



# Ontario Paint Horse Club NEWSLETTER

www.ophc.net

May 2010

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## Sunburn, Photosensitivity or Contact Dermatitis in Horses

By Dr. Bob Wright- Veterinary Scientist, Equine & Alternative Livestock/OMAF

In mid summer, when horses are in the middle of their show season, owners are often disturbed by the loss of hair from the white-skinned areas of the horse's body. This is particularly noticeable on the legs and face of the horse. The difficulty is determining whether the hair loss is due to sunburn, contact dermatitis or photosensitization. The diagnosis of sunburn, (overexposure to ultraviolet light) as a primary diagnosis without other confounding factors is probably a diagnosis of exclusion in most cases. The quest for a diagnosis is often only for academic interest since the treatment is commonly the same - removal from exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light and the feeding of dry hay. However, the common conditions that lead to crusty, dry, peeling skin include:

1. Contact dermatitis from irritants such as fly spray and buttercups
2. Primary Photosensitization
3. Secondary Photosensitization (Hepatogenous photosensitization)
4. Photosensitivity of uncertain etiology
5. Infectious skin conditions, e.g., mud fever

1. **Contact dermatitis** is a result of a chemical or mechanical reaction causing injury to the skin. It commonly occurs from a reaction induced by a chemical(s) in fly sprays or plants, such as buttercups. Some horses are more sensitive to these chemicals than others. The reaction to fly sprays is exacerbated by applying these products prior to saddling and tacking; this compresses the offending chemical between equipment and hot sweaty skin.

Buttercup in a fresh state can also cause a local irritation on the muzzle of horses that is difficult to differentiate from photosensitization. The volatile chemical dissipates within a few days of the plant being cut in hay or being frozen. Horses are often seen eating the buttercups in the pasture a few days after a hard frost without any adverse reaction.

### 2. Primary Photosensitization

Photosensitivity is commonly seen as a result of ingesting photodynamic agents from a number of plant and chemical toxins. When an animal consumes a plant or chemical containing these pigments (e.g., polyphenolic), the pigments circulate to the skin where they are exposed to UV light, fluoresce and cause oxidative injury to the cells of the skin (1). Buckwheat and St. John's wort cause primary photosensitization (1). Phosphorus fertilizer, coal tar pitch, wood preservatives, pentachloro-phenols, aflatoxin B in moldy feed, as well as a number of veterinary medicines, such as tetracycline and phenothiazine tranquilizers, can all act as photodynamic agents, absorbing the ultraviolet light and passing the energy to adjacent cells resulting in cell damage (1, 2).

3. **Secondary Photosensitization** occurs when a toxin damages the liver and results in the inability to excrete phylloerythrin. Phylloerythrin is a porphyrin compound formed by microbial degradation of chlorophyll in the gut. It is normally removed by the liver and excreted in the bile (1). If the liver is severely diseased, phylloerythrin accumulates in the blood. As it circulates through to the skin, it is exposed to UV light, fluoresces and causes oxidative injury to the blood vessels and tissues of the skin (1). Pyrrolizidine alkaloid is the most important causative agent in this group. Tansy ragwort, groundsel, fiddleneck, common heliotrope, vipers bugloss, and rattlebox contain pyrrolizidine alkaloid and cause hepatogenous photosensitivity (1).

4. **Photosensitivity of uncertain etiology** includes many forage-related photosensitivities. It has been reported in cattle, sheep and horses grazing lush pasture (3). Alfalfa has been incriminated in cases of secondary photosensitization in cattle, where compromised hepatic function is not necessarily the prerequisite for the photosensitization (3).

Alsike clover is well recognized for causing photosensitization as well as oral ulcers and hepatitis. It is unclear whether the photosensitization is primarily a photodynamic agent problem or a secondary phototoxic reaction due to liver damage or whether alsike clover and its metabolites are truly the culprit (4). The photosensitization reaction could also be associated with mycotoxins produced on the plant. A similar syndrome has also been observed with horses consuming lush white clover in the fall (5).

5. **Infectious skin conditions**, e.g., mud fever and dermatophilus, can also cause skin irritation and hair loss but they will not be discussed in this information sheet.

Continued on page 8



## 2010 Directors

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519.692.3130  
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905.892.5610  
ben\_tuc@hotmail.com

## TID BITS



### Paper Work

Be sure to have all the required memberships and cards before the first show. You will need your APHA membership, OPHC membership and APHA amateur card. The line up at the show office will be much faster if everyone has their info in place!

