

Danee's Horsemanship



Hints...

Favorite Fixes

Thrush/Scratches: "Today" is the name of a mastitis medication for cows that is sold at Tractor Supply. It works awesome on thrush and scratches (or any fungal infection) and can be squirted right into the deep central sulcus of a thrushy frog. Vets have also had us squirt it into puncture wounds. Also works great on mastitis- go figure! We are never without it.

Removing Burrs: Soak in Cowboy Magic or baby oil (Cowboy Magic works better, baby oil is cheaper) and instead of pulling the burrs from the hair, hold the burr and pull the hair out of the burr. This small change makes a world of difference. A very wide tooth comb can be used below the burrs to knock loose the pieces of burr that break apart.

Fitting a rope halter: If a rope halter is too big- especially in the nose area- you can grab the two loops where the lead rope is connected and take them up through the nose piece. Separate the two pieces of rope that run under the horse's chin and pull the loops down between them. You are basically just turning the lead loops around the fiador knot. Reconnect your lead rope (or just run it all through if it is tied in) and the nose piece will be twisted tighter.

Ticks: We have a lower pasture that is terrible for ticks. To keep the ticks from climbing up the horses tails and imbedding into their docks I pour diesel fuel into their tails. It obviously is not healthy to breathe in, so please be careful and get any spilled fuel off of your skin right away, but to date I have never had a horse have a bad reaction (or any reaction) to the diesel fuel, and it effectively keeps ticks away for weeks.

Feed time drama: If you do all of your own feeding and don't want to bring horses in just to grain them, simply start feeding them in feedbags. Feedbags reduce drama when horses are fed in the field, and it makes it possible to give each horse their own rations, supplements, or meds. It makes horses ridiculously easy to catch and halter. Just don't forget to take them off! Always buy feed bags that let water out of the bottom in case the horse goes for a drink while wearing one- he could drown if the bag fills with water and can't drain. We choose to wait while they eat and do not leave ours unattended with the feed bag on. If your horse is fed inside and bangs his tub or cribs while eating, the feedbag is a great fix!



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