



Winter News 2018

Next GPUG Meeting

Wednesday 1 August 2018 at 5.45pm at the Weston Club near Coolamon Court.

All clients are welcome to attend GPUG meetings.

Territory Agistment
New Office Number

6226 8277

In the Paddock

Winter is well and truly here. Feed in the paddocks is scarce and the very cold weather means there has been little opportunity for growth. In recent years we have had some wetter winters and carried more autumn feed into winter, however a scarcity of paddock feed at this time of year is usual.

We have been getting a lot of requests to speed up paddock rotations. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee the availability of feed in the paddocks for horses. At this time of year we expect everyone to be feeding their horses each day.

Our requirement is to maintain a minimum level of ground cover across the paddock complexes. The ground cover currently available has to last until spring. If we move the horses too quickly, we will run out of paddocks with minimum ground cover

and end up destroying our pasture base.

We understand feeding horses with such short days is not easy and we do try to keep horses close to the yards to help. We also hope the horse paddock communities will pull together and help each other out where possible. These conditions are difficult for horses and humans.

Weed spraying, fence replacements and fence upgrades have also been occurring across complexes so paddock moves are being managed in accordance with this activity.

We have also been asked if round bales can be placed in the paddocks. Round bales can be introduced only if sacrifice paddocks are implemented. At this stage we are hoping for an improvement in the conditions in spring, however we are prepared to utilise sacrifice paddocks if and when that becomes necessary.

Sacrifice paddocks are extremely difficult to manage in terms of horses and clients. Some people like round bales, others don't. Often the horses needing the most feed get pushed off the round bales and so only the stronger horses benefit. Round bales are also a significant cost to owners who already feed and the bale type may not be suitable for all horses.

A further difficulty will be finding hay. Drought conditions are everywhere, running supplies down and pushing prices up.

Currently it is looking like we are going into a dry spring (although anything can happen).

So for now the horses will be staying in paddocks for that little bit longer and we will try, as part of our strategy to conserve available groundcover during this time of minimal growth.

Agistment Fees

Fee Increase

Please be reminded that fees are increasing on 1 October 2018. The new Fee is \$33 per week per horse.

\$429 per quarter per horse

\$1630.20 per annum per horse (including the 5% discount)

The increase is effective on the 1 October 2018 and will be the amount shown on your next invoice due 1 September 2018.

If you are having financial difficulty please contact us by email or telephone. Get in early so that we can discuss the options available.

admin@territoryagistment.com.au

or 6226 8277

Annual Payments

The annual fee payment is from 1 Oct—30 September each year and is available now. If you wish to pay agistment fees annually, simply pay the annual fee amount per horse and I will adjust your invoice.

If you wish to move from annual payments to quarterly, please just pay the quarterly amount per horse.



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Paddock Rotations

Paddock Rotation notices are placed on the notice board and there is generally a 10 day window for horses to be moved into the new paddock.

It is each clients responsibility to ensure they check the notice board when they are at the paddocks.

We no longer send emails about paddock rotations as there are some horses that are not seen or looked after by their owners.

The notice board system enables us to identify problem clients who do not provide regular care for their horses.

Pick up your Poo



Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct has been reviewed and is available at

<http://territoryagistment.com.au>
under Our Services.

Please ensure you are familiar with the Code as it applies to you and anyone you invite onto the land.

The Client Code of Conduct includes communication, bullying, the use of social media and clarifies your responsibilities as a client of Territory Agistment in the ACT Horse Holding Paddocks.

Each horse paddock complex is a community and as such you have a responsibility to be civil and courteous to each other and to us.

*We will not tolerate bullying, verbal or physical abuse either in person or across social media.

*If you need to use the sick/

founder yards you MUST contact us and it is your responsibility to muck those yards out each day while in use and to give them a thorough muck out when you finish. It is also important you communicate with fellow clients to ensure use of the yards is prioritised.

*Dogs must be on lead at all times.

**You must collect any dog faeces and remove it from the complex.

The large number of dogs at the paddocks means some complexes are experiencing a huge amount of dog poo.

If dog poo isn't collected we may look at banning dogs from the complexes as it is becoming a very serious health issue.

Please do not hesitate to contact us as we are always happy to help.

Thank you ☺

Drought Plans

The outlook for a spring break is bleak with many experts indicating drought conditions will continue. Changes to Government policy means that Drought is no longer officially declared. However it is generally accepted that we are experiencing drought conditions as is much of NSW.

In terms of managing the horse paddocks we have already entered drought preparation by 'closing the gates'

and not filling agistment places as horses leave (natural attrition). This has been in effect since late Autumn.

If dry conditions continue we will look consider the implementation of sacrifice paddocks. Sacrifice paddocks are a last resort and essentially mean paddock communities will need to buy in bulk hay and that horses will be confined to a single paddock for the duration until conditions improve.

Next GPUG Meeting

The next Government Paddock User Group (GPUG) meeting is Wednesday 1 August 2018 at 5.45pm at the Weston Club near Coolamon Court.

All clients are welcome to attend GPUG meetings.

Contact Details

For all emergencies including water leaks, fencing and horse health issues please contact our 24/7 mobile service:

0411 030 281*

* Please note this number is not to be used for general enquiries after hours.

For administrative enquiries including invoicing questions and waiting list enquiries please contact the office on:

02 6226 5767 or

admin@territoryagistment.com.au

Each paddock community will need to buy and feed out large bales. We are aware that sourcing hay will be difficult and prices are currently very high with strong demand and limited supplies. Hay is still coming out of Victoria and South Australia, however demand is definitely outstripping supply and this is expected to get worse as the current dry weather means many local hay suppliers may not sow or cut bales this season.

Please Pray for Rain

