



**Macedon
Ranges**
Shire Council

**Economic Development
& Tourism**

Guidelines:

Assessing Equine Business Applications

2014



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Glossary

Stallion	Entire male used for Breeding
Mare	Female horse over 4 years of age
Gelding	Castrated male
Rig (Rigg)	Male horse with one or two testicles withheld in the abdomen
Filly	Female horse under 4 years of age
Colt	Male horse under 4 years of age
Foaling Down	Act of Mare giving birth to a foal
Discipline	The 'style' of riding undertaken by an individual/horse
Equine	A horse of any type, colour or size
Olympic Disciplines	3 Day Eventing, Dressage, Jumping & Modern Pentathlon
Western Disciplines	Cutting, Reining, Campdrafting, Barrel Racing
Farrier	Hoof care – trimming and shoeing
Chiropractor, Bowen, Physiotherapists	As per human application
Horse Dentist	Specialist in the area of horse's teeth
Trainer/Coach	Someone paid to instruct either riders or horses in one or many
Hotwire	Fencing wire that is electrified to give an electric shock when touched
Offset Hotwire	As above but offset by approximately 30cm from the fence line
Wind Suck	Horse chewing timber and sucking in air
Sighter Wire	Normal wire covered with a white plastic coating
Sighter Tape	25ml wide tape that can be electrified
Creep Feed	Foal feeding set up that allows foals under top rail to feed independently
Tack Room	Room for storing equipment used in riding and training
Feed Shed	Stores feed such as oats, chaff and supplementary feed inclusions
Stable bedding	Commonly straw, sawdust or timber shavings
Arenas & Ménages	Enclosed or designated area to work horses, typically 60m x 20m
Horse Crush	Timber or metal small holding pen for veterinary examinations
Race	Used for Thoroughbreds, Standardbreds and Endurance Horses (can also be a 'chute' to guide horses in to transportation)
Round Yard	Round sand yard (usually post and rail or portable steel panels) for training horses

Introduction

Horses **are** big business. They are widely recognised by government agencies as being Victoria's third largest industry and, in dollar terms, sit not far behind tourism in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

The industry places the average expense (per annum) of horse ownership at \$10,000.00 per horse – and this does not include the purchase price.

The 2013 Inglis Melbourne Premier Yearling Sale brought in an average sale price of \$110,000.00 and Black Caviar's half-brother fetched a cool \$5million - the highest price paid for a yearling in Australia that year.

Horse owners are as diverse as the many disciplines that they follow. Approximately 70% female and 30% male follow and compete in horse sports. Men and Women compete equally in the majority of disciplines, including the Olympics.

Horses can be used for both recreation and generating income, so deciding whether a property is, or can be used for, business may not be easily evaluated by the infrastructure proposed. While one horse owner may want comprehensive infrastructure on their recreation only horse property, another may be held back by budgetary constraints and put forward a more basic concept, yet still be planning to conduct the property as a business.

Subsidiary businesses like farriers, chiropractors, horse dentists, bowen therapists, trainers and riding coaches (and others) usually travel to their equine clients, but may also have the required facilities on their own property without actually keeping horses there full time.

Purpose of this document

This document has been designed to provide an understanding of the needs of the equine industry and the level of infrastructure and investment required to seriously pursue a business proposal.

The document is also to inform and provide information for Council officers when assessing proposals for the establishment of an equine facility, and sets out requirements for applicants to consider when preparing an application.

What to do next

If you are considering establishing and/or expanding an existing equine business in the Macedon Ranges or are seeking to purchase property for development, we urge you to contact the Council first to seek advice:

- Contact the Council on 5422 0333 and ask for assistance from the Planning Help Desk.

And / or

- Request a pre-application meeting by contacting the Economic Development and Tourism Department on 5421 9616. This is highly recommended and can provide you with the necessary guidance and the steps that would need to be undertaken to achieve your goal.

Understanding the equine industry

Horses require a high level of care and the daily routine can be intensive, depending on the size of the property, the availability of grass and what the horse is being used or trained for. Generally, horses are checked and/or fed at least twice a day. Spelling and retired horses may be on large paddocks and depending on access to grass and the time of year, may need hay and/or feed with vitamin supplements.

