

Summer is Here - Buy Your Horses a Fan That Won't Kill Them

Laurie Loveman keeps records on horses and other livestock lost in barn fires. The financial and emotional losses are tremendous, but there is information available to prevent nearly every fire, and much of that information is posted on her website, at no charge, for anyone wanting to protect the animals in their care, whether for economic or emotional reasons.

Chagrin Falls, Ohio (FPRC) August 7, 2008 -- Laurie Loveman has posted an article on Ann Pruitt's website, www.InfoHorse.com, regarding the dangers of using residential box fans in barns. Inexpensive residential box fans, which are available at many discount and hardware stores, are a frequent cause of summertime barn fires. A non-sealed motor that overheats due to dust getting into the open housing, can melt the plastic fan frame and release toxic gases that can kill the barn occupants from smoke inhalation before barn owners or facility managers are even aware there is a fire in the barn. The article, stressing the importance of using fans designed for agricultural or industrial use, can also be accessed through the Bulletin Board on the home page of www.firesafetyinbarns.com.

Can we save animals from death by fire? Absolutely! Every governmental jurisdiction should adopt as an Ordinance, the National Fire Protection Association's 2007 Edition of NFPA 150 Standard on Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities for use in all new construction of commercial animal housing facilities, and everyone who cares about keeping their animals safe from fire should visit www.firesafetyinbarns.com.

Laurie Loveman is an officer in the Highland Hills (Ohio) Fire Department and consults on equine facility fire safety. She is a state-certified fire inspector and has a B.S. degree in Fire and Safety Engineering from the University of Cincinnati. With over 40 years experience in the horse industry and more than 20 years in the fire service, she has written many articles for equine and fire service publications.

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