



CURLY CUES

President's Message

President's Message

Winter/Spring 2026

Dear Curly Members,

It's a New Year and hopefully we all will be blessed with Curly Foals!!

I wish more members would extol their horses to me so I can publish their exploits in the Curly Cues. Surely there are tons of stories out there that should be told about these wonderful curly horses whose calm demeanor still amazes the breeders and members of our Registry. Don't get me wrong, they still need to be taught how to behave around humans and are so willing when not forced into situations with leading, tying and saddling. I've seen Curlies stand their ground if they sense a threat, when the rest of the herd turns and runs away. Very courageous and steady in the gait, they are sure footed on trails and will compete in open shows with amazing results. It would be nice to see them back in the Rose Bowl Parade, they were so awesome and the riders always seemed so excited to be showing off their Curlies.

Let's get those Curlies out there and promote them through our Registry, either the Curly Cues or Facebook page. Any pictures or stories are totally welcome!! Let's see some of those Curly Coats before they settle down in the spring. I love to see how much hair comes off when they shed out and maybe tell us how you might use that hair for certain things like weaving it into hats or clothing.

So, let's keep up with the correspondence between our members and folks interested in the breed. There is so much information out there to talk about concerning that special breed of horse, the Curly!

Sincerely, Joan Olson

ABC President

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CURLY CUES

Curly Horse Mane Cures by Denise Conroy, August CC's 2006



Matted curls, Rub outs and Frizzy dos: Overcoming the Curly Mane Blues!

We all agree that one of the most wonderful things about our Curlies is their low maintenance and ease in keeping. But there is one thing that isn't so easy and that is caring for a Curly's spiral mane. Many find it so frustrating... they do nothing. Just as we have adapted to the peculiar appearance of their curly coats, we have also grown very accustomed to seeing Curlies with manes in disarray, half shed out, matted curls and frizzy dos. It's normal, it's natural, right? Well, I used to think so until I started experimenting with my gelding's mane last fall.



Denise Conroy
Prairie Espresso Dream,
aka Reese

Eliminating the rub outs:

My first experiment began with trying to answer the question, why do some Curlies "rub" their manes out? I felt something **must** be triggering that response. I took a closer look at the skin under the mane and found white, flaky gunk. Why some Curlies, but not all? I believe some Curlies have an oilier skin, and as their mane grows thick in the winter, an underlying bacteria begins to form causing an itching response as warm weather approaches. It would also make sense that as they rubbed out the hair, the fungus/bacteria would go dormant as the skin became exposed to air and sun. I decided to take a pro-active approach to this and see if I could keep my horses' manes and tails clean all winter and just maybe prevent the loss of those curly locks come spring.



I found a product called Dermal Aid. At first the horses didn't like it much because it tingles if the skin is irritated, but once the skin is healthy they didn't mind at all. As their skin became healthy it stimulated amazing hair growth! Lush, gorgeous and thick curls.

By mid-summer, three of our four geldings went from 1

inch frizzy manes in October to 14 inches of gorgeous, thick spiral curls! (See pictures of before and after below.) Our extreme gelding, Zig, also had more hair than in past years, enough tail to swat flies and about 3 inches of curls, compared to none in past years. The horses that benefit the most are the ones that literally "rub" out their manes versus a random "falling out" that takes place with some extreme Curlies. In those cases we could be dealing with a genetic component and not an environmental one.

Maintaining those gorgeous curls!

If you want to keep those curls and not lose them to mattes and breakage, don't assume your work is done! It's important to **condition** the mane using **natural hair oils**, such as Jojoba oil. Never comb the curls, only use your fingers! I have also added other essential oils to the mix, such as lavender, tea tree oil and rosemary, each offering antifungal, skin treatment and anti-itch components that enhance the recipe and add a wonderful smell! PREVENTING mattes is the best way to keep your horse's beautiful mane. But if you do see some curls beginning to matte over time, my advice is to snip those individual dreadlocks right off at the base of the neck to allow for healthy re-



Billy, before and after

growth. (using a razor comb works best so there are no blunt edges and that section blends in with the rest of the mane.) I've noticed that some manes matte more easily than others, for instance our gelding Billy who has coarse spiral curls, whereas Reese's mane is softer and absorbs the oil much easier. So depending on what type of hair your Curly has, you may need to oil more frequently. This

