



Back to School

A look at some of the top breaking and training enterprises

Whether you are talking about a sales topper or a bargain yearling you just couldn't pass on or a homebred foal carrying your wildest dreams, they all have to go through the same process of being educated and readied for their racing futures. Also, throughout a Thoroughbred's athletic career, he or she will need a place away from the racetrack to go for rest and rehabilitation. Certain farms and training centers across the country specialize in offering these services that require a set of skills and a level of facilities not found on every Thoroughbred farm. The following profiles highlight some of the top breaking and training enterprises, their facilities, and the people behind these operations.

Asmussen Horse Center

Keith and Marilyn Asmussen are enjoying their 50th anniversary in 2011—and at their Asmussen Horse Center, the enthusiasm and dedication to produce top-level horses are still going strong.

They must be doing something right. They have turned out more than 160 stakes winners and more than 55 graded stakes winners at their El Primero Training Center near Laredo, Texas.

Marilyn jokingly calls Laredo the “end of the earth,” but those in the business

know it's well worth the trip.

“Laredo is out of the way; it's not easily accessible to Florida or Kentucky,” she said. “But it's because of the product that they come here.”

That end product would be a well-conditioned, savvy horse that is ready to head to the starting gate at the racetrack. The principles and techniques Keith has developed over a lifetime of raising horses have worked well for him and his clients.

“Our main advantage is we can send a horse to the track race-ready,” Mari-

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J. Kirk and Judy Robinson's 2yo SW **SHE DIGS ME**, winner of the Tyro S. at Monmouth on July 24

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lyn said. "He's been galloped behind, in front, on the fence, between, and around. There isn't a situation that arises during a race that our horses haven't been exposed to...and that comes from the experience and knowledge Keith has developed over the years."

A true instructor, Keith gets the most personal satisfaction out of teaching. He feels that if a horse isn't learning something every day, then he's not doing a good job.

Billed as the "Southwest's Most Complete Equine Facility," Asmusen Horse Center consists of 85 acres and has 420 stalls, a five-eighths mile track with a 10-horse starting gate. The fact they can send out 10 horses together and have an expert crew to ride them is another advantage.

"We just have a lot of things that can arise here that can be taken care of that can't be at other places where you have one, two, or three gallop boys," Marilyn said. "Down the road, it will make a horse feel more confident when the starting gate opens in a real race."

Mario Trujillo, who has been riding alongside Keith for more than 30 years, heads the riding crew. The only way the crew knows how to work is the way Keith taught them.

"When a horse leaves here and doesn't run well, we want it to be because he's slow, not because he isn't in condition or hasn't gotten the best education," Marilyn said with pride.

Derby Daze Farm

Derby Daze Farm takes pride in its start-to-finish training program, and it's easy to see why. Located in the northwest section of picturesque Ocala horse country,

the 77-acre facility has a stellar record in preparing horses for profitable careers, with homebred grade I winner Hooch Why leading the way.

Owned by the estate of the late Gail Gee and managed by her father, E.B. Gee Jr., Derby Daze is equipped with four barns, an irrigated half-mile training track, an indoor track, free walkers, round pens, and turnout paddocks. Among the services offered to its clients are starting and training young horses, sales preparation, boarding, and lay-ups.

Hooch Why, a homebred Florida champion raced by the estate of Gail Gee in partnership, captured national attention when she won the 2009 Ashland Stakes (gr. I) at Keeneland at odds of 24-1. Hooch Why was a crowning achievement for Gee, a small-scale breeder, and the horse symbolized the hard-working attitude that Derby Daze continued after the farm owner's untimely death in 2010.

Gail Gee, who started in the Quarter Horse business with her father in Blytheville, Ark, more than two decades ago, purchased Derby Daze in 1998 and gradually made the transition to Thoroughbreds. Following her death, E.B. Gee has strived to carry on his daughter's legacy by practicing her same hands-on methods.

"I think our success is tied to our training approach and the fact we treat our customers' horses as if they were ours," he said.

Other successful graduates of the Derby Daze program include stakes winners Beautician, Sneaking Uponyou, and Rumbling Cloud; grade I-placed Theregoes-jojo; and \$120,000-plus earner Cranberry

Cream.

Only a handful of horses owned by Gail Gee's estate still reside on the farm, which boards around 50 horses for outside clients. "Our customers have complimented us on how the horses are not only well-conditioned, but well-schooled and easy to handle," said E.B. Gee.

