



Equine Science Placement Example Application

I. Performance Review

A. Getting Started in this activity:

(15)

1. Briefly describe your SAE as it is related to this proficiency area. Describe how you started in this proficiency area. What interested and motivated you to begin?

As a child I always loved animals. My parents would bring me to local farms, and let me watch the horses run. I loved the fluidity of the horses' movement and the way their manes swept freely in the breeze. The first time I saw them, I knew they were going to be a big part of my life. I took my first riding lesson when I was nine years old, at Highborn Horse Farm, which is where I rode for almost four years. When I started to ride, my trainer taught me the basics, such as tacking up my horse and mucking out stalls. At Highborn, I also met Dr. Baus, an Equine Vet that I shadowed during August of 1998. While I have never owned my own horse, I have learned a great deal through jobs at other people's farms. When I was twelve years old I started working at Hoopdance Hollow Farm. I still have a great relationship with my trainer, Sue Peterson, who I have been riding with for the last six years. One day I saw a help wanted ad for Thistledown Farm, and decided to apply for the job, within three weeks I started working there. During the summer of 1999 I was fortunate to obtain an internship working for Dr. Emond at Candlewood Equine Practice, an equine reproduction specialist. Dr. Emond specializes in artificial insemination, embryo transfers, collecting, and shipping of semen.

2. When you were planning your supervised agricultural experience in this proficiency area, what 2 or 3 goals and objectives did you plan to achieve at this point in your development?

When I was planning my Supervised Agricultural Experience, I had many goals in mind. One goal was to learn about equine behavior. Being able to look at a horse, and know what kind of mood they are in by looking at the position of their ears, head and tail, is very important. This enables you to prevent a problem before it occurs. The ability to understand their body language makes it easier to keep other horses and people, including myself, safe around the horses. My second goal was to broaden my experiences in the equine field. At Hoopdance Hollow, which is a hunter/jumper lesson barn, I received a lot of experience within this type of environment. One area in which I had little experience was equine reproduction; as a result I spent the summer of 1999 at Dr. Emond's Equine Practice, learning about artificial insemination and embryo transfer. In the fall of that year I started at Thistledown Farm, a Dartmoor Pony breeding farm, in order to learn how to work with and train yearlings. My last goal was to become a versatile and competent hunter/jumper rider. I wanted the ability to get on any horse and, within a few minutes, be able to figure out what I needed to do in order to make the horse perform better. In order to accomplish this goal I started riding different types of horses. My instructor put me on horses that were giving her students a hard time or were new and inexperienced. Most of the time I was able to correct the problem, or I could tell the rider why their horse was acting up. While I have made a tremendous amount of progress with my riding, I am still working on this goal to this day.

B. Progress:

1. Describe any special advantages or disadvantages that had a major impact on your achievements in your supervised agricultural experience program.

The greatest advantage I have is very supportive parents. My parents want my dreams to come true. They found a place for me to take riding lessons and when I got a job, they brought me there and picked me up. Another big advantage I have is the Vo? Ag Program at Nonnewaug High School, which has extraordinary learning facilities and teachers. The school has many animals, so the learning is hands on and very interesting. The teachers are always there if students have a problem or a question. An additional advantage I have is a great boss. Jim Conway, the manager at Thistledown Farm, has taught me a lot about breeding, training and driving. Furthermore, I have a chance to work with a very rare breed of ponies from England, Dartmoor Ponies. A surprising advantage I have is not owning a horse. Even though it is my dream to own a horse, working with horses all day and then having them at home would be too much. Also, it has given me many opportunities to work with all different types of horses and people. One of the disadvantages was that I was unable to participate in Horse Shows because of my work responsibilities. Another was a lack of time to do more activities at school, and with friends.

B. Progress (continued)

2. Briefly describe your placement in this proficiency area. (Include a description of the business/farm, working conditions, size, number of employees, type of facilities, equipment available, etc.)