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CURLY CUES

CURLY HORSE MANE CURES

CURLY CUES

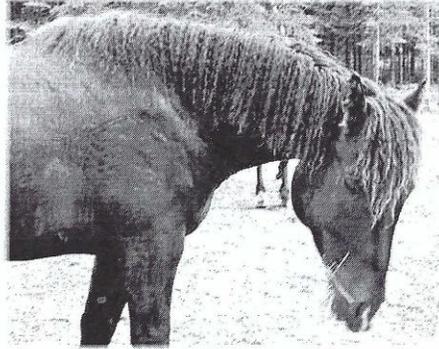
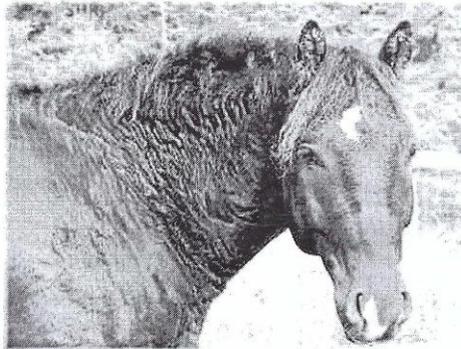


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sounds like a lot of work, but truly just a few minutes each week can make all the difference in maintaining those spectacular Curlies! No more frizzy mops and funny looks! Your Curly will become the envy of the neighborhood!

So in summary: Here are the DOs:

1. Treat your horse's mane every 3-4 weeks with an antifungal product such as Dermal Aid during the winter months to maintain healthy skin and promote hair growth. Dermal Aid has an oily



Reese, before and after

2. Bathe your horse each spring using a beta iodine scrub to remove any winter scurf from body, mane and tail.
3. Weekly treatments of hair oil to the mane, such as jojoba, to condition and maintain the corkscrew curls, adding a soft and silky feel while preventing tangles and mattes. Just spritz it in the mane, rub it in thoroughly and let it go!
4. Trim off any matted curls close to the skin to encourage healthy re-growth.
5. When necessary, don't be afraid to trim your horse's **entire** mane back to 1 inch to allow a fresh new growth of even curls. I just use scissors or clippers. I know this is hard but trust me; it does grow back and even prettier than before! Long manes are pretty but if they are frizzy, dry and matted, it only takes away from the beauty of your curly horse.

Here are the DON'Ts:

1. Never comb or brush your Curly's mane! You will create frizz that will stretch the hair and damage the natural curl. It does not spring back. A Big No-No!
2. Never use Show Sheen or any silicone based

product on your Curly's mane/tail. This will dry out the hair, cause breakage, mattes and tangles.

3. Do not *over* shampoo your horse's mane. This will dry your Curly's mane out quickly. If you need to bathe often for a show, use a baby shampoo as a gentle cleanser mixed with a bit of hair oil. Beta iodine will also dry out your horses' manes, so I only use this once a year on my horses.

Note: One of the most unique things about a Curly is their mane, and in the summer, this is one attribute that sets them apart from other breeds. We have sort of grown accustomed to matted, tangled and rubbed out manes but non-Curly people find it grubby and messy. If we are in the public eye, I think we should work a bit on the presentation of our horses. Until now, I have found this very hard to do, but hopefully through this article this may help more of us to have nicer looking manes as we proudly present them in public.





