

Horse News... Naturally!



Spring has sprung and with it we are rewarded with all that Mother Nature has to offer. The beginning of new life! What could be more adorable and touching than a newborn foal. Share this special moment with Jay as this newborn filly named "Late Lass" faces the challenge of standing on her own to take her first drink of mother's milk.

Some Advice and tips from Jay about New Born Foals

When you have the good fortune to watch a newborn foal struggling to stand up on her own and not having much success, the desire to help can become overwhelming. Why? As you watch her repeated unsuccessful attempts, you worry about the foal hurting herself. You also worry that if she doesn't get the colostrum from mother's milk within just a few hours after birth, she will not survive.

Colostrum is the first fluid a mare secretes from her udder after foaling. It contains the antibodies, which protect the foal from infection. There are protective immunoglobulins in the colostrum, which is more concentrated in the early hours of lactation. As time goes on milk production will dilute them. Also, the foal's ability to absorb them decreases as her digestive tract matures. Peak absorption time is between 2 and 4 hours of birth.

However, I like to let nature unfold "naturally", I think it's important for the foal to face the challenge of standing on her own. I believe that it gives them spirit and builds character with a sense of drive. Like all things in life - if it is handed to us on a silver platter, it doesn't have the same value as it would if we had worked for it. My recommendation, don't help unless it is absolutely necessary!

Just released - Episode 4 - Gaining Confidence - One Man, One Horse - A Mustang Story – Enjoy!!

Jay takes an emotionally frightened mustang, and gentles this wild horse. This is the fourth episode of an eight-part online series.