Hoopdance Hollow Farm is very big hunter/jumper boarding, sales and lesson farm in Litchfield, CT. They have approximately thirty horses. The two trainers give an average of ten lessons per day. Dr. Emond's Practice specializes in equine reproduction. They have stallions, broodmares, and mares with their foals. I cleaned stalls and assisted Dr. Emond with stallion collections and artificial insemination. Thistledown Farm is a sixty? acre farm. We use about fifteen acres for turnout and the rest is hay fields or woods. There are four barns with a total of fifteen stalls. We have thirteen horses consisting of stallions, mares and foals. There are few employees because it is a small business. There is a manager and one other stable hand. We have a tractor, manure spreader, and many other tools used for training the ponies to drive. We have two carts, a single hitching cart, and a cart that can hitch a pair. We breed, break and train ponies undersaddle and teach them to pull a cart. Now we are starting to market the registered and crossbred Darters' as children's ponies.

3. How has your position description and/or responsibilities changed during the time of your placement?

When I first started working at Thistledown Farm all I did was clean windows, stalls and stall walls. Jim Conway, my employer, wanted to see what I could do. After a while he let me start handling the mares. Then he started to notice how much I actually knew about horses and let me handle the stallions. Now I do everyday chores, help train ponies to drive, handle yearlings, and even drive the pair of stallions. During the breeding season I hold the mares for teasing and breeding. Every time I groom the ponies, I check them to make sure they have no cuts or potential problem areas. Jim now trusts me enough to go away on vacation and leave me in charge of the farm. I went from a plain old stable hand to a very dependable second wing for Jim. I am a stable hand and an assistant for the manager.

C. Analysis/Evaluation of Program

1. Describe your level of achievement and progress towards your goals (such as skills, scope, etc.) in this award area as related to the goals and objectives described on page 2, question 2.

Working at Hoopdance Hollow Farm, Dr. Emond's Equine Practice, and Thistledown Farm has taught me a great deal. The three jobs have some similarities and some differences. At Hoopdance Hollow Farm I became a very competent rider. I am able to ride on the flat and over fences. I can ride a horse through gymnastics, do figure eight's and stay balanced and collected. At Dr. Emond's Equine Practice I learned about safe handling and restraint of broodmares, stallions and foals, which can be very dangerous and challenging to work with. I also learned a lot of reproductive technology including artificial insemination, what to look for on an ultrasound, hormone therapy, stallion collection, semen evaluation and embryo transfer. At Thistledown Farm I learned about breeding using live cover. I also learned how to train a pony to lunge, long rein and drive. I worked with young horses and I learned how to successfully market rare breeds.

2. Describe the personal goals, educational goals, and career goals you would like to achieve in the next ten years.

My educational goals are to attend Western Connecticut State University and major in Accounting or Agricultural Business. After achieving my Bachelors Degree I hope to be able to incorporate animals into my career. I want to get a job working for a veterinarian, which will enable me to learn more about the field of veterinary medicine while I pursue my career in Accounting or Agricultural Business. When I get settled in my home I want to have enough room to be able to have my own horses at my house. Someday I might start my own boarding or breeding facility.

II. Scope, Income and Expense Summary for : EQUINE SCIENCE
 Placement and Research Experimentation Type Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (20)