CURLY CUES

NEW REGISTRATIONS FULL BOOK



ABC#4364

HD Solen's Khaleesi

Owned by Joan Olson

High Desert

Equine Center

Reno, Nevada

MUSTANG BOOK



Diamond E Novie M18

Owned by

Derrick and Sarah Embry

Morgantown, Kentucky

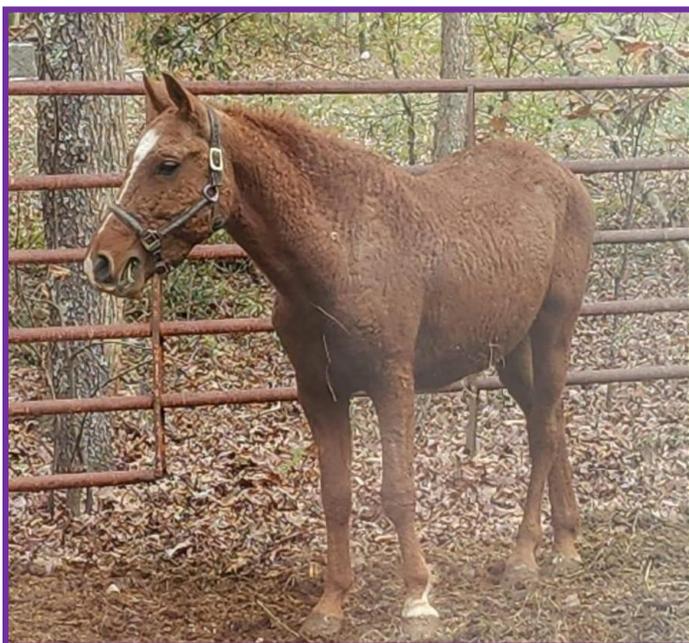


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Curly Book



Zippo's Dancing Duck CB#49
Owned by Stephanie Jones,
Milan, Tennessee



WindingCreek's Snoopy CB#48
Owned by Whitney Spinks,
Hickory Grove, South Carolina



CURLY CUES

CURLY HORSE SPOTLIGHT-Peter Paint ABC#226



Peter Paint's sire Peacock D, ABC#100 was in the Rose Parade for years, calm and gentle he bred this through to his son Peter Paint. Peter Paint had 34 offspring from 22 different Mares.

We would love to hear from our Members about any of his offspring.



CURLY CUES

Curly Horse Spotlight

HD Lakota's Legacy ABC#4321

Great Great Grandson of Peter Paint ABC#226



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CURLY CUES

Curly Horse Spotlight

Oakesmuir King of Curl, ABC#4297

Great Grandson of Peter Paint, ABC#226





CURLY CUES

ABCR CURLY HORSE BREED STANDARDS

Body Conformation

- A medium size head with well-defined jaw and throatlatch
- Wide set eyes with eyelashes that curl up
- Ears that are short to medium in length with curls inside (ear hair does not totally shed out in the summer)
- A medium length neck, deep at the base of the neck where it joins the base of the shoulder
- Noticeably short back, deep through the girth
- An appearance of a long under line and the belly cut high in the flank
- Heavy boned legs and short cannon bone as compared to the forearm
- Medium withers and a flat croup with a shallow slope to the base of the tail

Curly Characteristics

Body (Fine, soft hair)

- Ringlet (can be several inches long)
- Marcel Wave (deep soft wave in the body coat)
- Crushed Velvet (soft dense pile of curls in body coat)

Mane (Extra fine hair)

- Kinky –preferable
- Wavy
- Should shed all or partial in the summer
- Split mane (hangs on both sides of neck)



CURLY CUES

Tail

- Ringlets
- Wavy
- Should shed partial at the head of the tail in the summer of some horses may shed tail completely

Feflocks

- Curly –preferable
- Wavy
- Should shed in summer but still retain some long hairs

Hooves

- Almost perfectly round in shape
- Very hard and dense
- Proportioned to the size of the horse

Size and Weight

- Average-15 hands
- Average weight-800 to 1000 pounds

Unique Characteristics

- Curly coat can be hypoallergenic (the horsehair is round instead of flat and testing has shown the hair is closely related to mohair)
- Noticeably short, strong back
- Even-tempered disposition
- Quick pulse and respiration recovery
- Very dense bone in the legs



ABCR CURLY HORSE DATABASE

CURLY CUES

“FREE TO ABCR MEMBERS”

ABCR provides a fully linked ABCR Curly Horse Studbook ONLINE with more than 8,100 entries and 2,950 pictures including all ABCR horses. These are the features of this database:

