



# Boulder County Small Acreage Management Newsletter

Summer 2013

<http://www.extension.colostate.edu/boulder/acreage.shtml>

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### **From the SAM Coordinator**

Well, right after the Spring newsletter was sent we began to get multiple snows that boosted the snow pack and replenished the soil moisture.

Just a reminder to keep up with your fire mitigation work. This applies whether you live in the mountains, foothills or plains. Remember the Heartstrong and Last Chance fires of 2012 that burned over 66,000 acres in eastern Colorado. So keep your grasses and weeds mowed around your homes and buildings. Keep removing trees as needed and limb up existing trees. Also remember to keep needles and leaves cleaned out of gutters and piles of trash, wood and weedy debris from collecting under decks, in window wells and in building corners. If you are replacing roofs or siding, consider using fire resistant materials.

Update your personal records, your emergency plan and preparedness kits, replacing food, water, batteries, medicines, phone numbers and other items as they change or expire. Check your home inventory for any new items you have purchased.

Thank you,

*Sharon Bokan*

Sharon Bokan

Small Acreage Coordinator

[sbokan@bouldercounty.org](mailto:sbokan@bouldercounty.org)

303-678-6176

### **SAM Newsletters Online**

View previous newsletters via the SAM link above.

### **SAM Email Listserv**

If you are receiving this newsletter for the first time and are not subscribed to the [boco\\_small\\_acreage@colostate.edu](mailto:boco_small_acreage@colostate.edu) listserv, you may request subscription on the SAM website (linked in header above). This quarterly e-newsletter and other timely info will be distributed via this email listserv.

Subscribers may use the listserv also as a SAM info gathering mechanism. For example, you may inquire about who is available in the area supply hay, to perform swathing/baling, etc. The listserv is not a marketplace, however. Because it is hosted on the CSU server, **NO COMMERCIAL EMAILS ARE ALLOWED. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SELL ANYTHING VIA THE LISTSERV**

– THANK YOU. Use the newsletter ad section for these purposes.

Currently, there are 216 subscribers to the listserv

## Weather Outlook

The NOAA forecasts for the next 30 and 90 days are showing that the most of the state will be warmer than normal and precipitation to be normal.

The snowpack statewide ended up slightly below the median at 92%. The Platte River basin was above the median but the southern part of the state was and is way below average.  
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/>  
<http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/fcst/state/current/monthly/data/reportselection.html>

## Coming events and workshops

Upcoming events that may be of interest are as follows.

The **144<sup>th</sup> Boulder County Fair** will take place from **August 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>** at the Boulder County Fairgrounds at 9595 Nelson Rd. in Longmont. In addition to the 4-H and General exhibits and livestock, there will be a rodeo, concerts and many other events. Check out the website for details.

<http://www.bouldercountyfair.org/>

Boulder County Parks and Open Space are doing two Farm Tours, a Bicycle Tour and a Harvest Tour. These tours are a great opportunity to learn about the County's agriculture, farmers and ranchers. The first tour will occur July 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information and to register see

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/os/events/pages/agtours.aspx>

On September 9, 2013, there will be a Weed identification and Management workshop. We encourage participants to bring in their "weeds" or plants that are of concern to

them and we'll help determine a course of action. More information, the brochure and registration information are available in our office and on the small acreage website.  
<http://www.extension.colostate.edu/boulder/acreage.shtml>

I hope that you will take advantage of these great events.



## Rabies and West Nile Virus along the Front Range

Since the last newsletter, several more animals have been diagnosed with rabies. Here are the latest animals that tested positive.

July 6<sup>th</sup> - a bull near Berthoud

July 5<sup>th</sup> – possible skunk in Loveland

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – kitten north of Fort Collins, kitten bit veterinarian who was examining kitten, kitten was born to a barn cat

June 10<sup>th</sup> – horse in Weld County

June 8<sup>th</sup> – skunk north of Boulder

May 13<sup>th</sup> skunk near Berthoud

April 19<sup>th</sup> - horse near Peetz in northeastern Colorado

Rabid livestock can exhibit a wide variety of symptoms so owners should be open and open mind when looking for symptoms. Pet and livestock owners need to vaccinate their animals for rabies. For those species that do not have a specific rabies vaccine, owners should consult their veterinarian for vaccination off label.

Report any suspected animals to local Animal Control or Public Health agencies or in the case of large wildlife, Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

In June multiple mosquitoes in monitoring traps in Longmont tested positive for West Nile Virus. Larimer and Mesa Counties have also had mosquitoes test positive. As of June 18<sup>th</sup> 5 human cases had been reported in the United States, California 1, Mississippi 1, Tennessee 1, Texas 2 As of June 25<sup>th</sup>, there was West Nile activity in the following states – Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, Arizona, South Dakota, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania. Since that time 1 case has been reported in Colorado. As temperatures increase, the Culex mosquitos' populations rise. Due to the number of traps testing positive, the city of Longmont has decided to spray starting July 19<sup>th</sup>. For more information on West Nile Virus, visit the Boulder county Public Health website at [www.BoulderCountyMosquito.net](http://www.BoulderCountyMosquito.net)

#### **Rabies References:**

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/Research/WildlifeHealth/Rabies/Pages/Rabies.aspx>  
<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/livestk/01819.html>

## **Horse Sense: Are you Eliminating or Controlling Parasites?**

*Slowing Parasite Drug-Resistance (Part 1)*

**By Nicolette Ahrens, 4-H Livestock Agent,  
Boulder County Extension**

Parasitic worms are known for causing major health issues in horses. Back in the 1960s, parasite disease was frequent and colic caused by worms was a common occurrence. Protocols for parasite control at the time began focusing on quick and complete eradication. These efforts along with better drugs have significantly

dropped the number of parasites in horses today.

