



4-H Horse Presentation Topic Suggestions

REPRODUCTION:

Selecting a Broodmare or Stallion

Important Points in a Breeding Contract

Types of Breeding Systems

How to Tease Mares

Breeding Records

Solving Breeding Problems

Handling and Equipment for Breeding

Care of Mare and Foal

Artificial Insemination

Fertility or Disease

Management Practices for Broodmares

Anatomy and Function of Reproductive Tract

How Old is Too Old to Breed?

NUTRITION:

What to Look for in Good Quality Hay

Nutrients– How They are Used and Supplied

Nutrient Requirements

Balancing a Horse Ration

Digestive Organs in the Horse

How to Select a Supplement

Vitamin Requirements

Feed Management Practices

Pasture Selection, Renovation and/or Fertilization

Types of Pasture

Poisonous Plants

Feeding An Older Horse

HEALTH:

Vaccination Program

Control of Internal Parasites

Control of External Parasites

Laminitis -- Cause and Treatment

Basic Hoof Care

Dental Care

Bathing Horses

Body Condition Scoring

Colic -- How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent

Azoturia or Tying-Up

Sleeping Sickness -- What It Is and How to Prevent It

Respiratory Diseases

How to Recognize a Sick Horse

What to Know Before Calling Your Veterinarian

How to Bandage a Horse

Emergency First Aid

What is Needed in a First Aid Kit (Barn, Trailer, Breeding Farm)

How to Treat a Leg Injury (Splint, Bowed Tendon, Muscle Sprain, Cut)

Fistula Withers – Cause, Treatment and Prevention

Thrush – Recognize, Treatment and Prevention

Equine Infectious Anemia (Swamp Fever)

Importance of a Coggins Test

Dummy Foal

Epiphysitis – Cause and Treatment

How to Locate an Injury

How to Determine Lameness

How to Give an Injection

Deworming Methods

What is Needed to Transport a Horse into Another State

Methods to Prevent Equine Diseases

Importance of Warming up and Cooling Down an Exercised Horse

Keeping the Older Horse Health and Sound

MANAGEMENT:

Facilities Required

Medicating the Untrained or Stubborn Horses

Design Farm or Barn

Stall Requirements, Shelter, Bedding

How to Determine the Horse's Age

Make a Measuring Stick and Show How to Measure Horses

How to Prepare a Yearling for Sale

Types of Fences for Horse Pasture

Clipping the Problem Horse

Trimming the Horse's Feet Correctly Trailer Safety

How to Keep Records on a Horse Farm

Shoeing – When to Shoe, Shoe Selection, Corrective Shoeing

Horseman's Knots – How and When to Use Them

Horse Transportation

Caring for the Geriatric Equine

SELECTION:

Conformation as it Relates to Athletic Ability

Important Points in Buying a Horse

Costs of Horse Ownership

Specific Discussion on a Structural

Unsoundness – Bench Knees, Parrot Mouth, Etc.

How to Evaluate and Compare Horses Objectively

How to Organize and Give Oral Reasons

How to Judge a Working Hunter Class, Western Pleasure, Reining, Etc.

Anatomy of the Front Leg

Anatomy of the Foot

Anatomy and Function of the Eye

Is an Older Horse Right for Your Needs?

TRAINING:

How to Catch, Halter and Lead a Horse

How and Where to Tie a Horse

Teaching A Foal to Lead

Vices and How to Prevent Them

Loading Problem Horses

Selecting the Proper Bit

Breaking a Young Horse

Biting Rigs

How to Train a Horse to Rein, Stop, Jump, Etc.

Training a Western Pleasure Horse, Reining, Hunter, Race Horses, Etc.

Rider Aids

When and How to Use Draw Reins, Tiedowns, Etc.

GENETICS:

Registration Papers – How to Complete What They Say

Coat Colors or Markings –How to Differentiate

Genetics of Coat Color

Genetics of Speed, Conformation

Evolution of the Horse

History of Quarter Horses

Linebreeding – Why

Crossbreeding – Is It Helpful

Genetic Defects

Equine Cloning

SHOWING:

Discuss Attire for a Specific Riding Style

Show and Discuss Riding Seat (Saddle, Hunt or Stock)

Tips for Showmanship

Grooming a Horse Correctly

What is Judged in Western Riding, English Pleasure, Etc.

How to Thin Manes and Tails

How to Braid Horses

Selecting the Correct Saddle to Fit

Organizing or Conducting a Horse Show

MISCELLANEOUS:

Discuss a Riding Event – Fox Hunting, Endurance Races, Steeple Chases, Racing, Competitive Trail Riding, Polo, Etc.

How to Fix a Bridle, Halter, or Saddle

Making Your Own Equipment (Bridle, Blankets, Halter, Etc.)

History and Attributes of Morgans

Horse Psychology

How to Photograph Horses

How to Build A Creep Feeder

How to Restore, Clean, and Preserve Leather

Methods of Horse Identification

Measuring Your Horse For a Blanket

Disaster Preparedness

Horse Safety

Horse Careers

Care of Tack

Equine Liability

Adopting an Aging Horse

**This list was adapted from the North Carolina 4-H Presentation Guidelines: Horse website - <http://www.nc4h.org/publications/presentations/horse.html>*