

Equine Studies Program 2020 Annual Report

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



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!







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.



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).



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.





How to Find a Place to Ride





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.



Thank You to our 2020 donors, sponsors, and FEARLESS supporters!

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