

UTAH'S CRUELTY TO ANIMALS LAWS

Utah Criminal Code: 76-9-301

Unless the conduct toward the creature, and the care provided to the creature, is in accordance with accepted animal husbandry practices; and the animal is owned, kept, or used for rodeo purposes, and the conduct toward the creature, and the care provided to the creature, is in accordance with accepted rodeo practices; and if the conduct toward the creature, and the care provided to the creature, is in accordance with accepted animal husbandry practices or customary farming practices;

A person is guilty of cruelty to an animal if the person, without legal privilege to do so, intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence injures an animal; which is a class B misdemeanor if committed intentionally or knowingly; or a class C misdemeanor if committed recklessly or with criminal negligence.

Local law enforcement agencies enforce this statute.

Agency and Industry Goals:

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food and Utah's Agriculture Advisory Board, promote the proper care and treatment of all livestock. Livestock play a vital role in the management and care of production agriculture and in various sporting/recreational events, specifically rodeos. Proper and lawful animal husbandry practices are essential to maintaining sustainable production agriculture operations and meaningful recreational events.

Goals of UDAF and Utah's Agriculture Industry Representatives:

- Promote proper care and handling of all livestock.
- Discourage horse tripping events in Utah.
- Network with other rodeo type and animal use groups.
- Educate local and state event coordinators regarding proper animal husbandry practices.

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

LuAnn Adams
Commissioner of Agriculture

Cody James, Director
Division of Animal industry

What You Need to Know About Horse Tripping Events

Protect the reputation and image of your equine and livestock sport venue



Utah Department of
Agriculture and Food
801-538-7100
<http://ag.utah.gov>

Background

In recent years, Utah has seen an increase in local and county rodeos that contain horse tripping as part of the event. This has triggered local and state government and agriculture industries to be concerned.

Therefore, based on Utah Code Annotated 4-2-7: Where the Agricultural Advisory Board shall advise the commissioner regarding the establishment of standards governing the care of livestock and poultry, including consideration of acceptable practices for livestock and farm management.

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, along with Utah's Agriculture Industry Representatives promote the proper care and treatment of all livestock used in all aspects of sporting events, pleasure, and production agriculture.

What is Horse Tripping ?

Horse tripping is the intentional roping or lassoing of the legs of an equine, followed by the intentional causing of the equine to trip or fall.

Horse Tripping for entertainment can come in two forms. The most common form is part of a Mexican Rodeo, or charreada (or charrería).

⇒ The charreada consists of nine events for men plus one for women, all of which involve horses, cattle or both.

⇒ Events include Manganas a Pie (Forefooting) and Manganas a Caballo or (Forefooting on Horseback) involve roping the front legs of a horse being chased around the arena.

⇒ There are also "Big Loop" or Horse Roping western style events that involve tripping the horse. These are hard to identify as most Horse Roping events are part of Ranch Rodeos, where tripping is NOT allowed. In these events the horse is roped by a team, one roping the neck and the 2nd roping the front legs.

Pre and Post Event Rules

Visit www.ag.utah.gov and click on the "animals" icon to learn more and apply.

UDAF discourages any arena owner from holding horse tripping events. If an event is to be held, the following rules must be followed:

- Any event in which a horse is roped or tripped as part of the event or contest must be reported to UDAF at least **30 days** in advance of the event
- No later than **30 days** after the event the following must be reported to UDAF:
 1. The number of horse roping or tripping events or contests held.
 2. The type of roping or tripping events.
 3. The number of horses used.

Participation Rules

First and foremost is the proper care and treatment and lawful practice of all livestock. Education and enforcement is essential for both production agriculture, recreational and sporting events. Animals used for rodeo events should be handled by competent, experienced personnel at all times.

- No person will abuse or mistreat any animal by any noncompetitive or competitive action anywhere on the rodeo grounds.
- Livestock will be removed from the arena after each competition is complete.
- There will be time limits for roping events.
- Animals that are injured, sore, lame, sick or with impaired eyesight will not be included in the draw. Should an animal become sick or incapacitated between the time it is drawn and the time it is scheduled to be used in competition, that animal will not be used in competition, and another animal will be drawn for the contestant.

Second, is public perception and media awareness. With today's phones, everybody has a camera and video device. The popularity of social media sharing makes it very likely that somebody will put your event in the news.