Year	Major Job Title Type of Work and/or Activities completed	Total Hours Worked			Gross Earnings (D)	Total Expenditures (E)	Net Earnings (F)**	
		Unpaid (A)	Paid (B)	Total (C)*				
Mo/Day/Yr	Hoopdance Hollow Farm -			0.0			\$0	
09/01/1997 to	Teach Lessons	10.0	15.0	25.0	\$75		\$75	
Dec. 31	Tack up for lessons		50.0	50.0	\$250		\$250	
1997	Teach summer camp	24.0	30.0	54.0	\$150		\$150	
(Year)	Cleaned Stalls	73.0		73.0			\$0	
	Riding	25.0		25.0			\$0	
Totals for Year 1		132.0	95.0	227.0	\$475	\$0	\$475	
Jan 1, to	Hoopdance Hollow Farm - Riding	100.0		100.0			\$0	
Dec. 31	Teach Lessons		36.0	36.0	\$400		\$400	
1998	Tack up for lessons	601.0	260.0	861.0	\$963		\$963	
(Year)	Thistledown Farm			0.0			\$0	
	Clean windows		40.0	40.0	\$280		\$280	
	Pick paddocks		63.0	63.0	\$441		\$441	
Totals for Year 2		701.0	399.0	1100.0	\$2,084	\$0	\$2,084	
Jan 1, to	Thistledown Farm		245.0	245.0	\$1,715		\$1,715	
Dec. 31	Handing foals, training yearlings		260.0	260.0	\$1,820		\$1,820	
1999	Riding	100.0		100.0			\$0	
(Year)	Dr. Emond			0.0			\$0	
	Breeding (A.I. And colleciton)		25.0	25.0	\$175		\$175	
	Chores		92.0	92.0	\$644		\$644	
Totals for Year 3		100.0	622.0	722.0	\$4,354	\$0	\$4,354	
Jan 1, to	Thistledown Farm			0.0			\$0	
Dec. 31	Handing foals, training yearlings		175.0	175.0	\$1,400		\$1,400	
2000	Chores		300.0	300.0	\$2,400		\$2,400	
(Year)	Breeding		50.0	50.0	\$400		\$400	
	Driving		40.0	40.0	\$320		\$320	
	Riding	100.0		100.0			\$0	
Totals for Year 4		100.0	565.0	665.0	\$4,520	\$0	\$4,520	
Jan 1, to				0.0			\$0	
Dec. 31				0.0			\$0	
2001				0.0			\$0	
(Year)				0.0			\$0	
				0.0			\$0	
Totals for Year 5		0.0	0.0	0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Jan 1, to				0.0			\$0	
Dec. 31				0.0			\$0	
2002				0.0			\$0	
(Year)				0.0			\$0	
				0.0			\$0	
Totals for Year 6		0.0	0.0	0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
GRAND TOTALS		Year (1+2+3+4+5+6)	1,033	1,681	2,714	\$11,433	\$0	\$11,433

* Columns (A) plus (B) = (C)

** Columns (D) minus (E) = (F)

III. Balance Sheet

EQUINE SCIENCE
(5)

ASSETS & INVESTMENTS	Beginning Value on Date Entered Ag (A)	Ending Value at End of Last Completed Record Year (B)
1. Current/Operating Assets		
a. Cash on-hand, checking and savings	\$3,000	\$1,500
b. Cash value - bonds, stocks, life insurance	\$900	\$900
c. Notes & accounts receivable	\$0	\$0
d. Total Current/Operating Inventory (all other current assets)	\$0	\$0
2. Total Current/Operating Assets (1a+1b+1c+1d)	\$3,900	\$2,400
3. Non-Current/Capital Assets	\$2,000	\$9,000
4. Total Assets (2+3)	\$5,900	\$11,400

LIABILITIES		
5. Current/Operating Liabilities (notes payable)	\$0	\$1,800
6. Non-Current/Capital Liabilities	\$0	\$3,200
7. Total Liabilities (5+6)	\$0	\$5,000

8. NET WORTH (4 minus 7)	\$5,900	\$6,400
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SUMMARY OF SOURCE AND USE OF FUNDS		
9. Earnings from this proficiency area	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$11,433
10. Other SAE earning NOT from this area	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$0
11. Earnings from non-SAE activities	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$2,800
12. Income other than earnings	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$0
13. Total Earnings (9+10+11+12)	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$14,233
14. Use of Funds	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
a. Total educational expenses	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$110
b. Total other personal expenses	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$3,000
15. Total use of funds (14a+14b)	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$3,110

IV. Skills and Activities

A. Skills

(25)

List your top six placement skills and give a brief description of each one and its contribution to the success of your supervised agricultural experience program.

1. Skill Number One.

Year	Skill	Where Attained	Student Hours
1998-2000	Tractor operation and farm maintenance	Dr. Ron Emond Thistledown Farm	435

Description of Skill:

During my freshman year at Nonnewaug High School, I received my Connecticut tractor driving license. Working at Dr. Emond's Equine Practice, it was necessary to be familiar with tractor operation. The manure pile was located a long distance from the barn and being able to use the tractor made it easier to work by myself and not have to depend on other people. Farm maintenance is a huge part of working at a farm. Horses are destructive animals by nature. When a fence was knocked down I had to put it back up to keep the horses safe. Picking manure out of pastures is a big part of farm maintenance. Removing manure from the paddocks reduces the chances of your horse having problems with parasites. Fire is a very real threat on any horse farm, and doing routine maintenance such as cobweb removal, and storing hay in a different barn, creates a safer environment.