### Sponsorship

As is the situation with the world economy, the OPHC is in need of funds. Sponsorships and fundraising as in the past, are a must to ensure we may all enjoy getting together to show our beloved Paints. Please take the time to contact those which may be of interest.

### Your chance for a FREE stall

Every OPHC member collecting \$500 in sponsorship will receive a 1 day stall credit to be used during the 2010 show season!

### Thank You

A huge thank you goes out to OPHC sponsors. Please support them with your business when possible.

### Name the Filly Contest

Betty Threndyle has graciously offered to let us name her filly! Watch for details at [www.ophc.net](http://www.ophc.net) and at the first show on May 22.

### Ya Gotta Eat!

Don't miss out on the Fine Dining experience on the evening of May 22. For a \$5 donation you will be provided with a complete meal! All proceeds go to the OPHC.

### Pattern Books

Pattern books will be available at the show office for only \$2! Be sure to pick yours up.



"She loves that pony - she's never out of the saddle!"

### **Newsletter**

the deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is June 18, 2010.

### **Advertising Rates**

Full \$35  
Half \$25  
Quarter \$20  
Flyer insertion \$25  
Business Card \$50 (one year)

## 2010 Show Schedule

Date	Place	Judges
May 22 9am	<b>Spring Start</b> Black's Equine Centre 629 Dickenson Rd, Glanbrook Manager: Cassie Monden 519.692.3130 Stalls: Pat Malo 519.351.3778	Vince Amlin Peter Hayes
May 23 9am	<b>Spring Start II</b> Black's Equine Centre 629 Dickenson Rd, Glanbrook Manager: Cassie Monden 519.692.3130 Stalls: Pat Malo 519.351.3778	Susan Robinson Janet McClure
June 12 9am	<b>JMuir I</b> Black's Equine Centre 629 Dickenson Rd, Glanbrook Manager: Jim Muir 905.692.4876	TBA TBA
June 13 9am	<b>Jmuir II</b> Black's Equine Centre 629 Dickenson Rd, Glanbrook Manager: Jim Muir 905.692.4876	TBA TBA
July 24 9am	<b>Rockin With Colour</b> QuarDream Equestrian Centre 62165 Road 63, Mount Forest Manager: Chris Retterath 519.638.5095	Jamie Simpson TBA
July 25 9am	<b>Rockin With Colour II</b> QuarDream Equestrian Centre 62165 Road 63, Mount Forest Manager: Chris Retterath 519.638.5095	Chris Stine Susan Stafford
August 28 9am	<b>Rekindle I</b> Fletchers Equestrian Centre 2173 Cockshutt Road, Waterford Manager: Patty Picard 519.582.1999	Kathy Bogetta Stephen Shank
August 29 9am	<b>Rekindle II</b> Fletchers Equestrian Centre 2173 Cockshutt Road, Waterford Manager: Patty Picard 519.582.1999	Tim Ternes Bob Miller
September 25 9am	<b>Futurity &amp; Autum Round Up</b> Black's Equine Centre 629 Dickenson Rd, Glanbrook Manager: Bryan Ramsay 905.692.3343	Bonnie Miller Michelle Nyberg
September 26 9am	<b>Futurity &amp; Autum Round Up II</b> Black's Equine Centre 629 Dickenson Rd, Glanbrook Manager: Bryan Ramsay 905.692.3343	Mark Smith Chris Arnold

# 2010 Membership Application

(Membership is valid January to December)



**Names** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Birth dates of Youth members (may use back of form)

**Type of Membership**  **Single \$45**       **Family \$70 (parent/parents and any number of their children 18 and under as of January 1<sup>st</sup>)**

**OPHC** intends to publish in the newsletter a list of members without addresses. If you do not wish your name published check this box.

I hereby apply for membership with the Ontario Paint Horse Club. I and/or my representatives or family agree to be bound by the rules and constitution of the association. I further agree to assume full responsibility for my safety and that of my children, horses and property while at any OPHC approved show.

I hereby release the OPHC and/or its officers from any and all claims or damages arising from any accident injury, loss of theft which is caused by or arises from the participation of the applicant of his or her family named herein, during any function or at any facility or location where an OPHC sanctioned activity is held. I authorize the OPHC to use my name or image in their publications (website, newsletter, The Rider) as it pertains to OPHC activities.

