

Academics

Transitioning from in person to online education kept everyone on their toes this year! We were glad to offer students hands-on experiences to complement their online learning.



We snuggled in a few hands-on labs before our equine science and equine reproduction classes moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Our fall Horse Management class was hybrid with lectures online and smaller groups of students participating in socially distanced labs to learn about horse handling and preventative health care.



Congrats to...

UMD-bred Fearless Ideas for winning her first race beating a field of boys!



Photo courtesy of Gulfstream Park Twitter



Photo courtesy of Anne Litz

Dr. Amy Burk for receiving the Maryland Horse Industry Board's Touch of Class Award for her leadership of the National Association of Equine Affiliated Academics!

Outreach

Extension education went virtual! From Zoom to YouTube, we kept busy providing education to Maryland horse owners so they could learn from home.

For our last in person event of 2020, we helped coordinate the Southern MD Horse Summit featuring 12 speakers including international 3-day event rider Lynn Symansky.



Photo courtesy of Anne Litz

Our "Zoom-ing in on Healthy Horses" series featured eight weekly webinars over two months on horse pasture and health management, given by our amazing extension colleagues Andy Kness (Harford), Erika Crowl (Baltimore), Maegan Perdue (Worcester), and Dr. Amanda Grev (state pasture specialist).



Equine Webinar Series
June 2020
Zoom-ing in on Healthy Horsekeeping

June 2	Interpreting Soil Test Reports: What You Need to Know to Maximize Pasture Performance https://um.edu/webinars	Andy Kness, Extension Associate Harford County Andy Kness is the Equine Extension and Pasture Specialist at the University of Maryland. He has a BS in Agriculture from the University of Maryland and a MS in Equine Management from the University of Kentucky. He has worked for the University of Maryland for over 10 years and has been an Extension Associate for over 5 years.
June 9	Productive Pastures for Happy Horses, Happy Humans, and a Healthy Environment https://um.edu/productivepastures	Dr. Amy Burk, University of Maryland Equine Specialist Dr. Amy Burk is the coordinator for the equine health and performance program at the University of Maryland. She has a BS in Agriculture from the University of Maryland and a MS in Equine Management from the University of Kentucky. She has worked for the University of Maryland for over 10 years and has been an Extension Associate for over 5 years.
June 16	Nutrient Management for Horse Pasture https://um.edu/webinars	Erika Crowl, Extension Associate Baltimore County Erika Crowl is the Equine Extension and Pasture Specialist at the University of Maryland. She has a BS in Agriculture from the University of Maryland and a MS in Equine Management from the University of Kentucky. She has worked for the University of Maryland for over 10 years and has been an Extension Associate for over 5 years.
June 23	Taking Out the Guesswork: Forage Selection for Horse Pastures https://go.um.edu/forageselection	Dr. Amanda Grev, University of Maryland Forage Specialist Dr. Amanda Grev is the Equine Extension and Pasture Specialist at the University of Maryland. She has a BS in Agriculture from the University of Maryland and a MS in Equine Management from the University of Kentucky. She has worked for the University of Maryland for over 10 years and has been an Extension Associate for over 5 years.
June 30	Weed Warfare? Tips on Controlling Weeds in Horse Pastures https://um.edu/webinars	Andy Kness, Extension Associate Harford County Andy Kness is the Equine Extension and Pasture Specialist at the University of Maryland. He has a BS in Agriculture from the University of Maryland and a MS in Equine Management from the University of Kentucky. He has worked for the University of Maryland for over 10 years and has been an Extension Associate for over 5 years.

We teamed up with the MD Horse Council and the Equiery to celebrate Maryland Horse Month with the "Getting Started with Horses" webinar series. Attendees learned from our talented Maryland-based equestrian businesses about where to find a place to ride, what to wear when riding, tips for buying or leasing a horse, and what to know before buying a horse property.



Our YouTube channel, UMD Horse Extension, continues to reach a broad audience in the U.S., Australia, Canada, and Mexico with over 160 subscribers and nearly 67,000 views.



Throughout the year, we serve as industry liaisons to the Maryland 4-H Horse Program, Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup competition, Maryland Horse Council, Maryland Horse Industry Board, and Maryland Equine Transition Service.

Applied Research

We continued to submit our research findings for publication and design new studies for next year!

Kristina Davis's two studies investigating stress in muzzled miniature horses grazing pasture were published in the Journal of Applied Animal Behaviour Science.



Aubrey Jaqueth's work on the relative traffic tolerance of warm-season turfgrasses and suitability for grazing by equine was published in the Journal of Equine Veterinary Science.

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