Horses at Derby Daze are trained on a simple, four-step approach. First, yearlings are introduced to tack; then they graduate to the round pen for basic training under bit and saddle; and, finally, the youngsters are further schooled in the indoor facility before heading to the track.

"My daughter and I had a fairly successful Quarter Horse operation for many years, and that's how we learned to start horses back then—with a slow and easy approach—so we are basically doing the Thoroughbreds the same way," said E.B. Gee. "We let the horses tell us when they're ready to take the next step."

Gayle Woods Training Center

Gayle Woods has been working with Thoroughbreds for 25 years, and the lifelong horsewoman has used that experience to shape her Gayle Woods Thoroughbred Sales and Training Center at Nelson Jones Farm in the heart of Ocala's horse country into a premier full-service facility.

The native of England was successful early on riding and training hunters, point-to-point runners, and show horses in Europe before moving to Florida. There, she began breaking, training, and preparing for the racetrack notable horses such as Fourstardave, Fourstars Allstar, Irish Actress, and Irish Linnett at Another Episode Farm. In 1994 Gayle and

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then-husband Eddie Woods went out on their own training and consigning, with success stories such as Antepend, Mari's Sheba, Colcon, and Halory Hunter. In 2000 they sold grade I winner Harmony Lodge for \$1.65 million.

Today, Gayle Woods Thoroughbred Sales and Training offers full-service breaking and training for young horses and rehabilitation and lay-up programs for horses of all ages. Boarding and sales prep make the operation valuable for all aspects of Thoroughbred breeding, sell-

ing, and racing.

The facility is second to none. Gayle Woods' operation boasts a one-mile dirt track and seven-eighths turf course with state-of-the-art lighting; two barns containing 64 stalls for year-round use; 70-foot round pens plus hot walkers and turnout paddocks, and the latest in therapeutic facilities.

"Besides all the training facilities," noted Woods, "we have a swimming pool for the horses; full-body vibrator; Magnawave machine, Laser machine, Equissage machine,

and Thermotex blankets and boots. We pretty much have everything you need for every rehab case and for horses of all ages."

The Woods operation prides itself in the personal attention and sophisticated care given to each equine athlete, which includes a daily professional assessment of each sale and racing prospect, gearing them to reach their highest potential. Another foundation of the facility is close communication with clients, including making progress reports of their horses available online.

The proof, as they say, is in the pudding, and Woods has an impressive record with graduates. Game On Dude, winner of the Santa Anita Handicap (gr. I), was most recently second by a nose in the grade I Hollywood Gold Cup. Kiss the Kid won the grade III Appleton Stakes and the grade III Cliff Hanger Stakes, while Slew's Tizzy set a track record in taking the Native Diver Handicap, also a grade III event. Azul Leon wowed them in California, winning the Best Pal Stakes (gr. II) and the Hollywood Juvenile (gr. III). Raw Silk won the grade II Sands Point in New York, while Tricks Pic scored at Santa Anita in the grade III Tuzla Handicap. Juvenile graduate Subtle Aly won the Schuylerville Stakes (gr. III) at prestigious Saratoga.

First-rate facilities and a sterling track record make Gayle Woods a top choice for Thoroughbred horsemen.

Glenview Farm

Glenview Farm and Training Center, located just southwest of Florence, S.C., has a simple motto: "Send Your Horses To Us—You'll Both Be Glad You Did!"

The first-class training facility is owned and operated by former steeplechaser Doris Rabon, who grew up less than a mile from Glenview on her family's farm where her parents still reside. Consisting of 170 acres with lush pastures, Glenview has a one-mile training track, a four-horse starting gate, well-ventilated barns, a six-horse Eurocizer, and miles of riding trails.

The training track has railing from the original Garden State Park racetrack in New Jersey.

Rabon learned the basics of farm ownership and caring for horses from her father and started riding at age 4. A steeplechase trainer and rider—"That's what built this farm" she said—Rabon has operated Glenview Farm for more than 15 years.

When horses arrive at Glenview, they are given a thorough examination and are placed on a work program that is tailored for each horse.