I understand that OPHC does not carry personal liability insurance on behalf of competitors and therefore I am responsible for obtaining such insurance. OPHC strongly recommends that competitors carry such insurance. OPHC will make every possible effort to ensure the safety of involved persons. However, I understand that participating in any OPHC approved activity is entirely voluntary and wholly at my/our risk. Should some condition arise that I consider to be unsafe, I will advise officials of said condition and if the condition is not rectified to my satisfaction I will withdraw from further competition. There will be no refund of fees.

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICANTS SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE IF UNDER 19 YEARS OF AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send completed application with payment (payable to OPHC) to: Shelley Cassel, RR #2 Wallenstien, ON N0B 2S0**

**Email newsletter to:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail newsletter**

**I wish to reserve Exhibitor Back Number Add \$5**

**Number choice:** 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**If you had a number in 2009, you have until April 1<sup>st</sup> to guarantee your use for 2010.**

**\*\*Owner of horse must be a member to be eligible for year end awards.**



# Ontario Paint Horse Club SPONSORSHIP FORM

Sponsorship can be targeted to these categories of our promotional material:

**A. Youth/Amateur:** "to encourage high moral character and sportsmanship, and to develop the capabilities of our Youth and Amateur members"

**B. Club Sponsorship:** to support club shows and activities

**C. Futurity:** to support the breeding and showing of American Paint Horses

You can also sponsor an individual class for \$50/year. Class sponsors are listed in the Year-End Awards Program.

**REGULAR: \$100/year -- includes:**

- \*Listing in newsletters sent to members, on the sponsorship pages of the selected categories
- \*12 months advertising (logo/photo, links captions etc.) on the OPHC website <http://www.ophc.net> sponsorship page for the selected categories
- \*Listing in any applicable directories (stallions, trainers, feed and equine products, general)
- \*Member rates for advertising on the website for your special sales & discounts
- \*Program Advertising at the Canadian International Championship Show & Futurity.
- \*Advertising Tax Receipt

**GOLD: \$200/year -- includes REGULAR advertising, PLUS:**

- \*Business card or logo in show Pattern Book, available at Show Office for OPHC shows
- \*Display of business card or logo and any supplied marketing material at these events:
  - † Show Office for all OPHC shows
  - † Annual OPHC Awards Banquet

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Website URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: Youth/Amateur	REGULAR \$100, GOLD \$200	_____
Club	REGULAR \$100, GOLD \$200	_____
Futurity	REGULAR \$100, GOLD \$200	_____
Class to sponsor _____	\$50/class	_____
		_____ (total)

Please complete this form and mail it, along with your logo or picture and a write-up to:  
Chris Retterath, 8190 Conc 5, RR 3 Moorefield ON N0G 2K0  
Phone: 519-638-5095 Email: [chris.retterath@gmail.com](mailto:chris.retterath@gmail.com)

**Please make cheque payable to Ontario Paint Horse Club. Thank you**  
Please attach ADVERTISEMENT INFO TO THIS SHEET / Business Card



# ALL BREED SLOT CLASSES

***To be held in conjunction with the Ontario Quarter Horse Breeders Futurity  
Saturday September 11, 2010  
Royal Canadian Riding Academy, Newmarket, Ontario***

**LIMITED TO 20 SLOTS PER CLASS**

**Open Slots - \$250**

**Non-Pro Slots - \$150**

**(If purchased prior to July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010)**

## **CLASSES OFFERED**

**Open All Sex Yearling Halter  
Open 4 year old and under Western Pleasure  
Open 4 year old and Under Hunter Under Saddle  
Non-Pro all age Western Pleasure  
Non-Pro all age Hunter Under Saddle**

**To purchase slots, contact Sharon Hammer at  
519-656-1093 or [sharonhammer@rogers.com](mailto:sharonhammer@rogers.com)**

Performance slots can be purchased up until July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with a \$100 penalty up to 10am Saturday September 11, 2010 if slots are still available. Horses can be named up until 10am Saturday September 11, 2010. Halter slots can be purchased up until July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with a \$100 penalty up to 8am Saturday September 11, 2010 if slots are still available. Horses can be named up until 8 am Saturday September 11, 2010. Classes will be jackpotted (10% withheld for administration fees). 5 Judges to be selected by slot owners day of show.