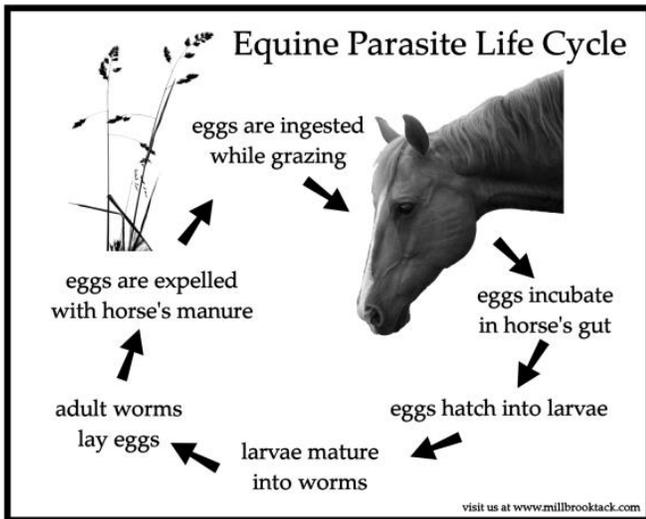
Recently parasite numbers have begun increasing due to parasites developing the ability to survive our current drugs. Some key traits about parasites indicate that our methods towards complete eradication are not only unnecessary, but are increasing the development of drug-resistance in parasites.

**Most horses show some level of immunity to parasites.** However, complete immunity, like is developed against viruses, is rare and the level of immunity is highly variable between horses. Thus parasite vaccinations would not be useful. **The lifecycle of common parasite requires each generation to return to the environment in order to survive.** This allows for several opportunities to combat parasites both within the horse and out in the environment. This also means that the timing of each treatment is critical. Deworming during periods when parasites are not present within the horse is money down the drain.

**Parasite worms cannot multiply in numbers within the horse.** The only way for parasites to increase their numbers is to produce eggs, return to the environment and re-infect the horse. This means that infection by parasites (taking in larvae or eggs) does not mean the horse is diseased (sick).

Because of these traits, total elimination of parasites is not realistic, nor is it necessary. It is not until the number of parasites reaches a certain level that horses will begin showing symptoms and become sick. By controlling parasites, rather than trying to eliminate them, we can avoid levels that make horses sick and limit drug-resistance.

Watch for future articles on tools that help control parasites in horses.



### Opportunity to Combat Parasites in the Environment

Since parasites return to the environment in the horse's manure, there is a great opportunity to limit your horses' exposure to internal parasites through good manure management.

Photo: Alexandra Beckstett, The Horse Managing Editor

### Parasite Life Cycle

By understanding the life cycle of a parasite, we can help to reduce drug-resistance by developing deworming programs that include combating parasites both within and outside the horse and individualizing the program for each horse.

### How to Read a Pesticide Label

By Kim Wolinski, SAM Volunteer

You know the humor around the infamous (now in several languages and print so small your 3.50 reading glasses are no help at all) Instruction Manuals, like "How can I have this swing set all put together and there's still parts?" My dad taught me to fix and repair things and self-reliance by using all the four learning skill areas that are necessary, though he didn't know he was doing that: 1) Tell me; 2) Show me; 3) Watch me do it with support, and 4) **READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL!**

"Instructions" (also referred to as procedures and in the case of Pesticides Labels, **WARNINGS**) should be easy to locate and use, easy to understand, reflect best practice or use of the product and give clear warnings when applicable.



Image: [www.Millbrooktack.com](http://www.Millbrooktack.com)

### Are you contributing to Drug-Resistance in Parasites?

Deworming programs require more thought and planning than simply deworming all horses in a herd every few months.

Photo: Megan Arszman, The Horse

## What You Need to Know About Pesticides and Their Labels

So, you've tried organic, mechanical, cultural and biological weed controls – it's time for the big guns! Chemicals and Pesticides! (Insert Tim Taylor *Home Improvement* Show tool-man grunt here!!)

Pesticides can serve a useful purpose around the home and garden by reducing some of the problems we face from pests. Pesticides include insect killers (insecticides), weed killers (herbicides), and fungus killers (fungicides). If not used according to label specs humans, pets and water supplies can be harmed. This can happen even when pesticides are used according to the label.

