

## BUSINESS – SMART PAK

### Smartpak's Smart Mare Balance is very smart

by Tina LoCurto

I came across a Facebook post about Smart Pak's Smart Mare Balance supplement for hormonal and/or grumpy mares. My Paso Fino mare Karma fit the bill.

I'm not a big believer and have not used supplements in the past. Smartpak has made me a believer. Karma's ears were back more than up and always gave me the stink eye. She'd stand in the back of her stall and didn't want to be bothered. I told people she was happy when her ears were back since they were back so often.

After using Smartpak's Smart Mare Balance for 56 days, her ears are up, she stands at the stall door to socialize more, I don't get the stink eye as much and she seems to be an all-around happier mare. Everyone at the barn is impressed and thrilled with the difference, especially since she's no longer giving them the look that instills fear.

Smart Pak also sent the Smart Omega Three supplement for hair and coat. After 56 days of use, I've

noticed her tail, forelock and mane are thicker, longer and healthier now. Her coat has such a shine! I spot bathe her and brush her once a week.

In a short time, I have seen a difference in her attitude and appearance. The bonus is her new attitude. My non-grumpy, more happy little palomino Paso Fino mare even lets me give her kisses now. She's more sociable and has new friends in the pasture.

Smartpak supplements are packaged just for the height and weight of your horse. They come in convenient sealed cups that are easy to put in their feed and keep track of. They come with the horse's name on so they can't get mixed up. It's not going to cost you a fortune either. The Smart Mare Balance is \$18.95 a month plus shipping and handling and the Smart Omega Three is \$13.95 a month plus shipping and handling. Well worth the money!

Call Smartpak at 800-461-8898 or visit [www.SmartpakEquine.com](http://www.SmartpakEquine.com).

I am a Smartpak supplement believer now.

## NEW PRODUCT – McCOY HORSE TIE PLUS

### McCoy Horse Tie Plus is the no-tangle tie

by Tina LoCurto

After Leo McCoy created the Horse Tie Plus and used it with his horses, he founded a company to make it available for other horse owners.

McCoy told me how safe, durable, convenient and easy it is to use. So of course, I asked if I could test it with Karma and the other horses at the barn.

When I was a trail boss (before I went to college for equestrian studies) we always used tie lines for the all-day, overnight and weekend trail adventures. We constantly had to untie and tie the line after adding or removing a horse. It takes at least two people, depending on how many horses were on the line. If a horse broke its tie and got off the line, you have to get a search party together. It's stressful to say the least. Now those days are over.

With the McCoy Horse Tie Plus, you are worry free. You can add, move and remove a horse without having to untie your line.

You can hang a water bucket or hay bag while your horse is tied to it. It's tangle free. You can also use it to attach a shade so your horses can be out of the sun and stay cool. Convenience is everything.

The McCoy Horse Tie Plus won't break. It's made with a solid metal snap that you attach to the line. Use it at home during training. The rope has enough give that the horse will stay on the tie no matter how much it pulls. The only thing that would break is the rope. So tie it tight folks.

The \$39.95 McCoy Horse Tie Plus is worth the money and will last a long time.

I highly recommend this product. The McCoy Horse Tie Plus is available in black and red. Other colors are available upon request. A 5/8- or 1/2-inch rope is recommended. I tried both sizes and they both worked great.

If you have any questions or want more info, contact Leo McCoy at 815-973-2935 or email [mccoy.leoj@gmail.com](mailto:mccoy.leoj@gmail.com).

See his ad on page 9.

## BREED – HIGHLAND PONY

### The Highland pony – a unique breed

The Highland Pony is the largest of the nine British native pony breeds. The breed's development and history is closely intertwined with Scotland, its native country. Kings, queens and commoners have loved and supported the breed. The breed is rare in America with approximately only 90 in the U.S. and Canada combined.

The Highland pony started out as a small- to medium-sized native in Scotland. Over time the introduction of local, Arab, and draft breeds produced a larger, more substantial pony. Registration started in the early 1900s as part of the National Pony Society in the U.K., and later split to form the Highland Pony Society (HPS) in Scotland, which maintains the registry today. Although the ponies had an infusion of horse breeds, the height limit of 14.2 hands has been maintained to retain the native pony hardiness and intelligence necessary to survive the harsh Scottish winters and maintain soundness in the mountainous

terrain.

Throughout its history, the Highland Pony had to be tough and versatile. They were used for transporting people and game, shepherding, cattle droving, logging and working the land. They were also used as mounts for raiders, warring clans and kings, and even for smuggling famed Scottish whiskey. In the 1950s pony trekking, (the British term for trail riding) was started by a Highland pony owner in Scotland, who needed a summer income from his ponies. He realized that their physical strength and easy-going dispositions, made them ideal for carrying tourists through the magnificent Highlands. Many Highland pony enthusiasts can trace their introduction to the breed on a trek while visiting Scotland. The royal family has been involved with Highland ponies for generations and Queen Elizabeth is the patron of the HPS as well as a Highland breeder and rider.

*HIGHLAND PONY*

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## DISCIPLINE – JUMPING

### Jumper schooling show set for July 9 in Jordan, Minn.

by Todd J. McIntyre

I'm looking forward to July 9, the date of the 2011 Great Prairie Jumper Schooling Show presented by Great Prairie Foods. It will be held at Heiland Hill Training Center in Jordan, Minnesota. Classes ranging from ground rails to three-foot, six-inch jumps and some fun contests as well. If you are a beginning rider, training a new horse, preparing for Pony Club Nationals, or just want to observe many remarkable horse and rider teams in action, then reserve the date and come to Jordan, Minnesota.

Traffic attendants will be on duty and signs will be posted for parking directions as visitors approach Heiland Hill Training Center. With its natural sand arenas, Heiland Hill has some of the best footing in the region. The jumping course designed by Liz Lund of Liz Lund Eventing will ensure that each class level will be adequately challenged. A limited number of stalls are available for

those needing overnight accommodations. Even if you can't participate, volunteers are always needed. A plethora of opportunities exist on event day and two weekends prior.

On July 11, 2010, Reign of Power, an unraced thoroughbred, was donated to Great Prairie Sports. While very good progress has been achieved with her retraining into a pentathlon jumping horse, she has yet to experience competition. Reign of Power may make her jumping debut during the jumper schooling show in Jordan.

For more information about the Great Prairie Jumper Schooling Show visit [www.greatprairiesports.com](http://www.greatprairiesports.com) or e-mail [tjm@investmentps.com](mailto:tjm@investmentps.com).

Great Prairie Foods distributes Great Prairie Guatemala Roast Coffee and Great Prairie 100% Extra Virgin Olive Oil. For information visit [www.greatprairiefoods.com](http://www.greatprairiefoods.com). The company also sponsors other athletic events around the metro area.