Horses are flight animals, meaning that they can react to unforeseen circumstances often leading to serious injury or death e.g. hitting fences and getting tangled. An injured or sick horse may need to be stabled and can require 24 hour supervision with veterinary care.

Often the best equine business proposals demonstrate a high level of care and are undertaken by experienced and knowledgeable professionals in this specialised field. Sound business applications should demonstrate a documented understanding of horse welfare and care, for example:

- Horses need access to shelter (either built infrastructure and/or tree coverage);
- The land management plan should show an understanding of land and weed management practices, given that some weeds, and even some pastures can cause harm to horses.

The infrastructure needs will vary depending on the type of equine business application, however, these are considered as some of the basics for any equine business:

- Good fencing
- Shelter
- Access to water
- Stables / yards
- Training facilities (depending on type of business)

Breeding Horses

Due to the intensive nature of breeding horses, a certain level of infrastructure is required for the safety of foals and young horses e.g. fencing, appropriate size stables and veterinary areas. Other facilities may include a crush for pregnancy testing and artificial insemination facilities if providing that service on site. May also include stallion yards, if using own stallion/s to service mares.

Mares need to be settled into foaling paddocks/areas at least two months prior to the due date and ideally, the set up needs to allow for a system where mares and foals can be easily moved around the property for training purposes and changing paddocks e.g. via a series of laneways and gates. Training facilities such as a round yard and/or arena and possibly undercover areas may also be required.

When foaling down, there may be a matter of minutes to either safely deliver a foal or not, therefore, observation is the key and if the mare is showing any sign of distress, then a vet will be required. Even after the foal is born, there are a number of health issues that become evident, therefore 24 hour observation is required during foaling down periods.

Foaling season is generally from August to November each year and this will be the key focus of any breeding operation at this time. Throughout the rest of the year other activities take place such as: weaning foals from the mares; foal handling and training, yearling preparation ready for sale.

Horse Agistment

Horse agistment properties cater for ALL horses ranging from recreational/pleasure horses to high level competition horses. The thoroughbred / racing industries also offer agistment for horses that are either spelling or recovering from injury and rehabilitation before returning to the track.

It is the business owner's responsibility to ensure that all horses in their care receive proper attention to ensure horse health and safety, and that the facilities are adequate for this purpose. In many cases, the business owner is also responsible for the care and safety of the "horse owner" who may not be very knowledgeable and have limited riding and/or horse handling capability.

Other activities that can take place on a "recreational / equestrian" horse agistment property:

- Some establishments offer training and coaching as well as agistment
- Visiting trainers can attend property for clinics which are open to agistees and others
- Sometimes agistees will organise a lesson day with a preferred trainer
- A clinic is generally one to two days and can either be group and/or private lessons
- A clinic with visiting instructor (sometimes national and international trainers) can go for several days and each rider has a private lesson booked each day of the clinic.
- Fence-sitters – people who pay to watch the clinic (depending on the popularity of visiting instructor, this could range from 2 to 50 people), however, the higher level trainer will expect indoor facilities the majority of the time.

Horse Training

Training of the horse can take a minimum of an hour a day, depending on that particular horse's training regime and discipline. A racehorse may spend time on a mechanised horse walker as well as training on a race-track. Not all trainers have these facilities on-site and many train their horses at the Kyneton Racecourse or other nearby training facilities.

An equestrian horse may be trained on a sand arena or indoor facility. This may also include trail riding, fitness preparation work and taking the horse over jumps.

Horses may also require a massage or other physiotherapy treatment, veterinary attention, farrier / feet trimming, worming etc.

Understanding the zones and activities

This is to provide a basic understanding of the zones and how they may affect your business plan. Because this is not a simple process, we encourage you to come in and discuss your proposal with us first.

The Farming Zone

If you are considering purchasing a property in the Farming Zone, activities undertaken by your “non-equine” neighbours may impact your horse business. Therefore, you need to carefully consider the location and possible impacts.