"Their schedule will be changed from day to day, from the track to trail rides to the Eurocizer and turnout," Rabon said. "This keeps them fresh and helps them develop mentally. A horse that has the same routine

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Hands on, Gayle Woods is credited with the training and preparation of more than 35 Graded stakes winners including **Classic-placed millionaire GAME ON DUDE (G1)**

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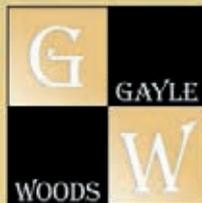


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each day can sour and get bored just like we would. I also believe in going slowly with them and giving each one plenty of time to develop at their own rate.”

Glenview Farm's expert, caring team consists of several longtime employees, including Doris' husband, Eric. Eric has built most of the facilities on the farm, including a boarding kennel and has done extensive remodeling on their home.

“It's a blessing having Eric be able to contribute his talents here,” Doris said. “We know everything is well constructed, and we can offer these great facilities to clients. Eric and I set every post on the property together.”

The couple has turned Glenview Farm from a one-time cow pasture to a top-notch breaking and training operation.

Glenview Farm is just a few miles off Interstate 95 in the northern section of the state, so it has easy access to racing centers in Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. First-class facilities with plenty of lush acreage, a caring staff with a hands-on Rabon at the helm make Glenview Farm a great choice for Thoroughbreds to get the individual attention they need and deserve.

Lambholm South

The prominent equine names associated with Ocala-based Lambholm South speak volumes about what the training facility is capable of developing and producing.

Owned by industry veteran Roy S. Lerman, Lambholm South comprises 1,830 acres once known as the historic Hobeau Farm. Home to more than 100 horses, the farm offers a comprehensive array of services, including breaking and training,



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

For young horses, work on the training track needs to be a positive experience

stallion services, breeding, boarding, and sales.

Lambholm South has bragging rights as being the farm instrumental in the early preparation of 10 Eclipse Award winners and more than 50 grade I winners. Among the most prominent horses to emerge from its breaking and training program are champions Slew o' Gold, Epitome, Personal Ensign, Flawlessly, Ajina, Escena, Farda Amiga, Azeri, Speightstown, and Saint Liam.

Most recently Lambholm South was represented by Tizway, the third Lambholm South graduate to win the Whitney Handicap (gr. I).

Among the farm's first-class amenities is its one-mile dirt training track, which allows young horses to get extensive gate

work as they are readied for their racing careers.

Many of Lambholm South's success stories have stemmed from the direction of trainer/general manager Junior Serna, a lifelong horseman who was a successful racetrack trainer prior to moving to Ocala in 1977. He first worked for Murty Farm, which later became Wooden Horse Farm, then Brookside South, before becoming Lambholm South.

Serna does his best to make sure each horse has an equal opportunity to succeed. His training program is customized to each individual in order to develop special talents and potential.

“Every horse is a good horse until we know different,” he explained. “So we have to treat them as individuals. We try

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to never get in a hurry and do something that's out of the ordinary. (Every farm) tries to do the same thing, but I think we do it just a little bit better."

Another key to Lambholm South's suc-

cess has been the positive relationships it has maintained with its clients, many of whom have been with the farm for decades. Serna said he does his best to keep the communication flowing with all his

customers, giving them an honest assessment of the progress of their horses.

One of the farm's consistent clients over the years has been David Holloway, who campaigned multiple graded stakes winner Bet on Sunshine and currently keeps five horses at Lambholm.

"Lambholm is a nice place with very good facilities, and everybody there treats me well," said Holloway. "I've known Junior for a long time, and he always does a good job with my horses...he found and bought Bet on Sunshine for me, and we ran the horse until he was 10 years old. If Junior quit training, I don't know what I'd do."

Legacy Stable

Legacy Stable offers an ideal environment for both the young horse being broken and trained and the racing veteran that needs freshening.

Located in the piney woods near Aiken, S.C., partners Ron Stevens and Brad Stauffer bring to their top-notch surroundings another key ingredient to their successful operation—experience. Stevens took out his first trainer's license in 1971 and trained the young horses for Dogwood Stable from 1981-90. He then went out on his own with Legacy Stable, which continues to break and train the Dogwood horses along with the young stock owned by Gainesway and Mike Rutherford. Legacy also conditioned horses for Edward Evans' Spring Hill Farm until Evans' death last year. Stauffer, who used to work for prominent Illinois owner Richard Duchossois, has been in the Thoroughbred business for 25 years. At one point Duchossois began sending his young horses to Aiken, and that's how he connected with Stevens. The partners also have an experienced staff, with some grooms having worked for Stevens more than 20 years.