2. Skill Number Two.

Year	Skill	Where Attained	Student Hours
1999-2000	Breeding Preparation, Artificial Insemination and Observation	Dr. Ron Emond	125

Description of Skill:

Being able to prepare your horse for breeding is very important. There has to be a very specific environment that has to be set for a horse to conceive. In an ideal situation, only fifty percent of all mares bred actually carry a foal to term. This makes it very important for the person who is helping to know what can and what cannot be done. They need to know that soap is a spermicide and to properly rinse off any residue. When collecting a stallion the water temperature in the artificial vagina has to be the right temperature so you get the best and most viable sperm possible. When preparing a mare for artificial insemination she has to be very clean; otherwise she could abort the foal or get an infection. There are so many things that have to be ideal for successfully breeding a mare. In the lab I was able to evaluate semen for sperm count, morphology and motility.

3. Skill Number Three.

Year	Skill	Where Attained	Student Hours
1997-2000	Riding Hunters and Jumpers	Hoopdance Hollow Farm	325

Description of Skill:

Learning how to ride different horses effectively and tactfully is a very difficult skill to accomplish. You have to be able to ride young horses that don't fully understand leg commands, horses that are ill mannered, and horses that have lots of energy. Every horse is different and you, the rider, have to be able to adapt your riding to the different horses. I am a competent rider, and can ride on the flat as well as over fences. I can ride green, as well as problem horses. Some of the schooling exercises I put the horses through are gymnastics, lead changes and transitions. When I ride at Hoopdance Hollow Farm my riding instructor asks me to exercise the horses that other people have problems with. After I ride the horse for a little while the horses are safer for other riders, and my instructor can concentrate on teaching lessons while I train other horses.

IV. Skills and Activities (continued)

EQUINE SCIENCE

A. Skills (continued)

(25)

List your top six placement skills and give a brief description of each one and its contribution to the success of your supervised agricultural experience program.

4. Skill Number Four.

Year	Skill	Where Attained	Student Hours
1997-2000	Safe Handling of breeding horses	Dr. Emond Thistledown Farm	275

Description of Skill:

Safe handling is very important when you work with stallions, broodmares, and foals. During the breeding season stallions can be very hard to handle and may act unpredictably or aggressively. When handling stallions we use shanks on them in order to control them better. I also have to pay attention to what they are doing, and my environment. I have to be very careful around mares and extra cautious around mares with foals, since mares can be very protective of their foals. It is a good idea to use a teasing chute while breeding and collecting semen in case the horse tries to kick out; your body is protected. Horses don't reason, they react. Being able to read a horse's body language enables you to keep the mare and the stallion from getting hurt while breeding or teasing. You don't want one of your horses to be out of commission during the breeding season.

5. Skill Number Five.

Year	Skill	Where Attained	Student Hours
1999-2000	Driving	Thistledown Farm	40

Description of Skill:

Driving is very different than riding a horse. We train our ponies to rely mainly on voice commands when we are driving them. I am able to drive the pair of stallions we have at Thistledown Farm through a course of cones, and over wooden planks on the ground, without difficulty. I am also able to handle them if something was to go wrong, such as if they decided to run away when something scares them. When I drive I always have a groom who rides along with me on the back of the cart. When Jim, my employer, is driving, I act as the groom. I stand on the back of the cart and shift my weight when we go around sharp corners so that the cart doesn't flip over. It is also the grooms' job to hold the pair while the driver is getting in and out of the cart so if the horses spook, someone would still be holding on to them.

6. Skill Number Six.

Year	Skill	Where Attained	Student Hours
1997-2000	Horse Evaluation and Selection	Hoopdance Hollow Thistledown Farm	55

Description of Skill:

Horse Evaluation has shown me that there is no such thing as a perfect horse. I learned the different structural problems horses may have, and be able to predict how they would move. Also, overall balance, musculature, conformation and breed characteristics can help me to be more objective when viewing horses. Knowing how to evaluate a horse's conformation can be a great benefit. When we are marketing a horse, we need to be able to show the best traits of the horse, and how to minimize its weak points. Knowing how to evaluate a horse makes it a lot easier to pick out the best traits when selecting a horse for breeding. When showing a horse in hand I am able to set the horse up in order to show the horse's best characteristics and mask their weakest characteristics.