The primary purpose of the Farming Zone is to provide sustainable agriculture which means that your neighbour may be undertaking noisy farm activities near your boundary fence. This can happen at various times of the day and may include: herding sheep/cattle, spraying, slashing, cropping/ cutting hay etc.

It is important to be aware that the use of land for a dwelling is a discretionary use and is generally discouraged unless:

- The lot is at least 40 hectares or greater.
- The need for a dwelling can be substantiated as an ancillary use required to support the agricultural activity, in this case, the equine use and requires someone to be on site 24 hours a day. If selecting this zone, a sight with an existing dwelling is strongly suggested.

The Rural Living Zone

The Rural Living Zone may be another avenue to pursue as the use of the land in this zone for a dwelling is generally “as of right”; and there are various lot size options in this zone to choose from.

However, this zone provides for residential use in a rural environment, so you need to consider if your business activities will have a negative impact on your neighbours. Talk to you neighbours first, see if they would be supportive of your proposed development!

The Rural Conservation Zone

The purpose of this zone is to primarily protect the environment so there may be limitations to the business activities you can undertake in this zone. A dwelling is also a discretionary activity in this zone, same as the Farming Zone (as outlined above).

If you are simply breeding or training, there may not be an issue, however, if you want to lease your facilities for clinics, workshops and/or hold an open day / event, you may not be able to do so.

Further, large parts of the Macedon Ranges Shire are designated water catchment areas. This means that applications for dwellings in these areas will be referred to the relevant water authority, and may be refused on the basis of protecting water quality.

Other matters to consider when choosing a site

Roads:

There are generally two types of roads across the state of Victoria: roads maintained by VicRoads and roads maintained by Councils.

Often a permit application will be referred to VicRoads and Council's Engineering Department so you may want to consider the following when choosing a property for your business:

- If your proposed business has the potential to generate volumes of vehicle movements (i.e. cars, floats, trucks) then avoid long gravel road locations and focus on properties with access to a sealed or well-constructed road.
- If the entrance to the property is located on a main road, assess whether or not cars and floats / trucks can safely turn in and out of the property.

Council's Engineering Department will be able to provide advice on this matter, and you can also contact VicRoads.

Information you will need to provide to support a business application

If you are lodging a planning application for an equine business, you will need to demonstrate that your proposal is “business ready”. Keep in mind that the more detail that you are able to provide will help support your application.

The planning application should be supported by the following information, as relevant to your specific equine business.

- a. A detailed business plan and farm management plan
 - b. Demonstrated history/knowledge of the industry
 - c. Demonstrated past experience and qualifications
 - d. Achievements as a competitor and/or trainer
 - e. Evidence of any training or other qualifications to operate the proposed business
 - f. Confirm that qualifications to operate the proposed business and the facilities comply with the code of practice for the welfare of horses.
 - g. Number of clients already being serviced and where
 - h. Confirm that appropriate land management practices for the business has been considered, including the number of horses the property can accommodate e.g. paddock size requirements, rotation of paddocks, worming cycles, weather conditions, grasses weed plan etc.
 - i. Specify whether the business proposal is better described as a hobby or a business and why
 - j. Current Australian Business Number and any other business registrations
 - k. If business is a registered primary producer, provide evidence
 - l. Number of employees currently in the business, as well as expected employment numbers as business grows
 - m. For applications related to stud/breeding, what studbook/s are the horse/s registered with and how many horses are registered – provide proof
 - n. Provide certificates of insurance for insured horses
 - o. Confirm whether the applicant/s have insurance relating to the business e.g. farm insurance, public liability or professional indemnity
 - p. Provide copies of any licences associated with the equine business
 - q. Demonstrate a certain level of equine infrastructure needed for the equine business (please refer to infrastructure requirements below which illustrates a broad range of equine infrastructure), and specify if it is intended to stage development.
 - r. Specify the proposed capital expenditure for the project. If it is staged, what is the proposed capital expenditure of each stage.
2. Applications for new or start-up businesses need to include as much detail as possible to demonstrate and prove the legitimacy of the equine business.