*Please ensure you have read and understand the Slot rules. Check out the rules at [www.oqha.on.ca/futurity/futurity.html](http://www.oqha.on.ca/futurity/futurity.html)*

Stall Bookings: Contact Marie Muir, (905) 648-1311 or [mclellanmarie@hotmail.com](mailto:mclellanmarie@hotmail.com)



## **OQHBF Slot Class Rules**

1. Slots are open to all breeds
2. Slots are limited to 20 slots per class
3. Slot owners and exhibitors do not need to be members of OQHA to show in the slot classes
4. Open slots can be purchased for \$250 up until July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with a \$100 penalty for a total of \$350 up until 10am September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 if slots are still available.
5. Non-Pro Slots can be purchased for \$150 up until July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with a \$100 penalty for a total of \$250 up until 10am Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
6. Halter Slots can be purchased for \$250 up until July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with a \$100 penalty for a total of \$350 up until 8am Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
7. Performance entry's can be named or changed up until 10 am, Saturday September 11, 2010. Halter entry's can be named or changed up until 8am, Saturday September 11, 2010.
8. Classes will be jackpotted (90% of entry fee's) 10% withheld for administration fees
9. Slot classes will not be AQHA Pointed
10. There will be 5 judges which will be selected by the Slot Owners (not necessarily AQHA judges). Placings will be on the average of the scores.
11. Judges will be chosen by slot owner's day of show.
12. Each slot owner will be asked to name 5 judges
13. The 5 judges with the most votes for each class will be chosen to judge that class.
14. Absolutely no slot refunds
15. In the event that you do not have a horse to show in the class, you may sell your slot to another horse owner prior to 8am Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
16. If slot is sold prior to September 9<sup>th</sup>, please notify Sharon Hammer to with the new slot owner name
17. If slot is sold after September 9<sup>th</sup>, please notify QOHBF Show Secretary of the new slot owner name.
18. Registration papers for proof of age will have to be shown upon registration of horse to a slot. (Can be done day of show)

## Sunburn, Photosensitivity or Contact Dermatitis in Horses Continued

### Prevention and Treatment

Horses that are at the greatest risk of plant-induced photosensitivity are those that are grazing poor pastures that contain a lot of weeds, especially in the fence-line area. Normally, horses affected by primary photosensitization recover completely when contact with the offending chemical is discontinued. Since it is not always possible to identify the plant responsible for the problem, owners are advised to remove the horse from pasture and discontinue any application of fly sprays or chemicals. The horse should be fed dry hay in the stable and not directly exposed to UV light.

Horses that have been exposed to plants containing pyrrolizidine alkaloid have a poor prognosis due to the underlying liver damage that has occurred. They should be removed from the offending plants and given a low-protein, easily digestible diet.

In the case of acute alsike clover poisoning, a complete recovery is normally seen in a matter of a week. Chronic cases of alsike clover have a poor prognosis and may die of liver failure, much like horses exposed to pyrrolizidine alkaloid.

Prevention is the key. Pastures should be checked regularly and pyrrolizidine alkaloid-containing plants removed. If white clover is over abundant in pastures and causing a problem, the application of a herbicide may be required to reduce the white clover concentration.

Further information and details on how to differentiate between the different clovers are available in the information sheet, Alsike Clover Poisoning, Photosensitization or Photodermatitis in Horses, available on the OMAF web site.

### References

Knight AP, Walter RG. A Guide to Plant Poisoning of Animals in North America. Jackson, Wyoming: Teton NewMedia, 2001: 142-150.

Smith BP. Large Animal Internal Medicine, 2nd ed. Mosby, 1996: 1443.

Radostits OM, Gay CC, Blood DC, Hinchcliff KW. Veterinary Medicine, 9th ed. WB Saunders, 2000: 587-589.

Blood DC, Radostits OM. Veterinary Medicine, 7th ed. WB Saunders, 1989: 1338.

Wright RG, Ireland MJ. Case report: alsike clover poisoning, an old but should not be forgotten problem. Proceedings of the Equine Nutrition and Physiology Society 2003: 236-237.

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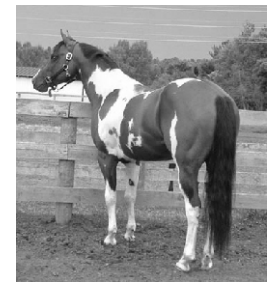
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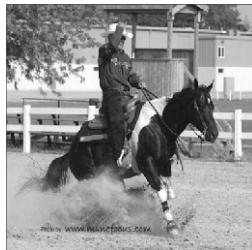
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