IV. Skills and Activities (continued)

EQUINE SCIENCE

B. Activities

(25)

List your top three placement activities and give a brief description of each one and its contribution to the success of your supervised agricultural experience program.

1. Activity Number One.

Year	Activity	Where Attained	Student Hours
1997-2000	Horse Management	Hoopdance Hollow Dr. Ron Emond Thistledown Farm	509

Description of Activity:

Horse Management is a large part of working at a farm. Everyday we do chores, picking the paddocks, feeding, scrubbing water buckets, turning out and bring in the horses. Being able to pick stalls efficiently saves the owners a lot of money. I have to pick out all the manure without wasting too many shavings, since shavings are expensive. Picking pastures helps a great deal with keeping the number of parasites down and also keeps the paddocks looking clean. The horses I work with stay outside most of the day in the rain or when it is sunny out, so grooming is a big part of everyday chores. When the horses dry after being outside in the rain, you need to thoroughly groom them in order to keep them from getting rainrot. At least once a month we go around and look at all the fences and see if any of them need to be repaired so we can keep a very safe environment for the horses.

2. Activity Number Two.

Year	Activity	Where Attained	Student Hours
1997-2000	Safe Handling	Hoopdance Hollow Thistledown Farm Dr. Ron Emond	515

Description of Activity:

The most important thing about working with horses is keeping everyone around you safe. Although accidents happen, most of them can be prevented. When I am riding, helping someone breed or collecting, I always wear a helmet. When I am holding the mare while breeding or teasing, I am always behind a solid wood barrier so if she were to strike she would hit the barrier instead of me. When I handle stallions I am always aware of my surroundings and the people around me so if something does happen, I am able to keep someone from getting hurt. Some medicines that are used on pregnant mares, such as Regumate, can have bad effects on the human body. When I worked with these medicines, I always had rubber gloves on and washed my hands afterwards.

3. Activity Number Three.

Year	Activity	Where Attained	Student Hours
	Breaking and Training		

Description of Activity:

When I started breaking and training the ponies I learned about the amount of patience you need to have. Working with young horses is a challenge. Some days they are perfect and other days it seems like you never taught them anything. When I start training a pony, I teach them how to lunge and respond to voice commands such as walk, trot and stand. Voice commands are very important when you are going to teach the pony how to drive. Once they learn that, I can start putting parts of the harness on them and lunge them with the harness on. Eventually I am able to put the harness on them without a problem. This is when I get them used to the cart and noises. The next thing is to start driving them at least three times a week.

Checklist for Agricultural Placement Proficiency Applications

Award Area: EQUINE SCIENCE

Name: Lisa Extance

Local Advisor	State Advisor	Circle "Y" if the Statement is "YES" and "N" if the Statement is "NO".
Y N	Y N	1. Applicant has been an active FFA member for each year covered by this application. Cover page, Line 20 . (Please consult the local & state copy of membership roster for each year.)
Y N	Y N	2. Applicant has included his/her Social Security Number, Cover page, Line 5 .
Y N	Y N	3. Applicant has been out of high school for no more than one year. Cover page, Line 19 .
Y N	Y N	4. Applicant has graduated and has completed at least three full years of agriculture, or all of the agriculture offered at the school last attended, Cover page, Line 16 . Note: Applicants that are still in high school at the time of applying are eligible to participate at all grade levels.
Y N	Y N	5. Applicant has in operation and has maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which exhibits comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise, Pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.
Y N	Y N	6. The total hours that a student list on Page 4, Section II, are greater than or equal to the hours listed in either the "Skills" portion of Section IV. Pages 6 and 7 or the "Activities" portion of Section IV. Page 8.
Y N	Y N	7. Applicant has included no more than a two page resume.
Y N	Y N	8. Applicant has included no more than a one page written evaluation by the most recent employer or agriculture instructor describing the progress that the applicant has made in developing the skills and competencies necessary for success within the award area in which they are applying.
Y N	Y N	9. Applicant has included a maximum of six photographs with captions containing less than 50 words each.
Y N	Y N	10. Applicant has included a maximum of one page (maximum size 8 1/2" x 11") of additional information. (This may NOT include the following: Video Tapes; Computer Disk; Cd ROM's; DVD's; etc.)
Y N	Y N	11. The Application is properly signed by the applicant, parent or guardian, chapter advisor, school superintendent or principal, and submitted to the State FFA Advisor.

