

To learn more about the auction, and the student-run website for the program, visit **www.esc.rutgers.edu** and click on "Young Horse Teaching and Research Program."

Introducing Our 2007 Platinum and Diamond Partners

This year, the Equine Science Center has launched partnerships with companies that have a strong interest in the horse community. This issue of "News Update" introduces our inaugural partners.

Platinum Partners

Merial is a world-leading, innovation-driven animal health company, providing a comprehensive range of products to enhance the health, well-being and performance of many species of animals. Its equine products include ULCERGARD®, proven to prevent stomach ulcers in horses; GASTROGARD® (omeprazole),the only ulcer medication FDA-approved to treat equine stomach ulcers; EQVALAN® and ZIMECTERIN®, brand products for professional parasite control; and the RECOMBITEK® equine West Nile Virus vaccine.

With two stores in Englishtown, NJ, one in West Chester, PA, and New Jersey's first Equestrian Superstore in Cream Ridge, **Rick's Saddle Shop** provides a wide selection of products – including a choice of over 3,000 saddles. The Cream Ridge store features a 1,200-square-foot learning center dedicated to educating the public about and promoting interest in horses. This area is available for seminars, club meetings, lectures, product trunk shows and horse-themed parties, as well as other events. There also is a fenced-in area for saddle fittings and demonstrations, a feed warehouse and a 12,000-square-foot showroom featuring English and Western tack and apparel as well as veterinary supplies, barn supplies, gift items, treats, work clothes and other items for equestrians of all ages and disciplines. Visit Rick's Saddle Shop on the web at saddlesource.com.

Diamond Partners

Kistler Buildings — a first-rate team of professional builders who erect quality post-frame and pre-engineered steel buildings, including commercial, recreational, residential and equestrian structures.

Nutrena — provider of superior nutrition for domestic animals for more than 80 years. As part of the world's largest equine nutrition company, Nutrena feeds over one million horses per day.

Fort Dodge Animal Health — a leading manufacturer and distributor of prescription and over-the-counter animal health care products for the livestock and companion animal industries, including the West Nile–Innovator® vaccine.

Upcoming Events

★ Extra! Extra! ★ See you soon! ★

Horses 2007 Educational Conference
Saturday, March 31, and Sunday, April 1, 2007
Cook Campus Center
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ

Horses 2007 Farm and Land Management Short Course
Saturday, March 31, and Sunday, April 1, 2007
Geiger Center, Ryders Lane
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ

89th Annual Ag-Field Day
Saturday, April 28, 2007
Cook Campus
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ

Young Horse Teaching and Research Program
Saturday, April 21, 2007 - Previews in Red Barn
Sunday, April 29, 2007
11:00 a.m. - Previews in Red Barn
1:00 p.m. - Auction at Round House
Cook Campus
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ

Breeders' Cup
Friday, October 26, and Saturday, October 27, 2007
Monmouth Park, Oceanport, NJ
(See the Spring issue of "News Update" for more details.)

"Better Horse Care Through Research and Education"

Dr. Karyn Malinowski
Director

Diana Orban Brown
Director of Communications

Equine Science Center
57 U.S. Highway 1
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8554
Phone: 732-932-9419
Fax: 732-932-2658
www.esc.rutgers.edu