"They take great pride in what they do and follow the horses' careers when they leave here," said Stevens, who regularly trains around 55-60 horses at the Aiken Training Track.

"Our goal is to produce sound, competitive race horses," he continued. "The surface we have here is ideal for this climate. It looks like sand, but it is really silt. It is a protective cushion that is forgiving and builds up a horse's condition. We have had a lot of horses win a couple of weeks right off the track."

The Aiken facilities include access to grass gallops, a 6.5-furlong turf course, and trails running through the 2,000-acre Hitchcock Woods, one of the country's largest urban forests.

"I use the woods more in the summer when we don't have so many sets to get out, but I love it most for older horses that

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are sour on the racetrack,” Stevens said.

Legacy has another benefit, of being at the home of the Aiken Trials, one day of springtime racing that has been the early showcase of premier runners such as Preakness Stakes (gr. I) winner Summer Squall and graded stakes winner Stormin Fever. Thirty-nine champions, including Kelso, Capot, Tom Fool, and Pleasant Tap received their early training at the Aiken Training Center.

Margaux Farm and Training Center

Margaux Farm’s yearling breaking and training program was designed with the goal of producing sound racehorses in Kentucky. After investing significant time and money into the farm’s foals every year, Margaux felt that the early race training of its foals could be vastly improved. The farm needed a more complete, sound 2-year-old. Today Margaux Farm and Training Center produces physically and mentally sound horses remaining in Kentucky to train through the winter, and their clients and trainers come back time and again.

Margaux’ success is possible because of the experienced approach of trainer Gene Vosler. He is the perfect match for the program because he emphasizes time, patience, and a horse’s individuality. Vosler has worked with horses his whole life—it’s in his blood. His experience as an outrider at Keeneland Race Course has been instrumental to his training approach. Vosler transitions young horses from breaking to training as smoothly as possible, and it has really paid off. Trainers will vouch that graduates from Margaux’ program

have been prepared for any surprises at the track and are able to focus solely on training toward the races.

The record of producing sound racehorses is possible at Margaux Farm and Training Center because of the patient individual approach of its staff and its philosophy for raising young horses. The facilities include a 1½-mile turf gallop, starting gate, outdoor arena, round pen, and a European-style walker. The farm offers an uphill turf gallop that features naturally uneven surfaces perfect for strengthening young bones and tendons. The youngsters are turned out for a minimum of 18 hours a day, which allows them to continue to develop without the stress of constant stall confinement.

The Margaux method has given its clients the results they were seeking. Training manager Josh Stevens emphasizes, “We can do a great job here in Kentucky. At Margaux we encourage owners to monitor their horses progress through direct communication or to visit the farm to watch their horses train. When their horses get to the track, they will be sound and have a very solid foundation.” Horses with a Margaux foundation reach the track often ahead of their peers because of the amount of time Vosler spends teaching them and developing their minds. The individual horse determines the pace of training.

Horses condition best at the track. They develop physically and mentally at the farm. The parable of the tortoise and the hare can be applied to training young horses—the well-managed, steady approach wins the race. When you take your time and do things right the first time, you

ensure your horse has the best chance for a healthy, successful career.

Marzullo Stables

When the young horses at Marzullo Stables get introduced to a rider for the first time, it’s not just any rider—it’s the boss, F. Vincent “Cort” Marzullo. And that’s a good thing because Marzullo has ridden since age 4, first in the show ring and later over steeplechase courses as one of the sport’s leading jockeys.

His riding every horse for the first time is part of Marzullo Stables’ personalized approach to preparing young Thoroughbreds for the sales and the track. The Camden, S.C., stable has operated since 2008 and prepares approximately 30 horses a year.

“We take each horse’s needs into consideration as we start the breaking process and bring them along at their pace as we get to know them,” said Marzullo, whose wife, Vickie, helps run the stable. “We want to make the breaking and training process as smooth and trouble-free as possible.”

“I get on all of them for the first time, for sure,” Marzullo added. “I can read so much information into what a horse is thinking and what it needs.”

Born in South Florida, Marzullo and his family moved to Virginia when he was a teenager. There he was introduced to steeplechase racing and remembers thinking, “Wow; that’s something I want to do.” During his 15-year career in the irons, Marzullo consistently ranked among the top 10 riders, counted some of the sport’s biggest names among his clients, and partnered with two-time Iroquois Steeplechase

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winner Rowdy Irishman.

