Penn State **Extension**

4-H Horse Program
Projects and Publications

March 2012

Horse projects are offered in four interest areas:

- **Performance/Horsemanship (Level 1, Levels 2-5)** Youth select and care for a horse or pony, keep a record of all activities with their horse at each level and may participate in local, district or state shows and activities.
- **Production** Youth in production projects breed a mare and/or raise and handle young horses up to five years of age. Records are kept for each animal enrolled in the project and horses may be shown at local, regional and state shows.
- **Competitive Trail Riding** Youth learn to select and condition a horse for competitive trail riding. Youth maintain records, record trail riding experiences and may compete in organized rides.
- **Horseless** This project is for youth who do not own horses, but want to learn more about them. There are many opportunities for horseless members such as the safety and horsemanship skills programs, horse judging, hippology, horse bowl, skillathon, communications contests, and more!

Safety Program

The safety program is designed to:

* Promote safety of youth while working with horses
* Promote safety awareness in youth, parents, leaders, and agents
* Provide safety resources and activities for participants
* Incorporate safety education within existing 4-H projects
* Recognize youth and leaders for safety achievements

The primary components of the safety program are:

- ♦ "Safety Packets" including safety resources for each county
- ♦ Educational programs and activities for youth and adults
- ♦ Horsemanship Skills Program
- ♦ Safety awards for youth, leaders and clubs

Horsemanship Skills Program

The Horsemanship Skills Program provides a planned progression of skill development to promote safety, education, and life skills of youth. The program is available to *all* 4-H members, regardless of their riding style or ability to own a horse. Youth are not required to use their project animals, although this is encouraged as appropriate. Youth who do not own a horse may participate by sharing or leasing a horse.

Publications

4-H Skills For Life Animal Science Series:

- ✓ These books are used as project activity guides (project books) for each of the project areas.
- ✓ Each level is designed to take 2-4 years to complete.
- ✓ A planning guide at the beginning of each book outlines required and optional activities and specific skills for each level.
- ✓ Three to five learning experiences are required per year in each level.
- ✓ Twenty one activities should be completed before advancing to the next level.

Publications

4-H Skills For Life Animal Science Series:

A0680A Horse Level 1; Giddy Up and Go
A0690A Horse Level 2; Head Heart, and Hooves
A0700A Horse Level 3; Stable Relationships
A0706A Horse Level 4; Riding the Range
A0707A Horse Level 5; Jumping to New Heights
A0680C Horse Project Helper/Group Activity Guide

Project Records and Resources:

A0680B Performance Horsemanship Annual Record – Level 1
A0690B Performance Horsemanship Annual Record – Level 2-5
A0705B Horse Production Annual Record
A0650B Horse Production Record 1: Broodmare
A0650D Horse Production Record 2: Foal, Weanling, Yearling, 2, 3, 4 or 5 Year Old
A0650E Horse Production Show Entry Form (Registered)
A0650F Horse Production Show Entry Form (Futurity)
A0650G Horse Production Show Entry Form (Grade)
A0600A Competitive Trail Riding Reference Book
A0600B Competitive Trail Riding Annual Record
A0600G Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Show Rule Book
S4008 Pennsylvania 4-H Pony Height Certificate
A0701B Horseless Project Annual Record
A0601B Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Safety Standards
A0602B Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Safety Checklist
A0610B Horses, Safety and You – How to Work With and Around a Horse Safely
A0603B Pennsylvania 4-H Horsemanship Skills Resource Book (4-H Member)
A0604B Pennsylvania 4-H Horsemanship Skills Resource Book (Volunteer/Professional)
A0605B Level 1, 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet
A0606B Level 2, 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet
A0609B Summary 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet

* The following two items are available on line only and are not needed for county use. Triplicate forms are available as needed for district or state use from Penn State Extension Horse Specialist
  * A0607B Level 3, 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet
  * A0608B Level 4, 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet

Orders should be placed through the county extension office to:

Publications Distribution Center
The Pennsylvania State University
112 Agricultural Administration Building
University Park, PA 16802-3503
Phone: 814-865-6713
E-mail: AgPubsDist@psu.edu
Website: http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/ or http://agsci.psu.edu/

PENNSTATE
Cooperative Extension
College of Agricultural Sciences
extension.psu.edu
An OUTREACH program of the College of Agricultural Sciences

Additional program materials and resources are available for use by volunteers, 4-H members, families and extension educators.

For more information, contact your local Penn State Cooperative Extension office at:
http://extension.psu.edu/counties **or go to:** www.das.psu.edu **– go to 4-H Horse Program.**

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.