



**Dr. Dickson Varner to headline the Mare and Stallion Seminar
January 19, 2008 as part of the Northeast Texas Horsemen's
Association Stallion Service Auction.**

Dr. Varner, Professor of Theriogenology and Pin Oak Stud Chair of Stallion Reproduction at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine, is considered by many to be the preeminent stallion research veterinarian in the world. Dr Varner will present "A Review of Technological Advances in Stallion Reproduction" two separate times during the morning seminars to give everyone the opportunity to attend.

Additional topics include: "Update on the TAMU-Commerce Equine Sciences Program" – Dr. David Crenshaw, "Estimation of Body Weight and Degree of Condition in Breeding Horses" - Dr. Doug Householder and "Before, During, and After Parturition" - Dr. John Allen. The seminars will be from 10am to 12 noon.

The North East Texas Horsemen's Assn. in association with the Texas A&M – Commerce Equine Sciences program will offer a unique activity to the horse industry. The activity will offer informal and formal educational presentations, over 35 outstanding stallions for public auction, an opportunity to meet with leading horse breeders in the state, a venue for finding out more about the one of the fastest growing horse organizations in Texas, the NETHA. The activity will run from 8 am -5 pm and will be held at the Hopkins County Regional Civic Center.

Informal educational offerings and viewing of the stallions (in the stall area and/or arena) will take place from 8:00 -10:00 am. The Mare and Stallion Seminar is from 10:00 -12:00 am. Attendees will be treated to a traditional Hopkins County Stew/ Cornbread meal, courtesy of the NETHA, during the lunch period while they continue to view the stallions, visit the booths, and fill out their contest cards. The stallion service auction will begin at 2:00 pm.

In addition to the Mare and Stallion Seminar, other activities and attractions include:

TAM-C Equine Sciences Program Booth- Here visit with faculty, staff and students; view horse research posters; pick up 2008 college program and event materials; and get technical publications on the mare, foal and stallion, courtesy of Dr. Pete Gibbs and Dr. Brett Scott, Horse Specialists-Texas Cooperative Extension (TBD).

Purina and Priefert Horse Weight Estimation Contest- Listen here to the “Weight Estimation” presentation at 10:00 am. Then, during the stallions viewing, from 10:30 am -2:00 pm, estimate the weight of selected stallions on stallion alley. The official weights of the stallions will be provided with electronic scales, courtesy of Priefert. The horse men with the most accurate eye for body weight, will split ½ ton of horse feed, courtesy of Purina.

Progressive Feeds Company Hay Judging Contest- Listen here to a 5 minute presentation on hay evaluation at the Progressive Booth. Then, rank and estimate the percent crude protein content of four hay samples. The horse person(s) with the most accurate eye for hay quality will receive Progressive Feed Company Products.

Goods and Services Trade Show- Other educational booth vendors will be Texas Cooperative Extension-Horse Theft and Awareness Program (TBD), NETHA, The Equine Co., Purina, Merial, Intervet, Farnam, plus Agr. Power/John Deere, Tractor Supply, Brian Tolliver Ford, Lone Star Dodge, Forrest Photography, and Bioniche.

Stallion Auction- The 2:00 auction will be preceded by a 1:00 pm Parade of Stallions. Here all auction service stallions will come through the sales arena while a short resume is read on each. This will help buyers see all the stallions one last time before the bidding starts. Door prizes will be given and contest winners will be announced during/at the conclusion of the sale.

Kim McCool, NETHA member, stallion owner, and Chair of this activity says: “We are thrilled to offer this activity and have had a huge response to point. To be able to go stallion shopping and make 35 ranch/farm visits in one stop; seeing the stallions, their offspring, and visiting with owners; etc. is an incredible service to mare owners”.

Dr. David Crenshaw, TAMU-C Interim Head for Agricultural Sciences, NETHA Director and Co-Chair of the educational offerings says, “We as an educational institution are proud to be partnering with the NETHA. The providing of the latest equine knowledge and skills, in a venue where horse people are purchasing the services of outstanding area stallion, is a perfect fit for us. This is just the first of many cooperative activities and programs between us in the TAM-C Equine Sciences program and the NETHA.”

For more information go to www.NETHorsemen.com or call Kim McCool at 469.667.1030.