Lisa Extance

Career Objective My short-term goal is to get my bachelors degree in the field of Accounting or Agricultural Business. My long-term goal is to have a full time position in my major.

Education Anywhere High School, Anywhere CT. **June 2001**
Agri-Science and Technology Program

Course Work *Agri-Science and Technology Courses-* Freshman Agri-Science which included Animal and Plant Science and Mechanics, Horse Management 10, Veterinary Science 10, Horse Management 11 & 12.
Academic Courses- Algebra I & II, Geometry, LP.S., Chemistry, Biology, Anatomy and Physiology (Human), Accounting I, Document Preparation

PPA Leadership Activities **Anywhere FFA Chapter**, Anywhere CT. **September 1997-present.**
All four years at Anywhere High School I was an active member in the FFA. I was on the 1998 Horse Evaluation team and helped with many annual activities, I was the assistant secretary at the hunter paces, I sold and helped carry Christmas trees for the Christmas tree sales, I also attended the FFA Banquets. I was able to attend Ag. Day at the Capitol.

FFA Leadership Awards **Anywhere FFA Chapter**, Anywhere CT. **September 1997-present.**
During my freshman year at Anywhere, I received my Green Hand Degree. I was also on the Horse Evaluation Team which received second place in the state and I received ninth individually. At the FFA Banquet, I received the Most Outstanding SAE as a sophomore. As a sophomore, I also received my Chapter Degree.

Work Experience Thistledown Farm, Anywhere CT. **August 1998-present.**
Assistant. Cleaned stalls, paddocks, windows. Imprint trained foals. Trained young horses to lead, stand, lunge, long rein, and listen to voice commands. Held mare while teasing and breeding. Took care of farm while Jim Conway, manager, was away. Helped train a mare to drive. Learned how to harness and hitch. Learned how to drive a pair of stallions. Successfully market ponies. Worked with stallions

broodmares, and foals.

Ron Emond, DVM, Anywhere CT.

June 1998-August 1998.

Assistant. Cleaned stalls, paddocks. Helped collect stallions. Prepared an Artificial Vagina. Administered medication. Froze and thawed sperm. Evaluated sperm for motility, morphology, and concentration. Cleaned mares before Artificial Insemination. Helped palpate by holding the mare. Was able to look at ultrasounds to see how big a follicle is. Learned about embryo transfers. Worked with stallions, broodmares, and foals.

Hoopdance Hollow Farm, Anywhere, CT.

September 1997-August 1998.

Assistant Trainer. Taught summer camp and lessons. Tacked up for lessons. Cleaned stalls. Took hunter/ jumper riding lessons. Trained green horses and showed sale horses to customers. Helped set up courses for horse shows.

Fairfield Equine Practice, Anywhere, CT.

August 1998.

Shadow. Learned about how nerve blocking a part of the horse's leg will enable the vet to pinpoint a problem. Learned about sedatives and their effects, tumors, and bowed tendons. Filled needles and teamed about the different vaccines you need to give your horse if they are traveling outside the United States.

References

Thistledown Farm

Jim Conway
119 Botsford Hill Road
Anywhere, CT 06000
(555) 111-4628

Ron Emond, DVM

Ron Emond
2 Beaver Pond Lane
Anywhere, CT 06000
(555) 111-3008.

Hoopdance Hollow Fann

Sue Peterson
P.O. Box 840
Anywhere, CT 06000
(555) 111-0522

Fairfield Equine Practice

Mark Baus, DVM
32 Bamabis Road
Anywhere, CT 06000
(555) 111-3600

February 8, 2001

EMPLOYER'S STATEMENT

Lisa Extance has been working with me at Thistledown Farm for the past 3 years. At Thistledown, we breed and train Dartmoor Ponies to be used for children to ride and adults to drive. When Lisa started with us, her primary duties were to assist me with the daily care of 3 stallions, 5 mares and some youngstock. This included feeding, grooming, turn-out and stalls. Lisa's quiet and easygoing mannerisms have a very calming effect on the ponies.