Equine Infrastructure:

Fencing

Perimeter and internal fencing will be required on all equine properties. There are many styles and types of fencing, however the ideal horse fence will:

- . Be an impenetrable barrier
- . Be low maintenance
- . Constructed in a manner that ensures horses can't get injured in it
- . Have plenty of "give" to minimise fencing injuries
- . Be highly visible
- . Be long lasting

Timber Fencing



Often referred to as Post and Rail this traditional type of horse fencing is attractive, however, as the cost of timber increases in Australia, especially hardwoods - timber fencing can be an expensive option.

Timber fencing does tend to require more maintenance than other types of fencing. If the fence is painted it will require regular painting throughout its life. Horses that like to chew rails or "wind suck" can be a problem. An offset hotwire or a metal strip (rail guard) can be used to solve this issue. This type of fencing is unforgiving if a horse hits it at speed and can break leaving exposed splinters and nails.

PVC or vinyl – interlocking posts and rails



Several companies are marketing this type of fencing in Australia and it is often used where safety and aesthetics are of high importance. It's an attractive, low maintenance and highly visible horse fence. Pricing varies from expensive to very expensive. It tends to be not as strong as natural timber, as rails can 'pop out' if horses push or run through them.

By themselves PVC or Vinyl fences may not contain flighty horses such as young thoroughbreds effectively. To ensure horses do not push the rails and pop them out an additional internal electric or hot wire is often added. Some of the brands can also warp and discolour, creating a very unattractive sight after 2-3 years.

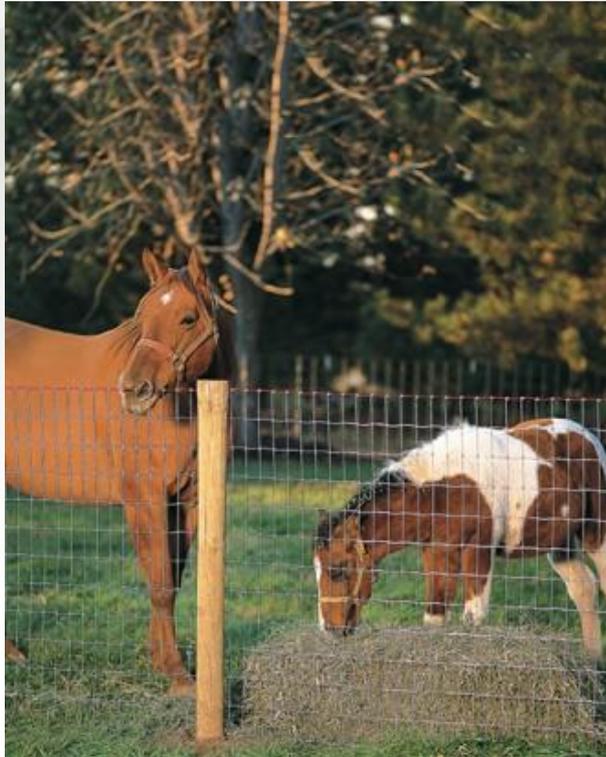
Synthetic Rails



Are normally constructed with two or three spaced wires covered with a synthetic coating to replicate wood rails. They are strong, have plenty of give, and are at the same time relatively low maintenance.

Synthetic rails are highly visible and from a distance look similar to timber rails and several companies are marketing this type of fencing in Australia.

Wire Mesh Fencing



This type of fencing is long lasting, low maintenance and quick to erect - it is also about the most forgiving when a horse runs into it. It is relatively inexpensive and the only option if you need to keep children, dogs and feral animals away from your horses.

When choosing which type of mesh to use - the smaller the mesh opening the better, so that horses don't get their feet caught in it. Owners should choose a mesh that uses soft wire rather than high tensile wire, as it is far more forgiving if a horse gets caught in it. One drawback with this type of fencing is visibility - hence it is usually used in conjunction with timber or synthetic rails or sighter wire/tape as the top rail.