He also gained valuable experience working for Hall of Fame trainers Jonathan Sheppard and Nick Zito. Marzullo, who also has broken and trained some of his own flat and steeplechase horses, later worked for major consignor Kip Elser for three years. Though initially leery of the sales-preparation aspect of the business and the accompanying pressure of meeting auction dates, Marzullo acknowledges it was "much easier than I realized. It's not as demanding on horses as people might think. You're not asking them to do something they can't do."

Well-known horses Marzullo has helped prepare include With Anticipation, Cool Coal Man, and Albert the Great.

Marzullo takes pride in his method of preparing horses and the sense of accomplishment that comes from transforming an unbroken youngster into a well-adjusted, race-ready Thoroughbred.

"What we want to do is find out what makes each horse ticks, to make sure the mental and physical development is in sync," he said. "We are in a unique position to prepare horses for the races and the sales because of our hands-on approach."

Nancy Terhune Training Center

A strong mental foundation—that is where Nancy Terhune starts her training program for young equine athletes. The stress of race day, the stress of backside commotion, and the stress of everyday training are anticipated, and each young charge in the Terhune Training Stable is developed mentally, as well as physically, to handle the tasks ahead.

The "breaking" program starts with

a two- to three-week period of no-rush ground work to ensure a good mind and a confident go-forward attitude rather than a rushed, nervous and unsure juvenile. After a base of ground work where the very nature and personalities of youngsters are learned, they progress through a program of long jogs and relaxing walks after training. Terhune believes that plenty of turn-out time and individualized work are essential for strong cannon bones and well-developed muscles as well as strong minds. She believes her regimen leads to fewer injuries down the road. Before leaving the Terhune Training Stable for their racing career or the next phase of their development, all horses will have the opportunity to work in and break from the gate and be breezed a two-minute lick on several occasions.

Based at the Sandy Dubose Farm near Camden, S.C., Terhune's operation offers a quiet, individualized, empathetic environment for young horses to develop their racing attitudes and build strong bodies. This tranquil setting of large secure cross-fenced paddocks and spacious fields is interwoven with trails ideal for developing confidence and agility.

Terhune Training Stable accepts horses of all ages from starting yearlings to layoffs that need a rest and a relaxation break from the track. Weanlings are welcome to come early, allowing them time to grow physically and mentally at the farm. Terhune is also available to assist and represent prospective buyers at most national sales.

Decades of knowledge gained in every aspect of the Thoroughbred industry, from breeder and owner to trainer, are applied

to every horse at the Terhune Training Stable. One of the current outstanding racehorses Terhune has been associated with is 2011 graded-placed, homebred stakes winner Aspenglow, also the 2010 winner of the \$250,000-added West Virginia Jefferson Security Bank Cavada Breeders' Classic Stakes and an earner of \$460,548. Other graded graduates of Terhune's program include American Freedom, winner of the grade III Red Bank Handicap and \$645,829; Thorny Crown, winner of the grade III Cliff Hanger Handicap and \$461,271; and N B Forrest, a record-setting three-time winner of Monmouth's Battlefield Stakes and \$520,104.

Palmetto Thoroughbred Training Center

Aiken, S. C., has been one of the country's premier Thoroughbred training destinations for decades, and just recently, the picturesque town received another boost when Palmetto Thoroughbred Training Center opened for business.

Conveniently located only four miles from the Aiken airport, 500-acre Palmetto is the perfect place for horses to train, be turned out, and as owner Doris Tummillo says, "Begin a happy, healthy, and successful career."

Opened in late 2010, Palmetto has all the amenities one would expect from a premier training facility, including a one-mile dirt training track, 62 open and airy stalls with roomy shedrows, ample turn-out space for horses to graze, plenty of rolling hills, multiple round pens, and an equestrian walker. There are several turf and sand gallop areas, and scenic sand trails to walk through on off days.

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“There is a lot of hill work. The whole farm is based on sand. Horses do very well barefoot here,” Tummillo said.

The track, which features schooling and training gates and will soon have a starting gate, is made from a mixture of sandy loam, clay, and other organic material—very close to the surface at Churchill Downs. Trainers can record published works at the facility, which is also about six miles from the famed Aiken Training Track.

“We’re a little more private than some places,” Tummillo said. “People don’t have to worry about the town traffic.”