As Lisa became more familiar with the routine at Thistledown, it was easy for me to rely on her to do the daily chores. She is able to recognize a small problem before it becomes a major one. If I were around, she would bring it to my attention. If I were away, she would be capable of dealing with it.

Thistledown covers 4 to 6 mares a year, and Lisa has to help me with the breeding. This requires a great deal of knowledge of how horses and ponies react at breeding time. It can be very dangerous if a handler does not know what he or she is doing. Again, Lisa was very capable to assist me with this task in a very safe manner.

To me, training is the most important duty at Thistledown Farm. Our main goal is to provide a sound, sane pony for any child to enjoy. Our training starts the day the foal arrives. Everything we do with our ponies is in a sense training. Whether it be picking up feet or standing on cross ties for grooming. We also train to ride and drive. A lot of groundwork is required, lunging along with voice commands. Lisa spent a great deal of time working with our ponies in a training situation. This was very important to us so we could achieve our goal of producing excellent children's ponies.

In closing, I can say without a doubt, Lisa Extance has shown to me that she is very capable of working with horses and ponies in a very knowledgeable and safe manner.

Submitted by:

James E. Conway
Manager
Thistledown Farm

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Lisa Extance

EQUINE SCIENCE

PHOTO #

1



Over the summer, I drove the two Dartmoor stallions, Dunmere Clouded Buff and Wilby Viceroy. Driving two stallions as a pair is different than driving one stallion. The pair will bite and are hard to keep alert while driving near mares. Driving one stallion is easier because there is no competition.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Lisa Extance

EQUINE SCIENCE

PHOTO #

2



Thistledown Farm is a Dartmoor breeding farm. Every year we cover at least two mares. Before we breed, we clean the stallion's penis and the mar's vulva to decrease the chances of the mare getting an infection.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Lisa Extance

EQUINE SCIENCE

PHOTO #

3



Every year at Thistledown Farm we have at least two newborn foals. I imprint train foals from the day they are born, and I handle them in order to get them used to being worked on by people. This makes it easier to trim their feet and lead them with the mare.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Lisa Extance

EQUINE SCIENCE

PHOTO #

4



When working at a specialized breeding farm I was able to work in a lab environment. I learned how to evaluate and store semen, and prepare an artificial vagina for collection. I was able to help Dr. Emond artificially inseminate many mares, palpate a mare and collect semen from stallions.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Lisa Extance

EQUINE SCIENCE

PHOTO #

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At Hoopdance Hollow Farm, I school horses over a course of eight fences, which helps me get them in shape for the show season. This also enables me to work on lengthening and shortening strides and making sure that the horse will be capable of jumping a clean round.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Lisa Extance

EQUINE SCIENCE

PHOTO #

6



Correctly harnessing a horse is very important. I make sure the horse is harnessed correctly so he will be comfortable while pulling the cart. I put the harness on the same way every time, making sure that the crupper, over check and back saddle isn't too tight or too loose.

Personal Page

Lisa Extance has been with me for six years. At first just taking lessons, then she started helping me with a few things. She worked her way up to doing everything. I cannot speak highly enough of Lisa. She is very reliable and will never let you down. Her word is golden. She can clip any horse and braid well enough for an "A" rated show circuit. She can pull manes and trim my show and schooling horses. She helped me through the years by taking up my lesson horses, teaching summer camp, cleaning tack and anything else that needed to be done. She also went to shows as a groom. She helped me with sale horses, schooling them and even showing them to customers.

Lisa is also a great rider, she has worked very hard to get where she is today. She rides my jumper as well as I did when I was showing him. Her equitation is excellent and is able to show in the jumpers, hunters or any other class that she wanted to. It took a lot of time and dedication for Lisa to get where she is now.

Lisa is very kind to animals and very polite to adults and their children. She is a wonderful person to be around and very trustworthy.

Sue Peterson
Riding Instructor/Employer
Hoopdance Hollow Farm
(555) 111-0522