

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT KER

KER Launches New Web Site



In an effort to better serve its diverse clientele, Kentucky Equine Research has redesigned and updated its Web site. The site offers separate areas for veterinarians, feed manufacturers, and horse owners. Each area provides access to information that would be of interest to the particular browser. For instance, horse owners will be able to readily locate feed manufacturers that produce feeds formulated by KER.

One exciting new feature of the Web site is a search function that allows users to chase down topics in past issues of Equineews. All of the features of the original site—research summaries, online catalog, and links to related information—are still available.

Check out the new Web site at ker.com today!

KER Continues Sponsorship of United States Pony Clubs

Kentucky Equine Research (KER) and Kentucky Performance Products (KPP) recently presented the United States Pony Clubs (USPC) with a \$1000 donation. The gift was given in late April during the annual board of governors meeting at the USPC headquarters in Lexington, Kentucky.

The donation is a result of product sales made through the KER and KPP Web sites (ker.com and kentuckyperformanceproducts.com, respectively). When products are purchased from these Web sites, a portion of the proceeds may be designated to benefit the USPC.

"The USPC is a great organization for our nation's horse-crazy kids. It has shaped the lives of some of our country's greatest horsemen from gold medalists in Olympic compe-

titions to mentors in handicapped riding programs. I hope the worthwhile programs of the USPC continue to flourish," said KPP president Karen Pagan.

The USPC has provided education opportunities for youth since 1954. Today, more than 12,000 youngsters are enrolled in 625 clubs across the country. The gift from KER and KPP will foster programs that teach riding, mounted sports, and the care of horses and ponies, all of which nurtures responsibility, moral judgment, leadership, and self-confidence.

KER and KPP bring scientifically formulated nutritional supplements to discriminating horsemen and veterinarians in the United States. Many of these products have been developed by KER, a world-renowned research and consultation company and the official nutritionist of the United States Equestrian Team. Both KER and KPP maintain headquarters in central Kentucky.



USPC members across the nation will benefit from contributions made by Kentucky Equine Research and Kentucky Performance Products.

KER Hires Assistant Research Farm Manager



Whitney Jones is the assistant research farm manager at KER. One of her duties is to help with ongoing nutrition studies.

Whitney Jones recently joined the staff of KER as assistant research farm manager. Originally from Vinton, Virginia, Jones earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from the University of Tennessee. In addition to her major studies, Jones completed a minor in agricultural economics. While attending college in Knoxville, she was active in many student organizations.

"Whitney comes from an agricultural background and possesses solid practical skills that are vital to the day-to-day operation of a working farm," said Delia Nash, manager of KER's research farm.

In addition to practical know-how, attention to detail is an important attribute as much of the work on the farm revolves around scientific studies. "Whitney has a great balance of skill, dedication, and precision. She's an incredible asset to KER," commented Nash.

Zoo Baby

Zeke and April, Grant's zebras at the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk, are the proud parents of Ariana, a filly born this spring. Zeke and April were featured in a past issue of


Equine News (Vol. 7, No. 1). Denise Luckey, who cares for the zebras, reported that the delivery was uneventful, with the foal standing half an hour after birth.

April is an attentive mother, and although she still allows staff members to enter her stall, she has been careful to shield Ariana from contact with humans and other animals. Her keepers have continued the mare's target training and are looking forward to starting this technique with the foal when she is a little older.

Introduced to his two-day-old daughter, Zeke was less interested in the newcomer than in being reunited with his mate. Luckey reported that the stallion was persistent in attempts to breed, and April is probably back in foal. The three zebras spend a lot of time turned out together and are often in close proximity.

The zoo's zebra habitat also houses three white rhinoceroses, and integrating the zebra baby with these animals has gone smoothly, according to Luckey. The two species have ignored each other for the most part, and the mare has reacted by moving her foal away if the rhinos have wandered into her comfort zone.

Zoo visitors have enjoyed seeing the new addition to the zebra family, but the striped baby will not be a permanent resident at Norfolk. "Ariana will have to be placed in another zoo before she becomes sexually mature," Luckey said. "Grant's zebras are not endangered, and breed well in captivity. By the time Ariana leaves, April and Zeke should have produced their second baby."

Baby pictures as well as more information about Ariana can be found on the Virginia Zoo's Web site at www.virginiazoo.org. 



April and Ariana enjoy their hours together in the habitat at the Virginia Zoo. This is the first zebra born at this particular zoo.



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