

State's Equine Industry Economically Important

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Results of research conducted by Penn State University and the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service were recently published in a report titled "The Pennsylvania Equine Industry

Profile." The report indicates that the commonwealth's equine industry (including horses, mules, and other equine species and hybrids) is a large, diverse, and economically important enterprise, ranking

equine values second only to dairy cattle among all agricultural commodities.

The industry positively contributes to the quality of life in Pennsylvania. For example, thousands of youth, families, and volunteers participate in organized horse programs across the state. Horses provide a powerful and stimulating tool for educating and developing young people. Horses are also increasingly used to provide therapy for persons with disabilities through therapeutic riding and driving activities.

Total equine inventory in Pennsylvania, as of June 1, 1990, was 170,000 head, valued at \$620 million. The average value per head was highest for warmbloods at \$12,140, followed by standard-breds at \$10,100, and thoroughbreds at \$9,400. Chester County led the state in total equine value, at more than \$110 million.

The economic value of the equine industry in Pennsylvania is great. Total value of equine-related land, fencing, and facilities was more than \$2.9 billion in 1990, with an additional \$370 million inventory of equine-related equipment and supplies. Taxes paid by equine owners totaled more than \$15 million.

Pennsylvania equine owners made a total of approximately \$428 million in equine-related expenditures in 1990. The largest were for feed at more than \$76 million and equipment at more than \$61 million. On average, these owners spent \$2,882 per animal, including \$465 for feed and \$402 for equipment. Approximately 270,000 tons of hay were purchased for equine use, with an average of 1.6 tons per animal.

A total of 44,000 individuals, partnerships, and others owned equine animals in 1990, including

8,800 commercial operations used primarily for breeding, boarding, competition, and showing. This commercial sector accounted for more than 60 percent of equine-related expenditures. More than 5,000 or 60 percent were breeding operations, with 20,400 broodmares and 4,000 stallions.

Approximately 37,300 owners kept their horses on owned, rented, or leased land across the commonwealth, with 520,000 acres set aside for equine use. Approximately 6,300 owners maintained their animals in a boarding stable or other facility.

The majority of equine owners in Pennsylvania used some 71,000 horses for pleasure or sport, including pleasure riding, hunting, trail riding, youth programs, and other recreational activities. About 43,400 equine animals were used for work, teaching, or other uses statewide, representing 25 percent of the total inventory. This large number is attributed primarily to the large Amish population in the state.

The largest numbers of equine animals were concentrated in the southeast and southwest regions of Pennsylvania. The southeast had the highest population with 48,800 head, including Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties. The southwest, including Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland counties, was second highest with 23,900. Adams, Bedford, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton and York counties were third with 22,500.

The leading five counties in equine numbers were Lancaster with 17,300; Chester, 14,600; Washington, 9,200; York, 7,800; and Westmoreland, 5,700. The

breed with the highest number of horses was the Quarter Horse with 27,700, followed by 18,200 standardbreds, 17,400 draft breeds, and 17,100 ponies.

Pennsylvania employed 7,500 paid residents on equine farms. Labor services paid in non-cash form, such as in exchange for riding lessons totaled nearly \$2 million. Although they were not included in this survey, equine-related professionals — such as veterinarians, trainers, tack and feed representatives, and other equine support personnel — comprise many more employment opportunities in Pennsylvania.

Ten percent of the state's horse owners receive 76 percent to 100 percent of their income from equine activities. Most horse owners in Pennsylvania are in the middle- to low-income category, with nearly half reporting a total gross income for household or operation of \$20,000 to \$49,000 and 15 percent making less than \$20,000. Only 26 percent of horse owners made incomes over \$50,000.

The results of this project represent a conservative estimate of the magnitude of the economic impact of the equine industry in Pennsylvania. Examination of the report leaves no doubt that the industry is important to the state's economy, providing employment, generating tax dollars, and building assets.

For more information on the horse industry in Pennsylvania, contact your local cooperative extension office. Limited quantities of the report are available from the Publications Distribution Center, Penn State College of Agriculture Sciences, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802, (814) 865-6713.

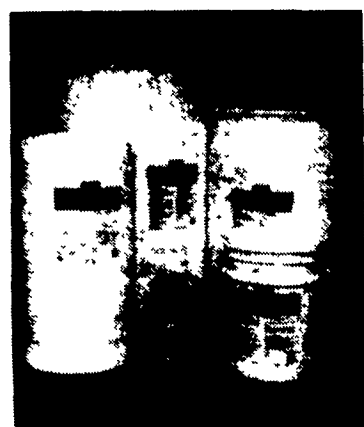
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NAPERVILLE, Ill. — Teat Kote 10/III™, a post-milking teat dip introduced by Babson Bros. Co., combines an exclusive triple emollient system with the strength of a 1 percent iodine solution for premium mastitis prevention.

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The triple emollient system in Surge's Teat Kote 10/III teat dip (pictured above) helps eliminate chapping and irritation.

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up to 11	3.96	7.92	9.90
12	4.32	8.64	10.80
13	4.68	9.36	11.70
14	5.04	10.08	12.60
15	5.40	10.80	13.50
16	5.76	11.52	14.40
17	6.12	12.24	15.30
18	6.48	12.96	16.20
19	6.84	13.68	17.10
20	7.20	14.40	18.00

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35
36	37	38	39	40

(Phone Numbers Count As One Word)

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