1. Fully linked PEDIGREES WITH PICTURES
2. SIBLINGS VIEW: Find full and half siblings of a given ABCR animal at-a-glance
3. OFFSPRING VIEW
4. VERTICAL PEDIGREES: Vertical pedigrees list full siblings of each horse in the pedigree at-a-glance, which as a group represent various combinations of their parents' genes, and are good indicators of the range of possibilities that are likely to be passed on. Using vertical pedigree analysis gives breeders interesting insights e.g. about confirmation or the extreme characteristics that cannot be tracked in a direct manner.
5. REVERSE PEDIGREES: Reverse pedigrees show offspring of the offspring of a given animal.
6. TRIAL MATING: Try out mating's between ABCR horses and look how the confirmation or other characteristics would match.
7. Additional information such as COEFFICIENT OF INBREEDING (COI) and PEDIGREE QUALITY
8. Indication of DNA AVAILIABILITY and EXTREME CHARACTERISTICS
9. NAME GENERATOR: Generator for horse names based on more than 40 years of ABCR Curly Horse names-always new and fancy combinations, fun guaranteed!
10. ADDITIONAL FEATURES: Advanced Search, Fully scalable between 3 and 8 generations, same ancestors highlighted, enlargeable pictures



CURLY CUES

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District 1

#338 Joan Olson HIGH DESERT EQUINE CENTER

5555 Wilcox Ranch Rd, Reno, NV 89509 PH: 775-475-2250 E-Mail: ilovecurlies@hotmail.com

Website: <http://www.hdequine.com>

Stallions: HD LAKOTA'S LEGACY, ABC# 4321

MAXIMUM'S PRIDE, ABC# 3650

STAG CREEK SOLEN ABC# 4075

District 2

Currently No Breeder

District 3

#317 Brandon & Jennifer Bennett

SUNFLOWER TRAILS LLC

147 Rocky Lane Bastrop, TX 78602

PH: 512-965-7543 E-Mail: sunflowertrails@curlypinesranch.com

Website: <http://www.curlypinesranch.com>

Stallion: SFT TRUE HEART ABC# 3644

#370 Angela Gaines

GOLDEN CURLS RANCH

7480 CR 4095

PH: 214-794-1776 E-Mail: angie@goldencurlsranch.com

Website: <http://www.goldencurlsranch.com>

Stallion: BLACK ROCK'S GOLDEN FIREFLY ABC# M1

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Website: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Meyer-Davis-Farms/100078442680088//>

#430 Derrick Embry

EMBRY FAMILY HORSES AND TACK

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E-MAIL: thunderbay@logantele.com



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RR#5, Guelph, ONT, Canada N1H 6J2

PH: 519-822-1211

E-MAIL: bashcurl@golden.net WEBSITE: <http://curlyhorse.com>

Stallion: OAKESMUIR DUKE OF CURL, ABC# 2818

#166 Karalee Bell

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4437 County Rd 12, RR#2

Lunenburg, Ontario, Canada K0C 1R0

PH: 613-346-5790 E-MAIL: bellkr@bell.net

WEBSITE: <http://www.whirlwindcurlies.com>

Stallions: JC'S JOKER, ABC# 512

DCC SANTA FE, ABC#2895

#316 Florence Martin

FLORELAKE CURLY HORSES

7830 Fourth Line, RR#2 Wallenstein, ONT, CANADA N0B 2S0

PH: 519-638-5819, FAX: 519-638-5668

E-MAIL: floralake@mwpol.ca WEBSITE: <http://www.floralakecurlyhorses.com>

Stallions: MEAD'S AISHIHIK TWIST, ABC# 3462

TO SHADOW'S BLACK DIAMOND ("OZZIE") ABC#3641



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bertta@lapincurlytalli.fi/

Stallions: TROY, ABC# 3214

SUN WALKER, ABC# 2934

#298 Shawn & Louis Tucker

THREE FEATHERS NATIVE CURLY HORSES

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E-MAIL: curls@three-feathers.com WEBSITE: <https://www.three-feathers.com>

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PH: +33 6 50 77 27 10 WEBSITE: [https:// www.curly-cvv.fr/](https://www.curly-cvv.fr/)

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Saarenkylantie 385, Muurame, 40950, Finland

PH: +35 8 442 831 223

WEBSITE:

<https://hopoti.com/fi-fi/stable/WinsomeCurlies?fbclid=IwAR1rWkiNgc4BZLixnilx5IWT7aaFqXUZkr7PnL5GeWhbsU2u3tz04LE2COM>

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EMAIL: curly-info@t-online.de WEBSITE: <http://www.curlyhorsesgermany.de/>

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