Sighter Wire or Tape Fencing



A safe and economical option for internal fences. This fencing has plenty of give and is visible. Horses can - and will - breach this type of fence on occasion therefore it may not be the best option for a busy main road.

Electric Fencing or Hot Wires



This type of fencing is normally used as a temporary solution or as an internal combination with other types of fencing if needing to section off some of the paddock for injured or overweight horses. Electric fencing is a psychological barrier as opposed to a physical barrier.

High tensile electric fencing has poor visibility and can prove highly dangerous for horses if they become entangled. Composite polyester cables have better visibility, have more "give" and are a safer option. Again, not the best option for a busy main road.

The following farm fences are **NOT** recommended for Horses

Hinge Joint

A good field fence for animals other than horses. The wire spacing is too large for horses that get caught in this type of fence. In addition it is often manufactured from high tensile steel. If a horse does get caught, the horse will break long before the wire does.

Chicken Wire

The name says it all.

Chickens weigh in at 3kg and reach speeds of 15kph.

Horses weigh in at 500-750kgs and can reach speeds of 75kph.

Weld Mesh

Horses will break the weld leaving sharp, dangerous wires exposed.

This type of wire has no "give".

Barbed Wire

Will result in serious injury, scarring and numerous vet bills.

Single or Multiple Strand High Tensile Wire

This type of wire often proves fatal to horses once they become entangled.

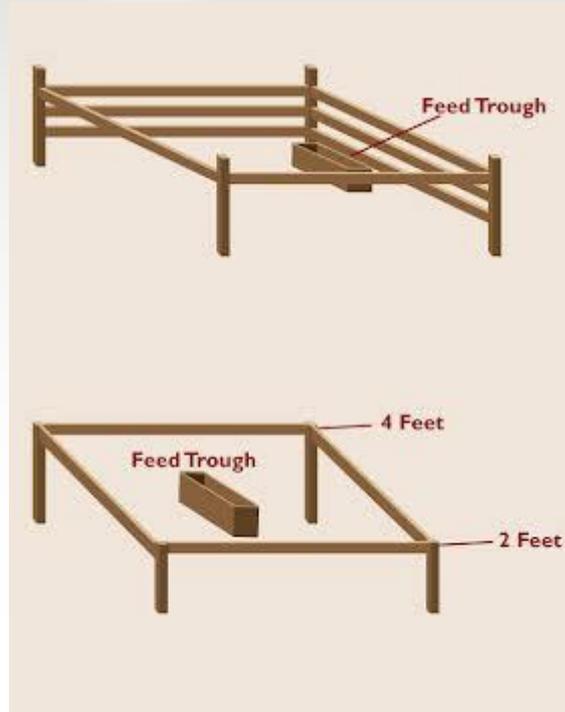
Paddock Shelters

Due to the high rainfall and cold conditions and high temperatures in summer, most Horse properties in the Macedon Ranges Shire require 'in paddock' horse shelters. Usually three sided, with the back side facing the worst weather conditions. Often constructed of timber or timber/iron construction and lined with combination of timber, marine ply and rubber. These boxes may also incorporate feeding and water options. Additional protection can be provided by boundary hedgerows of suitable vegetation.



Creep Feeds

Properties with Mares and Foals will need foal feeders or 'Creep Feeds' in paddocks. Foals need independent feeding from about 4 weeks of age. The safest way to achieve this is via an enclosure that Mares can't enter but foals can. Here are a couple of examples:



Separating Horses

Horses can be kept in groups, or 'herds', or individually. Stallions, in most circumstances, are kept individually and will not have access to another horse over their fence. This is usually achieved by setting horse properties out with a series of paddocks and laneways, making movement of horses easier and safer. There may be a requirement to 'double' fence boundaries or electrify internal fencing to stop 'over fence' fighting/playing which often leads to injury.

Entrances and Driveways

Transportation of horses is via horse float, small rigid truck or semi-trailer. Therefore entrances and driveways would need to have consideration of the size of vehicle entering and leaving the property. Culverts and drainage will also need to be considered, as well as the types of finish placed on the driveway. Some sizes of blue metal, rock or recycled concrete could get caught in the horse's hoof (feet), causing pain and even injury.

