

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2013 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Bailee A. Poole

Project Number

J1217

Project Title

Investigating if Bathing a Horse after Exercise Affects the Horse's Heart Rate

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of my science project is to investigate if bathing a horse after exercise affects the horse's heart rate.

Methods/Materials

Disk arena with tractor each day before experiment. Groom the horse. (Brush, pick hooves, etc.) Put the saddle, the splint boots, the bell boots, and the bridle on the horse. Take the horse's heart rate with the stethoscope while the horse is at a rest. Record the number of beats per minute each time after taking the horse's heart rate. Warm up the horse for five minutes. (Beginning with walking the horse, proceed to trotting and then loping the horse in both directions around the arena.) Lope the barrel pattern. Let the horse rest for 5 minutes. Take the horse's heart rate. Warm up the horse again for five minutes. Run the barrel pattern again. Unsaddle the horse. Bathe the horse for 5 minutes. After bathing the horse, take the horse's heart rate. Repeat the procedure ten times.

Results

Bathing a horse after exercise helps to decrease the horse's heart rate.

Conclusions/Discussion

After completing my investigation I found that after exercising the horse, bathing the horse decreased the horse's heart rate.

Summary Statement

To investigate if bathing a horse after exercise affects the horse's heart rate.

Help Received

Supervised by Dr. Troy S Ford, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine & Equine Surgeon. Mom helped cut and glue board.