



## *4-H Horse Projects and Project Materials*

December 14, 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 and keep a record of all activities with their horse at each level. Many members participate in county district or state shows, clinics, camps, trail rides and other activities.

- **Production**

Youth who take production projects breed a mare, or raise and work with young horses up to five years of age. Records are kept for each animal enrolled in the project. Animals enrolled in Production projects may be shown at local, regional or state shows.

- **Competitive Trail Riding**

Youth learn to select, and condition a horse for competitive trail riding. Members maintain records on their project horse and record trail riding experiences. Many members participate in local, regional, or state competitive trail 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 horse judging, hippology, horse bowl, skillathons, communication contests, and much more! Some counties have opportunities for horseless members to participate in local shows and/or share horses with other 4-H members.

*In addition, the following programs are available:*

### **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.

### **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

**Many publications and additional resources are available on the 4-H Horse Program website at: [animalscience.psu.edu](http://animalscience.psu.edu) - Youth 4-H, Horses, or from your county extension office.**

## 4-H Horse Project Books

### *4-H Skills For Life Animal Science Series*

These books are used as project activity guides (project books) for each of the project areas.

#### **Level 1 “Giddy Up and Go” (A0680A)**

*Selected Topics:*

Discovering horses, appearance, conformation, breeds, behavior, safety, gaits, horse uses

#### **Level 2 “Head Heart, and Hooves” (A0690A)**

*Selected Topics:*

Anatomy, nutrition, feeding, dentistry, hoof care grooming, pre-purchase exams, judging

#### **Level 3 “Stable Relationships” (A0700A)**

*Selected Topics:*

Reproduction, health care, housing, facilities, management, transportation, ownership costs

#### **Level 4 “Riding the Range” (A0706A)**

*Selected Topics:*

Riding and horsemanship skills, tack, basic safety and handling skills, training, equitation

#### **Level 5 “Jumping to New Heights” (A0707A)**

*Selected Topics:*

Riding and horsemanship skills, showing, patterns, showmanship, fitting, ethics, sportsmanship

#### **Horse Project Helpers/Group Activity Guide (A0680C)**

Leader and project helper guide including lesson and meeting plans and ideas.

- \* Each level is designed to take 2-4 years to complete.
- \* Planning guide at beginning of each book outlines required and optional activities and specific skills for each level.
- \* Seven activities are required per year in each level.
- \* Twenty one activities should be completed before advancing to next level.
- \* Three to five learning experiences should be completed per year.

## **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) *online:* [animalscience.psu.edu](http://animalscience.psu.edu)
- ~~A0650F~~ Horse Production Show Entry Form (Futurity) Rev05/12pdf4145 *online:* [animalscience.psu.edu](http://animalscience.psu.edu)
- ~~A0650G~~ Horse Production Show Entry Form (Grade) Rev04/12pdf4145 *online:* [animalscience.psu.edu](http://animalscience.psu.edu)
- 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

## Project Records and Resources (continued):

- \* 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 Equine Extension Specialist or Associates.  
A0607B - Level 3, 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet  
A0608B - Level 4, 4-H Horsemanship Skills Evaluation Sheet

**Project books and other materials are available from the local office of Penn State Extension. To contact the Penn State Extension Office in your county go to:**  
[extension.psu.edu/counties](http://extension.psu.edu/counties)

*Orders for most publications should be placed through the county extension office to:*

Publications Distribution Center  
Phone: 814-865-6713  
Website: [pubs.cas.psu.edu/](http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/)

**Also available from the Department of Animal Science website:** [animalscience.psu.edu](http://animalscience.psu.edu)

*Equine Science Newsletter*  
*Pennsylvania Horse Power – Pennsylvania Equine Economic Impact Study*  
*Pennsylvania Therapeutic Horsemanship Directory*

**Each county office of Penn State Extension has access to or a copy of:**

*Horse Industry Handbook*  
*Youth Leaders Manual*  
Safety Packets - I and II  
*Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Show Management Guidelines*  
*Safety and Emergency Procedures* (for 4-H horse events)  
*Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Safety Program* – overview, information, awards  
*Pennsylvania 4-H Horsemanship Skills* – overview, information and PowerPoint  
*Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Show Rule Book*  
*Procedures for Rule and Program Changes – PA 4-H Horse Program*  
*Responsibilities of 4-H Horse District Representatives*  
4-H Horse Show Judges  
*4-H Horse Show Judges Evaluations*  
*Guidelines for Pennsylvania 4-H Obstacle Trail*  
*Jumps and Courses for 4-H Over Fences Classes*  
*Guidelines for Bits in Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Shows*  
*PA 4-H Horse Production Project Guidelines*  
*Skills Testing for Youth Under 12 Years of Age Showing Production Animals*  
*Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Program Protective Headgear Policy—Questions and Answers*  
*Program Accessibility Guidelines for Persons with Disabilities in 4-H Horse Events*  
Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Measurers and Measurer Trainers  
Measuring Stick Suppliers  
2013 4-Horse Events  
2013 4-H Horse Program Deadlines  
Promotional/marketing and fund raising publications

**extension.psu.edu**

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This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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