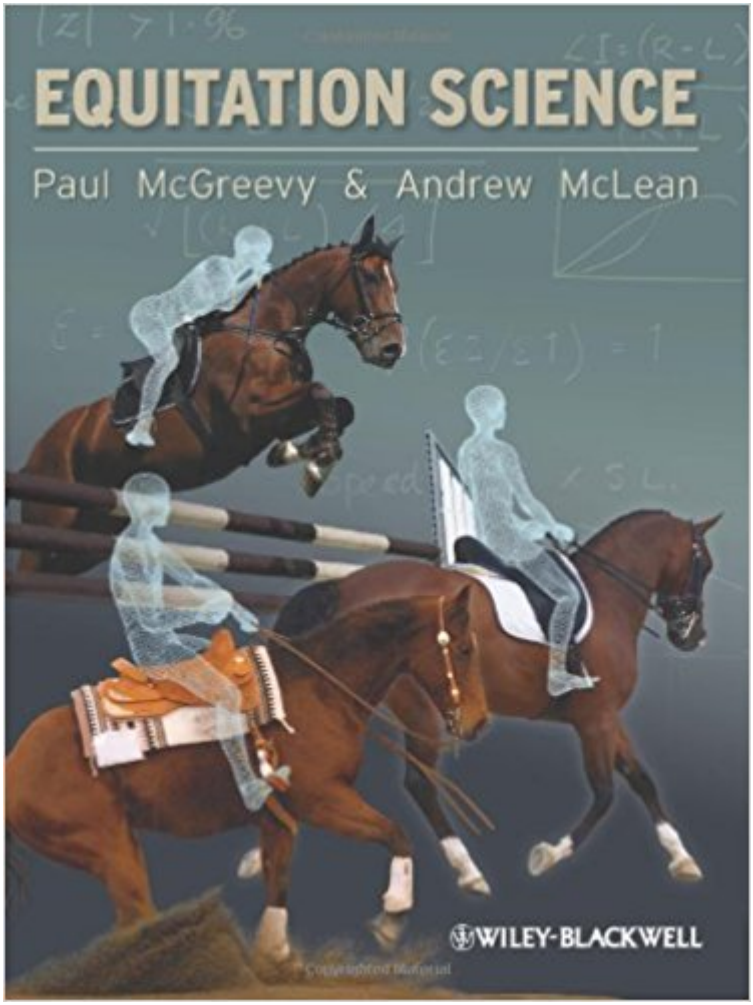
Equitation Science



Synopsis

Written by two internationally recognised experts, Equitation Science is the first book to draw together the principles of this emerging field into a much-needed coherent source of information. The goal of equitation science is to enhance our understanding of how horses think and learn, and to use their natural behaviour to train, ride or compete with them in as fair a manner as possible. The welfare consequences of training and competing horses under different protocols are explored. Drawing on traditional and emergent techniques, this book incorporates learning theory into an ethical equine training system suitable for all levels. It also focuses on evidence-based approaches that improve rider safety. "Equitation Science is one of those rare books that is going to change the way we train and manage horses forever. It brings together a fundamental understanding of the way horses think and behave and presents a system of modern training that has the welfare of the horse at its core Ã¢â ¬â œ it must be the foundation work for the next generation of professional and amateur riders and trainers. Riders will ride better, trainers will train better and we will have happier, healthier horses."Ã¢â ¬â •Wayne Channon, International Grand Prix Rider "I found this a very interesting and enlightening book. Equitation Science will help anyone involved with horses to understand them more and to be more effective in their training and education. The knowledge this brings to anyone involved with horses should help to make the horsesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ lives easier and therefore allow the partnership between humans and equines to flourish."Ã¢â ¬â •Yogi Breisner, British Eventing Performance Manager "Equitation Science is an ambitious and thorough look at an enormous range of areas, approaches and factors concerning the training of horses. The authors have an underlying theme to their text of scientifically assessing and then also promoting the use of ethical and humane methods of horse training to increase all sport horsesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ welfare and happiness within their sporting requirements. Equitation Science also provides an invaluable insight as to how and why what we do with our horses actually works."Ã¢â ¬â •Paul Tapner, Professional International Advanced Eventing Rider, Badminton CCI**** 2010 Winner

Book Information

Paperback: 326 pages
Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell; 1 edition (August 23, 2010)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1405189053
ISBN-13: 978-1405189057
Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.6 x 9.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #357,819 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Veterinary Medicine > Equine #50 inÃ Â Books > Medical Books > Veterinary Medicine > Equine Medicine #315 inÃ Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Horses > Riding