Tummillo said her vision when creating Palmetto was very simple: “Everything was made for the horse. The horse comes first. When horses come here, they are able to relax very easily and settle in nicely. They know it’s a farm and go out and act like horses. They are not confined or trapped. They can be friends in a pack.”

And since it is ideally located, horses and trainers can take advantage of the added bonuses Aiken has to offer.

“The footing in Aiken is wonderful,” Tummillo said. “And horses can train all year; there are no days off. The climate is perfect in the winter.”

Palmetto has plenty of space available for retired racehorses to graduate into other careers, including dressage, eventing, hunter jumpers, and trail riding. It is also a great retreat for the horse that needs to refresh or recover from injury.

Though horses in many different careers can thrive there, Palmetto’s main focus is helping trainers get their investments ready for the track.

“It’s a great place to train a winner. Horses can get the edge they need here,” Tummillo said.

Equiade

Fitness, muscular strength, and tone are aspects of training often poorly understood or overlooked by many riders and even trainers.

Just as with humans, horses aren’t born naturally fit for an athletic endeavor. Yes, certain breeds are better built for certain sports, but developing their fitness, and increasing their muscular strength is an integral part of any training regimen. Building the overall strength of the average competitive horse is just as important as, for example, preparing for a race.

Another aspect of the training regimen is the supplements a horseperson uses to



Work in a round pen may be an important part of an off-the-track training regimen

ensure the horse’s muscles are building at the rate they need to be. With a good fitness regimen in place, finding the right all-natural supplement can rapidly increase the results of your work.

But, just as a trainer would be cautious when training an athlete, one must ensure a horse is not fed artificial weight-gainers that won’t actually enhance his health and overall well-being. As we know, the horse’s ability to focus his concentration and mood is also very important in racing.

Gamma oryzanol, a rather rare nutrient that occurs in rice bran, is one of the most effective naturally occurring muscle builders and fat burners. There are several manufacturers that create supplements using gamma oryzanol on the market today.

Equiade’s best-seller Body Builder has been popular and used by many champions over the years. This is the first company to manufacture a gamma oryzanol supplement. The gamma oryzanol in this product is of pharmaceutical grade, meaning it is in the purest form. Body Builder is a unique, specially formulated, emulsified liquid concentrate equine health product, which means that the absorption of the supplement is greatly enhanced and effective.

Trainer Josie Carroll, who recently had her second huge victory at Queen’s Plate when 3-year-old filly Inglorious beat 16 males to win the \$1 million event at Woodbine Racecourse, has been using Body Builder for years.

“I use it throughout the whole barn,” Carroll said. “I just find it puts nice condi-

tion on a horse. I’ve used it for eight or nine years. The horses do well on it.”

Body Builder has been used by industry champions for more than 20 years. It takes 20 gallons of rice bran oil to get the ingredients used in just one bottle. One bottle, one horse, two months.

MediVet

When it comes to racing, everybody wants the edge. However, obtaining the edge is not so easy. Large corporations travel the world in search of products that provide the edge for the Thoroughbred racing industry. Veterinarians and scientists are constantly working in laboratories to develop breakthrough products. Even old wives tales and remedies are being used in the search for the winning edge. However, rarely do they work. Are they safe? And, of course, are they legal?

MediVet America, one of America’s leading veterinarian manufacturers, has had a scientific breakthrough and has developed a product, SGF1000, that contains massive amounts of natural potent growth factors that include:

- Transforming Growth Factors (TGF)
- Fibroblast Growth Factors (FGF)
- Hepatocyte Growth Factors (HGF)
- Fibronectin-like Peptides
- Keratinocyte Growth Factors
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and provide the edge that trainers and owners alike are seeking. In fact, growth factors are the food for stem cells. Without growth factors, stem cells die. There are many types of growth factors, and they are the nutritional food source for all types of stem cells. Stem cells are designed for specific action and all have a purpose such as accelerated repair of injuries, wound healing properties, anti-inflammatory effects, regenerative benefits, plus strength and stamina to name a few.

“It’s the overall impact of these growth

factors that repairs muscle damage and soft tissue injuries,” said trainer Todd Stone. “These characteristics have provided for accelerated recovery of my horses, which enables them to perform at their best every time.”