Below is example of extreme case:



Hay Storage

Unlike other farm animals storage of hay for horses needs to be carried out in an enclosed shed to avoid weather damage. Weather damage including mould can cause illness and even death in horses. This would be ideally situated separately from feed sheds in case of spontaneous combustion of poorly produced hay stored at over 22% moisture content.



Tack Room and Feed Sheds

Are often attached or incorporated into stable blocks or as a standalone shedding facility. They should ideally be lockable to deter theft of riding equipment, hay and to ensure horses cannot gain unattended entry. Sizing will vary according to the size of the facility and pursuit or endeavour of the facility – e.g. a carriage driving or harness racing facility would require substantial additional under cover storage for buggies etc.



Equipment and Storage

The size of these structures will be determined by the number of horses on the property and the business or discipline being undertaken. Examples of equipment that may need undercover facilities include: - horse floats, trucks, tractors and trailers. Either open-sided or lockable would both be acceptable.



Stables

Stables are required by most horse owners for a variety of reasons including:

- Warmth and shelter for horses
- Keeping horses clean prior to competition, showing or exhibition
- Foaling down mares
- Treating injured horses
- Safe holding facility

Stables can be purpose built or incorporated into existing sheds via a pre-fab design. Design styles and construction vary between brick, iron & timber, while the number of stables required is variable depending on need. Some common designs are American barn and aisle exemplified below:



Stables can be either standalone buildings, or incorporated beside training areas, arenas or ménages (see photo on right where doorway looks into an undercover riding arena on right hand side).

Sizes vary depending on pursuit and size of horses regularly accommodated in the stables, below are some common sizes:

- 3m x 3m – suitable only for small horses and ponies
- 3.65m x 3.65m – considered an average size
- 4.2m x 4.2m – considered correct for larger horses including thoroughbreds and warmbloods – can be used for foaling down of smaller horses
- 5m x 5m – ideal for foaling down

Considerations of air ventilation, drainage and flooring types should be examined. Horses on a concrete floor (even when covered in bedding) are not considered ideal. Dirt or 'honeycomb' matting with bedding overlays of either straw, timber shavings or sawdust is common and more suitable.

Stable Bedding and Manure

Stables are ‘mucked out’ (cleaned) at least once a day, or more if horses are being housed in them overnight or for long periods. It is impossible to separate all of the bedding from the manure. The Manure is then stored in suitable piles outside, and often in open, bin type situations to decompose. Horse owners often have a ‘farm gate’ sale way of disposing of the composted manure by selling (giving) to local gardeners. This is a sustainable option of disposal of this by-product.



Holding and Training Yards

Yards are used for a variety of reasons within the horse industry. Here’s a quick overview and visual of the most common. It should be especially noted that sizes of yards depending on size of breed, discipline and use. Construction material will also vary, however the information below outlines several common styles:

Stable yard – usually attached via back door of a stable or stable block.



Independent holding yards – either with or without shelter and can be either dirt/grass or sand.



Round yards or round pens (used for breaking in and training young horses) – usually featuring sand footing, tall sides and rubber lined – please note these can often have walls that slope outwards.



Yards suitable for riding/training. Most commonly these are described as 'round yards'. The industry recommends a 17 meter diameter for a horse to safely negotiate at a canter. These are used for the ongoing training of horses in many disciplines:



Arenas and Menages

Again, these are industry specific but can be roughly broken down to the following types. Of special note is the requirement to have a sprinkler system to keep dust to a minimum while working horses for both indoor and outdoor setups:

Indoor Arena – undercover and may need to feature a viewing/judging area either elevated and/or tiered seating:



Undercover arena:



Outdoor arena:



