

Ethology Week 2008



Vercors Regional Natural Park

Font d'Urle - VERCORS

Drôme - France

Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th

Moving toward optimum living conditions, welfare oriented horsemanship and reciprocal partnership. Spontaneous, convivial and interactive encounters and meetings.

Educational seminars and practical application of the science of natural horse behavior.

P R O G R A M

THE EQUINE FAMILY

You may be able to take the horse out of the family – but you can't take the family out of the horse !

A flowing, harmonious and social progression over the landscape. A serious challenge to the popular perception that the natural world operates on the basis of dominance and violence.

Led by Delphine and Dominique Lopez and the family of Arab thoroughbreds.

All Days

HEALTH / WELL-BEING

Elements of equine dietetics

- Body, instinct, environment, one and the same reality.
- The strict herbivore and its flora, respecting symbiosis
- Parasitic presence or parasitic sickness ? Thoughts on an alternative approach.

Led by Eric Ancelet, veterinarian

Tuesday July 8th
Wednesday July 9th
Thursday July 10th

RIDING BAREFOOT

Natural trimming - a job with a future

A practical course in natural trimming for certified ferrriers
Led by Olivier Hernanz, certified ferrrier

Thursday July 10th
Friday July 11th

SADDLERY

Why do we need alternatives ?

Emotional and physical well-being oriented horsemanship. Solutions for riding with barefoot horses, with bitless bridles and treeless saddles.

Run by Natural Horse Planet & PARTNERS

Friday July 11th

EQUITOPIA CHALLENGE

Unique Equestrian Challenge

An event deeply committed to the well-being and respect of the horse, and open to all equine practitioners as they work toward the pursuit of horse education and practices that are complementary to, and supportive of, natural horse behavior.

All Days



Organisation

Request for Press accreditation :

natural
horse
planet

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LE DEPARTEMENT

In partnership with
the Department of the Drôme

Moving toward optimum living conditions, welfare oriented horsemanship and reciprocal partnership.



Organisation

Request for Press accreditation :

Ethology Week 2008

From Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th July - Font d'Urle / VERCORS / Drôme / France

PRESS
Release



Vercors Regional Natural Park

Educational seminars and practical application of the science of natural horse behavior

You may be able to take the horse out of the family - but you can't take the family out of the horse !

Run by Delphine and Dominique Lopez of the Ricoux eco-farm and the members of the family of Arab thoroughbreds : Légende (the head mare), Talisman de Gion (stallion), Wezera de Falgas, Avalon Sivka, Harmattan Lutécia, Ein El Ferha and the foals of 2008.

The behaviors that have developed over the millennia are still present, either as functional components of the horse's psychology or frustrated of normal expression, become negative with respect to both horse and owner.

Elements of equine dietetics

Led by Eric Ancelet, veterinarian

Body, instinct, environment, one and the same reality.

With animals, organs and functions are an integral part of the original world in which they have become differentiated. If this world disappears, functions and organs begin to suffer, become ill or infirm.

The strict herbivore and its flora, respect of a symbiosis.

Feeding a horse is first and foremost feeding 100,000 billions of microbes. Jeopardizing these microbes means seriously impairing the very essence of a horse's identity, destroying irrevocably the biological foundations of its health.

Parasitic presence or parasitic illness ? Thoughts on an alternative approach.

A parasite is a being that lives at the expense of its host, without giving anything in exchange. Does this situation describe the whole reality? Could we not rather evoke a commensalism, even a symbiotic presence, and then ask ourselves about the real causes of the disorder which leads to parasitism ?

Natural trimming - a job with a future

Led by Olivier Hernanz, certified farrier

The movement in favor of natural trimming should encourage us to reflect on the way we currently treat hooves. In shoeing them, are we paying sufficient respect to their vital functions as nature has created them ? This practical course in natural trimming is targeted at certified farriers wishing to refresh and complement their traditional training in the farrier's trade.

Saddlery - Why do we need alternatives ?

Run by Natural Horse Planet & PARTNERS

As with many subjects relating to horsemanship in the 21st century, the harness that we use is called into serious question. The modern horseman seeks equipment that is both effective and ethical. To be effective, the equipment must be adapted to needs - and to be ethical, it must cause the least possible discomfort and suffering.

EQUITOPIA - Unique Equestrian Challenge

An event open to all equine practitioners as they work toward the pursuit of horse education and practices that are complementary to, and supportive of, natural horse behavior.

Rules and Regulations

Group arrangement

A herd of 12 to 20 horses will be present in the pasture arena during all EQUITOPIA events so that judges and audience will be able to observe rider/horse behavior while approaching and taming within a free-running herd of horses.

Performance conditions

Performance conditions vary according to the contract chosen by the competitor before the start of an event. The 2 proposed contracts are determined according to event performance. Contract 1 : Performance with harness (halter and lead rope) Contract 2 : Performance without any harness on the horse's head (a lead rope placed around the horse's neck is authorized).

Equipment

In order to communicate with their horses, all competitors must use halters or bitless bridles or lead ropes. All other equipment- such as any kind of bits, rope halter, hackamores, lassos, sticks, crops, spurs, bandages or objects of the same type is forbidden. All participating horses must be barefoot.

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