



DRAFT HORSE

THE BASICS:

- STALLION : male horse
- GELDING : castrated male
- MARE : female horse
- FOAL : baby horse
 - COLT : boy baby
 - FILLY : girl baby
- GESTATION PERIOD : 11 months
- LIFE SPAN : 20-30 years
- Common draft horse breeds include: Percheron, Belgian, and Clydesdale.

THE EXTRAS:

- The draft horse was born during the Middle Ages when knights had to wear heavy armor. As advances in battle took place the draft horse began being used for agriculture and hauling. Their use was at its peak at the beginning of the 20th century, however after the invention of the tractor the use of the draft horse declined drastically.
- Draft horses are used to day in parades and circuses and on some farms. They are especially bred for show in venues such as the State Fair.
- A draft horse eats approximately 200 bales of hay a year.
- They will begin work at 2 ½ years old as it takes that long for their bones and muscles to fully develop so no harm will come to them.
- A horse is considered a DRAFT HORSE when it measures larger than 16 hands high.
- Draft horses are bred for their strength and weight. They are often used to pull carts and wagons. They are still used to pull agricultural equipment on Amish farms today.

OUR DRAFT HORSES:

- We have a percheron draft horse. Her name is Emily.