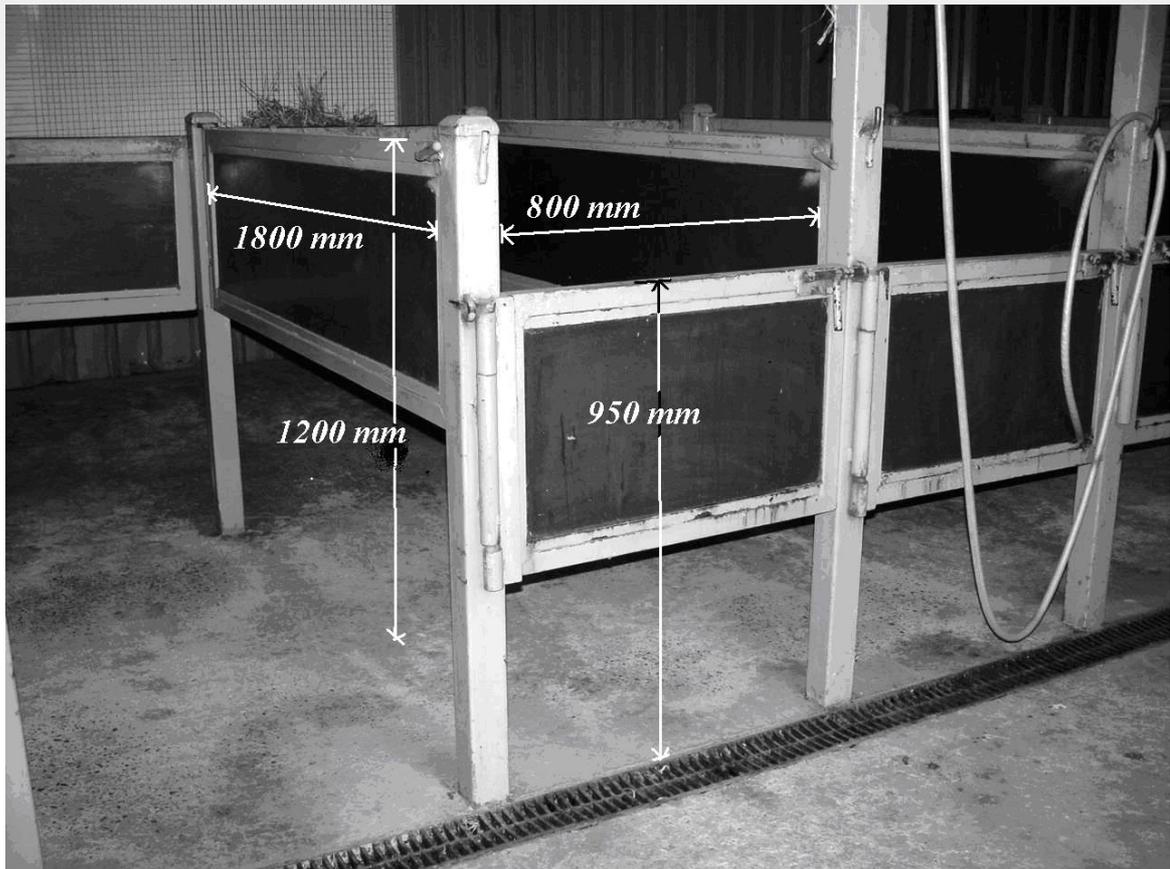
Two special areas of note are surface and lighting. Different disciplines will require different depths of footing. Footing is most commonly well packed clay under bed, with compacted crushed rock over for drainage and finished on top with sand. However there are some rubber, wood and manmade surface finishing products available.

For continuous winter use lighting is a requirement for both indoor and outdoor arenas. Since horses can be spooked easily by their shadows at night, a horse riding arena must be brilliantly lit but this means hefty utility bills. Advances in LED Solar Lighting may be the answer for a more sustainable solution.

Veterinary Requirements

Many horses are immovable when hurt or injured so it is commonplace for veterinary practitioners to visit horse properties to administer advice, medication, minor surgical procedures and breeding scans.

Vets will not (due to OH & S) internally examine a mare for pregnancy testing unless she is confined in a horse crush meeting certain design criteria, the following two are typical, with the second having a small attached yard to house a nursing foal:



For larger horse facilities there may be the need for a concrete floored shed area with drainage for disinfecting or hosing out. This may also offer stabling to confine sick animals, either for bio security reasons or to keep them quiet following injury or veterinary procedure.

