



Breeding Internationally



Nearly all the stallions at Gumz Farms have frozen semen available for export. Many stallions have frozen semen in storage at various locations in Europe and Australia. All of the semen has been used and with proven pregnancy rates. For our European Customers, the following stallions are in the 2009-10 DQHA futurity program: Only In The Moonlite, Certain Potential, and Huntin For Chocolate. Check out our website for more information, which countries the semen is approved for and where the semen is stored. [International Breeding](#)



Designer Foal - Come check out our new concept in planning the ultimate foal. We have a list of producing broodmares that have eggs for sale. You pick the mare and the stallion and we do the rest. We organize the purchase of the egg, semen and embryo transfer. We have year around care available for the recipient mares as well. Our donor mare list continues to grow so check it out. If you have a mare that you feel would be good edition to the program- give us a call and we can see what we can work out. [View our Designer Foal Program](#)

Exceptional prospects - We have an amazing group of KyBIP prospects for the discriminating buyer. All foals are enrolled in the KyBIP as wells the AQHA incentive fund. Now is a great time to shop for your lunge line or 2 year old prospect. Visit our website for details www.GumzFarms.com

Sale Prep- We are taking a small number of horses for sale prep and agenting at the major sales. We will be at the May Tattersal sale, Reichert sale, Congress and World Show Sale. We traditionally bring high quality horses to these auctions with exceptional results. Call or [email](#) for more information.



Embryo Transfer- We are off to a great start in 2010 with our embryo transfer program. This has been the year for twin embryos! We have a herd of recipient mares for KyBIP eligible embryos and work with all of the embryo houses throughout the US. See our website for more information as this service continues to become more reasonably priced and great option for many clients and mares. [More on our Embryo Transfer Program](#)



BREEDERS' TRUST 2010

AMERICAN PAINT HORSE ASSOCIATION

APHA Paint Breeders Trust- We have added a few stallions to the APHA Paint Breeders Trust list. Many of the stallions have reduced fees for paint mares. The stallions that are enrolled in the APHA Breeders Trust are also part of the lucrative KyPHA/KyBIF program. A great advantage to this program is the ability to transport semen out of the state of Kentucky and as long as the mare comes to Kentucky to foal, and the resulting foal can participate in the program.



Foaling - The foaling barn is busy with some great foals by a variety of stallions. Take a look at our nursery page to see the great new arrivals. [View 2010 Foals >>>](#)

Broodmare Nutrition

We have seen a large number of pregnant and open mares arriving at the breeding farm in low weight and poor body score. One can only assume that the high cost of feed products coupled with the economy is taking its toll on the feeding of broodmares. However, it is critical that we maintain a minimum standard if we desire these mares to get pregnant and deliver healthy foals.



Pregnant mares go through three phases - early gestation, late gestation, and lactation. Studies have found that mares in good body condition cycle earlier in the year, require fewer cycles per conception, have a higher pregnancy rate, and are able to maintain pregnancies better than thin mares. Carefully selecting the mare's feed source is critical in developing and maintaining the mare's body condition.

The average mare requires a feed intake of 1.5-3.0% of body weight and depends on the type and quality of hay, fiber and fat content, and the protein level of the diet. Daily feed intake can vary among horses. For example, hard keepers or heavy milkers might need increased rations.

Early and Mid-Gestation

In the first eight months of gestation, a mare has nutrient requirements similar to those of any horse. The developing fetus gains only 0.2 pounds/day on average during this time and does not place a significant nutritional demand on the mare. By

providing free-choice grazing of quality pasture, the mare's nutrient requirements for maintenance can be sufficiently met. High-quality hays can be excellent for maintaining mares in early pregnancy. Although high-quality forage will usually maintain a mare already in good body condition, but it will not put weight on a mare in poor condition. When hay quality declines, mares need supplemental feed to maintain body weight and condition..

Late Gestation

In late pregnancy, nutrient requirements increase because the unborn foal is growing more rapidly, averaging one pound of gain per day. The mare's intake of protein, minerals and vitamins should be increased. Even in situations where hay or pasture is maintaining mares, it is important that the pregnant mare receive quality feed to provide the protein, vitamin, and mineral balance necessary to support the growth and development of the fetus.

Nutrient balance is of major importance because most fetal growth occurs during the last three months of gestation. During the tenth month, the greatest amount of mineral retention occurs in the fetus. Mare's milk is practically void of trace minerals essential for proper bone development; so proper nutrition of the mare is crucial for normal fetal development and to provide sufficient mineral reserves for the foal after birth.

Lactation

At foaling, a mare's daily nutrient requirements increase significantly. The protein and energy requirements almost double from early gestation to lactation. The nutritional requirements must be met so the mare can recover from foaling stress, produce enough quality milk, and rebreed without losing body condition. Underfeeding will lower milk production and cause weight loss, and might even affect the mare's ability to raise her foal and become pregnant again.

A lactating mare will usually consume 2-3% of her body weight in total feed. Mares fed in groups should be sorted according to feed intake or body condition to insure that each mare receives the needed amount of feed. Often a timid mare will not receive the ration that she needs to maintain her body score as well as the nutritional needs of her foal. Nutrient content of mare's milk decreases drastically during lactation. By the fourth month, milk provides less than 30% of the total energy the foal needs. Providing lactating mares with a feed that includes added fats or oils and high-quality protein can help slow the decline in milk production and improve its nutrient content. In the fourth, fifth, and sixth months of lactation, the mare's daily nutrition requirements decline. During this time it is common to have foals on a good creep feed to prepare them for weaning. Once the foal is weaned and lactation has ceased, the pregnant mare can be managed as an early-gestating mare once again. Article By: Brett Scott, PhD, Dipl. ACAN



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