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“This is a brilliant and extensive effort at explaining the science behind many common correct and incorrect horsemanship and training techniques. The first half on the science of behavior and learning theory will not be for all readers, but for those who persist, it builds the foundation for the second half where misbehaviors are dealt with from a scientific standpoint. This is an excellent addition to the scientific behavioral literature.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã Â (Doddy's, 20 April 2012) '...the book is a must for every equine veterinary practice, equine training and teaching institution, and anyone concerned with horses who wants to be involved with their own individual training and development. It is a thought provoking textbook that will help the next generation of horse owners and equine enthusiasts to consider and reconsider their training and development protocols and will provide many others with the knowledge that what they are doing is right Ã¢â ¬â œ and, more importantly, why it is right. Ultimately this book can only have a positive effect on the welfare of the horse and on the humanÃ¢â ¬â œ equine bond.' (The Vet Journal, December 2011)

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all levels. It also focuses on evidence-based approaches that improve rider safety. I found this a very interesting and enlightening book. Equitation Science will help anyone involved with horses to understand them more and to be more effective in their training and education. The knowledge this brings to anyone involved with horses should help to make the horsesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ lives easier and therefore allow the partnership between humans and equines to flourish. Ã¢â ¬â •Yogi Breisner, British Eventing Performance Manager Equitation Science is an ambitious and thorough look at an enormous range of areas, approaches and factors concerning the training of horses. The authors have an underlying theme to their text of scientifically assessing and then also promoting the use of ethical and humane methods of horse training to increase all sport horsesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ welfare and happiness within their sporting requirements. Equitation Science also provides an invaluable insight as to how and why what we do with our horses actually works. Ã¢â ¬â •Paul Tapner, Professional International Advanced Eventing Rider, Badminton CCI**** 2010 Winner

Solid in every sense. Clear, direct, and evidence based. Especially good on explaining why "desensitization" does not work and the consequences of learned helpless in the horse.

Equitation Science is a necessary book for anyone concerned with horse welfare in any capacity.The purpose of equitation science, which is also a new and legitimate field of study pioneered by the authors, is to take the subjectivity out of horse training particularly as it affects welfare. There is certainly an aspect of getting the best performance out of a horse possible, but it is generally assumed that the way to do that is also by maximizing the animal’s welfare. The authors here are not unaware of the current problems facing the equestrian industry, and discuss at length how learning theory and the results of research can greatly alleviate many of the problems within the industry so long as people are willing to make the necessary changes.There is nothing touchy feely in this book--the assertions and conclusions of the authors are backed by recent scientific research. As a long-time rider and pre-vet student with a great deal of interest in behavior (and, of course, welfare), this book is a treasure.This is a science textbook, and there are parts of it that would be best suited to upper-level undergrads or graduate students. Yet there is much here for the layperson as well. The basics of learning theory as it applies to horses are simply explained and broken down into easily digestible pieces. It is only later in the book, when the authors get more technical and more into the biomechanical aspects of training horses, that it may become difficult for the layperson to fully understand.Nonetheless, I highly recommend this book to anyone who works with or enjoys the company of horses.

Equitation Science unveils the mystery of how a horse learns and how a horse should be trained. This book will positively influence all who study it and contemplate it's ramifications. Some of the information seems obvious, like every horse trainer should know it already. However, usually training isn't practiced as if we know it! With this information trainers will alter their training practices to align with this scientific approach. The book is textbook read, not for casual reading.

Good information, but not a light read. The title should tip you off, this book is a science book, not training horses for dummies. Be prepared to learn a lot about how the equine mind works and why, but you will have to earn the information by reading what is essentially a textbook.

if you are really into detail and the science behind animal behavior this is the best resource by far.

This a great book. I like that the focus isn't on money, but the welfare of the horse. It does read a little like a research paper at times, which is why I gave it 4 stars instead of 5.

Superb....all equestrians should own this book.....a thinking horseman's book.....this book dispels many long held myths and provides thought provoking conversation

Good attempt, but could use some focus. The sections on movement and physiology might be a bit much for the average horseman or horsewoman to get through. I found them challenging with advanced degrees in Biochemistry and Medicine. I admired the apparently sincere attempt to present sometimes conflicting arguments in a clear way. This should open the way for meaningful discussion among equestrian disciplines. This is the greatest strength of the book.I share the hope that rational application of the scientific method will enhance human/horse relationships so, while the book has shortcomings, I strongly recommend it as a great first step in the right direction.

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