Loading Ramp



Is used in a number of ways and comes in several designs, from simple as indicated above or have higher sides for difficult to load horses. When set at the right height the truck or float backs up to the loading ramp, lowers the tailgate and horses can then be led in to the vehicle.

Horse Walker, Treadmill Machine and Aqua Walker

As advances are made in the training of elite human athletes, many of these ideas are being passed on to those involved in horse disciplines that require high fitness levels.

Trainers involved in racing and horse sports such as endurance riding are incorporating horse walking machines, treadmills or aqua walking machines for resistance training. Additionally aqua walkers are used post injury in the recovery stage.



This is a common horse walker. Look carefully and you'll see a horse in the front 'cubicle' – this one is a three horse size.



The above shows a horse galloping on a treadmill machine.



Aqua Walkers feature in training at most modern thoroughbred racehorse establishments.

Laundry

In the interests of best practice bio security and general cleanliness there could be the need for a laundry complete with washing facilities. These may extend up to large commercial washing and drying facilities for towels, rugs, saddle cloths etc. Should this request be made it does have credibility.

Horse Wash

Horses are washed on a regular basis, particularly after working/training and before demonstration/competition. Fresh clean hot and cold water is the ideal preference with few using dam water. In most cases, soaps used are extremely mild and therefore do not create environmental problems, should the drainage system be quite simple and work on evaporation/absorption into the surrounding paddocks. Some common styles of horse wash are:



Water Tanks

An adequate amount of fresh water is required on all horse properties. While paddock, stable and yard drinking water may be supplied via dams on properties, other areas will require harvested water.

Employee Housing

Secondary housing accommodation may well be required on horse properties – particularly those where breeding and foaling down are undertaken. These are commonly standalone buildings situated close to the stabling facilities. They provide accommodation for stable-hands, grooms and other property employees. Often they are incorporated into the design of the indoor arena, stable blocks or other shedding.

Office, Entertainment and Toilet

A lot of Equestrian facilities will need a designated office area to complete the everyday running of the facility. Toilet facilities will also need to be offered – perhaps they could be near the laundry facilities for the possibility of utilising re-cycled water. In some businesses, an entertainment area may be required to fulfil the needs of visitors to the facility.

Crows Nest for Studs

The Southern Hemisphere breeding season begins on 1st of August, which is ideally the first day a foal should be born. This is strictly adhered to in the Thoroughbred Industry particularly. A mare's gestation is 340 days or just short of 11 months. Mares will start to arrive at studs from about 6-8 weeks before their due date and will be constantly monitored from then on for signs that the mare is ready to foal. As the mare gets closer to her due date she will be moved closer to the yards or stables chosen for her to foal down in.

During the last few days she will have 24 hour supervision either by a foaling alarm attached to the headstall (emits an alarm remotely when mare is lying down), or a CCTV camera or a stud hand situated high enough to be able to watch several mare yards at once (a crows nest).

Mare foaling is 'explosive' and there is a very small window in which to intervene with a successful outcome for both foal and mother if anything goes wrong with the normal birthing process.

Training Tracks

Disciplines looking for race or performance fitness, such as: - horses being prepared for harness and thoroughbred racing, as well as 3 day event horses and endurance horses, may want the inclusion of a purpose built training track or tracks. Standard harness racing track: is 1609 meters

Standard thoroughbred racing track: thoroughbred races vary in distance, but are usually somewhere between five and twelve furlongs – a furlong is a distance of 201.168 meters.

At professional establishments the training track/s may also require an elevated observation tower for timing and recording of track work.



Artificial Insemination (AI):

Many horse breeding businesses now use artificial insemination practices to impregnate mares. The type of facilities generally needed for this type of practice can range from a fairly basic set up to a high level veterinary practice.

Basic facilities required are a crush for impregnating mares, and if collecting semen on site (from stallions) a dummy horse will also be needed; as well as a laboratory for testing and storage procedures.

