
The Nebraska Advantage . . . Equine



The Nebraska equine industry, boasting 180,000 horses, is an economically diverse and productive part of the state's agricultural industry, contributing nearly \$700 million annually. While donkeys, mules, and wild horses are a part of this diversity, horses used for work and leisure comprise the major part of the equine industry. A strong historical tradition stems from Fort Robinson being home to a cavalry remount station and an Olympic training ground. While those aspects are part of Nebraska's rich past, those currently involved in horse production have continued to uphold that strong tradition by responding to a competitive market and continuing to strive for excellence in providing horses for both performance and

pleasure. With a growing focus on the equine industry within the state, there are more options for those involved in the industry than ever before.

Genetics

Horses in Nebraska consist of 13 different breeds, including the major breeds of Quarter Horse, Paint, Arabian, Thoroughbred, and Appaloosa. There has also been a resurgence of draft breeds in recent years. No matter what breed, Nebraska producers consistently provide smart, functional, athletic horses for any situation.

Performance



Horse producers in the state have played a vital role in providing horses for use in ranching. When breeding horses for work, producers continue to provide sound, versatile horses that possess the "cow sense" to meet the grueling demands of ranching operations. No matter the task - cutting, roping, or feedlot pen riding - Nebraska horses work.

What once began as a foundation for the state's thriving ranching industry is now also an industry that looks to uses other than work for its superior product. In recent decades,

Nebraska has proven to be an emerging leader in producing quality show stock, consistently producing animals that lead to show ring success. Nebraska has been well represented by national 4-H winners, numerous American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) Super Horses, and the Best Rumuda Award. Nebraska is also the proud home to AQHA Hall of Fame inductees Howard Pitzer and "Two Eyed Jack," the all-time leading sire of Quarter Horse champions.

Industry

There are numerous organizations and youth programs that support the equine industry. The Nebraska Horse Council serves as a unifying body for producers of all breeds, and there are 25 different breed associations and disciplines in the state. 4-H, Pony Club, Northhills Hunt Club, and the Driving Society also provide numerous opportunities to horse enthusiasts of all ages. Nebraska has gained notoriety by being the first home to the United States Dressage Federation, which was founded in 1973. Horse enthusiasts can also take part in equine-related leisure activities by visiting Nebraska's racetracks, horse shows, or riding trails.



International

Nebraska horse producers continually strive to merchandise top-of-the-line animals in numerous international markets. With the recent approval of frozen semen and embryos, and with the help of other cutting edge technology, the state's producers are poised to take huge strides in serving horse breeders around the world with superior genetics. Producers around the world have recognized the value of Nebraska's superior bloodlines, performance abilities, and championship qualities.



Discover the Nebraska Advantage

Whether you are looking for a hard worker, a fine show horse, or a gentle companion, the Nebraska equine industry is sure to impress. Customers have come to rely on the strong tradition of Nebraska producers to provide first-class genetics.

Many Nebraska producers are experienced in international trade. They can help to source the type of breeding stock, work horse, show prospect, semen, or embryos needed. Arrangements for transportation, health testing, and all necessary documentation are readily available.

We invite you to discover the "Nebraska Advantage" of superior breeding stock. We are confident that you can find the livestock assistance you need in Nebraska. If you would like more information about Nebraska horses, or how you might visit our state, please contact the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Ag Promotion and Development Division.

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