Sounds simple, but to head off problems with pesticide use, the most valuable time spent in pest control is the time you take to read the label. Before you buy a pesticide, read the label to determine:

- whether it is the right pesticide for the job
- whether the pesticide can be used safely under your application conditions
- whether there are any restrictions on the pesticide
- how much pesticide you should buy for the area you are treating when to apply the pesticide.

Pesticide labels are the legal document located on the pesticide container that provides information concerning the safe and effective use of the pesticide.

**Here are the ABC's of following Pesticide Labels for the best outcomes:**

### 1. The label is the law.

This is a huge deal! The user of any pesticide is liable for all aspects of handling the product, including but not limited to mixing, loading, application, spill control, and disposal of a pesticide or its container.

### 2. Read the label thoroughly. It includes the following items:

**a) FIRST AID INSTRUCTIONS** - Before you mix and apply a pesticide, read the label to determine:

- what protective clothing to use and safety measures to follow
- what the chemical can be mixed with
- how much pesticide to mix
- the mixing process
- how long you should wait after application to reenter the area, harvest the crop, or plant another crop.

**b) EPA REGISTRATION NUMBER** - You can search the Pesticide Product Label System (PPLS) using the [EPA Pesticide Product Registration Number at](http://oaspub.epa.gov/pestlabl/ppls.home)

<http://oaspub.epa.gov/pestlabl/ppls.home>

**c) NAME and ADDRESS OF MANUFACTURER**

**d) SIGNAL WORDS and LEVELS OF TOXICITY**

- indicate the toxicity and/or hazards associated with the use of the pesticide. The label indicates the level of toxicity with one of three signal words: DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION. The precautionary statement describes the hazards to the applicator, children, domestic animals, wildlife, and the environment. If protective clothing and equipment are necessary, the precautionary statements will tell you.

The label must list the active ingredient—the ingredient that actually kills or inhibits the pest. Inert ingredients, such as carriers or solvents, do not have to be specified, but their concentrations must be listed.

**e) USES INCONSISTENT WITH LABELING - It is a violation of federal law to use any pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its labeling, with the following four exemptions:**

- a) Application at a rate of frequency less than specified on the label.
- b) Application on a target species not specified on the label as long as application is to the site or use specified on the label, unless the label specifically prohibits use on that specific pest.

- c) Employing any method of application not prohibited on the label.
- d) Mixing with a fertilizer, as long as such a mixture is not prohibited on the labeling.

**f) APPLYING** - a pesticide at any dosage, concentration, or frequency less

Than that specified on the labeling; Applying a pesticide against any target pest not specified on the labeling if the application is to the crop, animal, or site specified on the labeling, unless the labeling specifically prohibits use against other pests

**g) DO NOT** - Apply pesticides at a higher rate than is on the label; Remove the label; Put pesticides in other containers, or other liquids in pesticide containers; Store pesticides near children and/or pets.

**h) STORING and DISPOSAL** - Before you store or dispose of a pesticide, read the label to determine:

- where and how to store the pesticide
- how to clean and dispose of the chemical container
- how to dispose of surplus pesticide.

**i) PESTICIDE ACRONYMS**

- a) GUP: General Use Pesticide. Products available to the general public.
- b) MSDS: Material Safety Data Sheet. A technical bulletin that supplements information found on the product label. Visit [www.cdms.net](http://www.cdms.net)
- c) PPE: Personal Protective Equipment. Listed under the "Hazards to Humans" section on the label.
- d) RUP: Restricted Use Pesticide. Restricts the purchase of a product, and

its uses, to a Certified Pesticide Applicator (CPA), or to anyone under the direct supervision of a CPA.

More information on pesticide product labels

- [Globally Harmonized System \(GHS\) of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals](#)
- [Consumer Labeling Initiative \(CLI\)](#)
- Search The Colorado Pesticide Information Retrieval System database at [http://state.ceris.purdue.edu/doc/co/sta\\_teco.html](http://state.ceris.purdue.edu/doc/co/sta_teco.html)
- <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/label/>
- <http://www.cepep.colostate.edu/labels.htm>

**Important phone numbers:**

Colorado Department of Agriculture  
Pesticide Section, (303) 239-4147  
Colorado Department of Health/Environment  
**Household Hazardous Waste Division,**  
**(303) 692-3320**  
Colorado State University Cooperative Extension  
**(970) 491-6027**  
EPA Region VIII Pesticide Office  
**(303) 312-6286**  
Rocky Mountain Poison Control Center  
**(800) 332-3073**  
The National Pesticide Information Center  
**(800) 858-7378**  
<http://npic.orst.edu>

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classified ad or print  
advertisement here!**

**Classified Advertising Rates are as follows:**

SAM Volunteer: 20 cents/word

4-H Member/Leader: 20 cents/word

General Public, Individual: 25 cents/word

General Public, Business/Show: 30 cents/ word

**Print Ad Rates are as follows:**

Quarter Page Ad: \$50.00

Half Page Ad: \$80.00

Full Page Ad: \$100.00

**Email Sharon Bokan for more details**

**[sbokan@bouldercounty.org](mailto:sbokan@bouldercounty.org)**