High-performance athletes have recognized the benefits of natural growth factors in their training leading up to competition. The equine industry welcomes such a breakthrough as all owners and trainers can take advantage of a scientifically advanced product that allows horses to perform and improve with an all-natural, drug-free product. MediVet gives veterinarians, owners, and trainers the ability to access these specially selected growth factors through safe and effective means to achieve peak performance at a very low cost.

Tri-Tronics

As with humans, horses can sometimes develop bad habits that can prevent them from reaching their full potential. ViceBreaker, a remote-controlled electronic collar endorsed by several top horsemen since 2002, is an effective way to stop these previously unmanageable behaviors.

ViceBreaker is manufactured in Tucson, Ariz., by Tri-Tronics, which has been engineering sophisticated electronic equipment for dogs since 1968. The concept of ViceBreaker is similar to electronic dog collars, except they are specifically designed for horses.

“The level of correction is different for horses and dogs,” said Pi Polletta, a consultant for ViceBreaker. “Horses are much more sensitive than dogs. People have used dog collars on horses for a long time, but

it’s too strong. The correction levels start much lower on ViceBreaker, although it does have higher levels if you need it.”

Depending on the situation, ViceBreaker allows you to adjust the level of stimulation safely and immediately by utilizing its 20 levels of correction. Some of the other features included in the rechargeable device are a remote on/off switch, a radio signal that penetrates metal barns and horse trailers, and a leather collar with breakaway strap and elastic insert to ensure contact. Vicebreaker operates up to a half-mile in range.

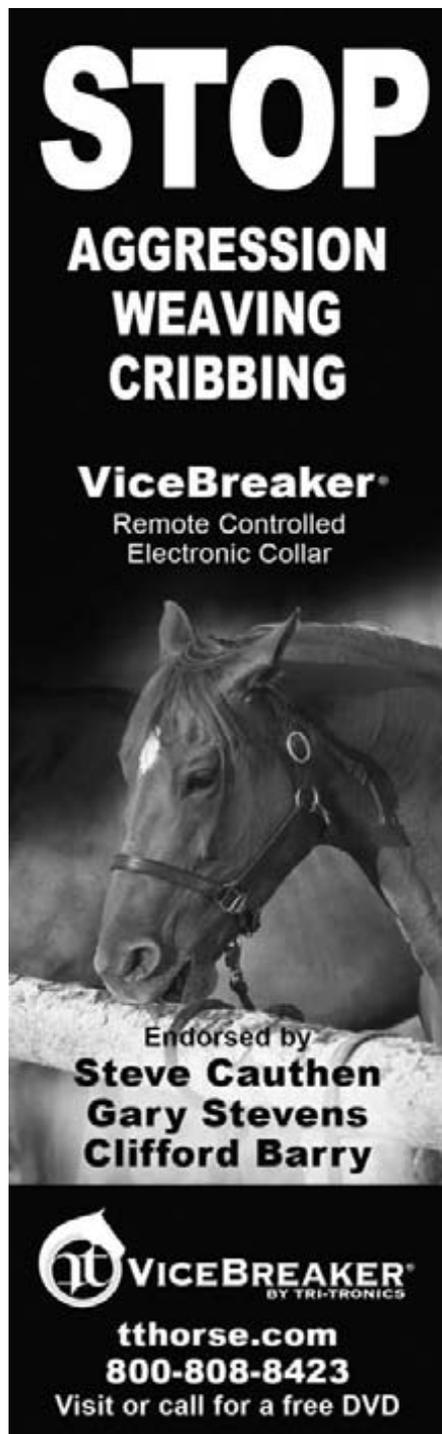
Some of the unwanted behaviors that ViceBreaker can prevent are aggression, weaving, and cribbing, all of which can lead to diminished potential and/or expensive veterinarian bills. Polletta said it is especially effective for cribbing.

“This will stop cribbing,” Polletta said. “The cribbing straps that people use just keep it from happening, they don’t break the habit. We’ve had great success in breaking the habit.

“It also works really well for aggression. People will see immediate results.”

Though similar devices are sometimes referred to as “shock collars,” it’s an inaccurate description for ViceBreaker, which uses the element of surprise and fear of the unknown—not pain—to stop behaviors. The horse will learn to associate its uncomfortable situation with the given behavior.

ViceBreaker has been thoroughly tested and approved by veterinarians, trainers, and riders. Hall of Fame jockeys Steve Cauthen and Gary Stevens, as well as Pin Oak Stud farm manager Clifford Barry are a few of the well-known industry people who endorse ViceBreaker.



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