

Why the “Guide To Raising And Showing Mules”

For the last 10 years, mules have been gaining popularity in the United States, because they are now performing in more equine athletics than ever before. Not only are they used in the more common driving, draft, and pack work, but they are performing in every class in equine shows and doing remarkable things in exhibition.



They are typically more surefooted than horses on rugged trails, they are more resistant to parasites and disease, less likely to injure themselves, require less feed than horses, and are thus more economical to keep. However, they are a little different than horses when it comes to feeding and training, so horse techniques do not always work.

Meredith's books and videos cover a large gamut of information on the care and feeding of mules and donkeys, and what is not present in the previous books and videos is compiled in "A Guide to Raising & Showing Mules." Not only do you get a review of feeding, maintenance, and training, with reference to the other products available, but you get information on breeding, caring for foals, diseases, safety measures, supplies needed, all about showing, points programs, how to set up shows, clubs and organizations, and a wide variety of other mule related issues that are important in the raising, showing, promoting, and selling of these animals.

Meredith wrote this book as a result of letters and phone calls from people who needed access to this kind of information. As mules increased in popularity, there were multiple requests from families for a book that could double as a 4-H manual, should a child opt to make a mule their 4-H project. The complaint from 4-H leaders was that there were no manuals for mules specifically and the kids would therefore not be allowed to have a mule as a project. Some areas modified their equine manuals and allowed mules as a project, but most areas just turned the kids down. It is the hope that 4-H clubs will adopt this book as their official 4-H Mule Project manual along with her other books and videos. 4-H leaders can devise their own tests from the content.

This book was targeted for the kids, but also serves as a general manual for all beginners and a good reference for advanced horsemen alike.

For more information about Meredith Hodges and her comprehensive correspondence training program, *Training Mules and Donkeys*, please visit **www.LuckyThreeRanch.com** or call **1-800-816-7566**. Also, find Meredith Hodges and Lucky Three Ranch on Facebook and Twitter. And don't forget to check out her children's website at **JasperTheMule.com**.

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