



MARE HOBBLES USER GUIDE

542-400 Series Hobbles

PURPOSE

Animal Reproduction Systems has designed the Mare Breeding Hobbles to provide safe and humane restraint for the equine mare during natural breeding or semen collection procedures.

Restraining the mare using the Mare Breeding Hobbles, may be helpful in:

- (1) Preventing injury to the stallion.
- (2) Protecting personnel
- (3) Providing a safer, more controlled breeding/collection environment.

DESCRIPTION

The ARS Breeding Hobbles consists of four major parts; the *Breast Collar Assembly*, *Breast Strap Assembly*, *Rope Assembly* with panic snaps and (2) *Hock Straps*. (See FIGURE 2).

The *Breast Collar Assembly* and *Breast Strap Assembly* are both made of a durable, 3" wide, 2-ply, black nylon material, and are connected by a heavy duty steel D-ring. A 3" Quick-link is located at the end of the *Breast Strap Assembly*.

The *Rope Assembly* consists of a sturdy, 1/2" thick, static kernmantle rope, with a Panic Snap (2) attached at either end.

The (2) *Hock Straps* are constructed of a combination 1/8" leather, soft fleece-liner and 2-ply nylon woven material. Adjustable Straps provide a custom fit and steel Hock Strap Rings provide superior durability.

See Table 1 for available sizes.

ASSEMBLY

Step 1-The *Breast Strap Assembly* should be connected to the *Breast Collar Assembly* via the heavy duty D-ring (See Figure 2). To accomplish this position the *Breast Strap Assembly* and *Breast Collar Assembly* so that the strap keepers on each piece are facing the same direc-

tion. Thread the strap end of the *Breast Strap Assembly* through the heavy duty D-ring of the *Breast Collar Assembly*, so that the buckle holes of the *Breast Strap Assembly* are able to buckle into the *Breast Strap Assembly* buckle. Secure the strap end of the *Breast Strap Assembly* through the buckle of the *Breast Strap Assembly*. Thread any excess strap through the strap keeper.

Step 2- The *Rope Assembly* should then be connected to the *Breast Strap Assembly* by opening the 3" Quick-link and inserting the rope into the 3" Quick-link. Close the 3" Quick-link once the rope has been inserted.

Do not connect the *Rope Assembly* to the *Hock Straps* until the *Hock Straps* have been applied to a mare.

CARE AND CLEANING

Clean off any excess debris, mud, or manure using either a brush and/or mild soap and water. Store hobbles in a hanging position off the floor to keep them tangle free and ready for use.

Replacement Parts

Use the Mare Breeding Hobbles Size Chart (See Table 1) to order replacement parts if any components become damaged or lost. Also listed are the alternate size components for large or small mares. Use the height and weight guidelines if in doubt as to which size to order.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:

BEFORE Applying Breeding Hobbles

IMPORTANT: A minimum of two experienced handlers should be present when applying and removing the Breeding Hobbles. One of the two handlers should control the mare while the other handler applies the breeding hobbles.

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Applying Breeding Hobbles

CAUTION: ALWAYS APPLY *Hock Straps* FIRST!

Step 1- Secure the *Hock Straps* comfortably, one around each hock, on both hind legs of the mare (See FIGURE 1). The steel buckles must face AWAY from the mare on the outside or lateral portion of the hind leg. If this is the mare's first experience with Breeding Hobbles, allow several minutes for her to adjust before proceeding. The *Hock Straps* should be adjusted so that a finger can be slipped between the mare and the buckled *Hock Straps*. If the *Hock Straps* slide, or are looser than a finger's width when adjusted to the last buckle hole, determine which size *Hock Straps* are being used. If the average size *Hock Straps* (P/N 542A-403) are being used, order the small size *Hock Straps* (P/N 542S-403) and evaluate these to see if the fit problem is corrected. If the small size *Hock Straps* (P/N 542S-403) are being used the mare is too small to safely use this product. If the *Hock Straps* are so tight when adjusted to the first buckle hole that a finger can not be slipped between the *Hock Straps* and the mare, determine which size *Hock Straps* are being used. If the small size *Hock Straps* (P/N 542S-403) are being used, order the average size *Hock Straps* (P/N 542A-403) and evaluate these to see if the fit problem is corrected. If the average size *Hock Straps* (P/N 542A-403) are being used, the mare is too large to use this product.

Step 2- The *Breast Collar Assembly* should then be fitted comfortably around the base of the mare's neck.

Step 3- The *Breast Strap Assembly* should then be run between the mare's front legs and the two Panic Snaps of the *Rope Assembly* latched to the Hock Strap Rings located on the *Hock Straps* (See FIGURE 1). The mare should be able to stand comfortably, in a natural position. If the *Breast Strap Assembly* is adjusted to the first buckle hole on the strap and the *Rope Assembly* is either too short to allow the panic snaps to be connected to the *Hock Straps*, or

the mare must stand with her hind legs up underneath her, determine which size *Rope Assembly* is being used. If the average size *Rope Assembly* (P/N 542A-404, white in color) is being used, order the large size *Rope Assembly* (P/N 542L-404, red in color) and evaluate it to see if the fit problem is corrected. If the large *Rope Assembly* (P/N 542L-404, red in color) is being used, the mare is too large to use this product. It is important for safety that the mare be able to stand and walk without difficulty. If the *Breast Strap Assembly* is adjusted to the last buckle hole on the strap and there is enough slack in the rope, at a natural standing position, that the mare could kick or become entangled, determine which size *Rope Assembly* is being used. If the large size *Rope Assembly* (P/N 542L-404, red in color) is being used, order the average size *Rope Assembly* (P/N 542A-404, white in color) and evaluate it to see if the fit problem is corrected. If the average size *Rope Assembly* (P/N 542A-404, white in color) is being used, the mare is too small to safely use this product.

Removing Breeding Hobbles

CAUTION: ALWAYS DISCONNECT *Rope Assembly* FROM *Hock Straps* FIRST!

Step 1- Unlatch both Panic Snaps from the Hock Strap Rings (using caution while near the hind legs), and hold on to the *Rope Assembly* so that the mare does not become entangled or injured by the dangling rope and snaps.

Step 2- Run the *Rope Assembly* and *Breast Strap Assembly* through the mare's front legs, so that they are now in front of her chest. Continue holding the *Rope Assembly*.

Step 3- Immediately unbuckle the *Breast Collar* from the mare's neck and remove the entire apparatus.

Step 4- Carefully, unbuckle and remove each *Hock Strap* from the mare's hind legs.

FIGURE 1 - Properly Fitted Breeding Hobbles

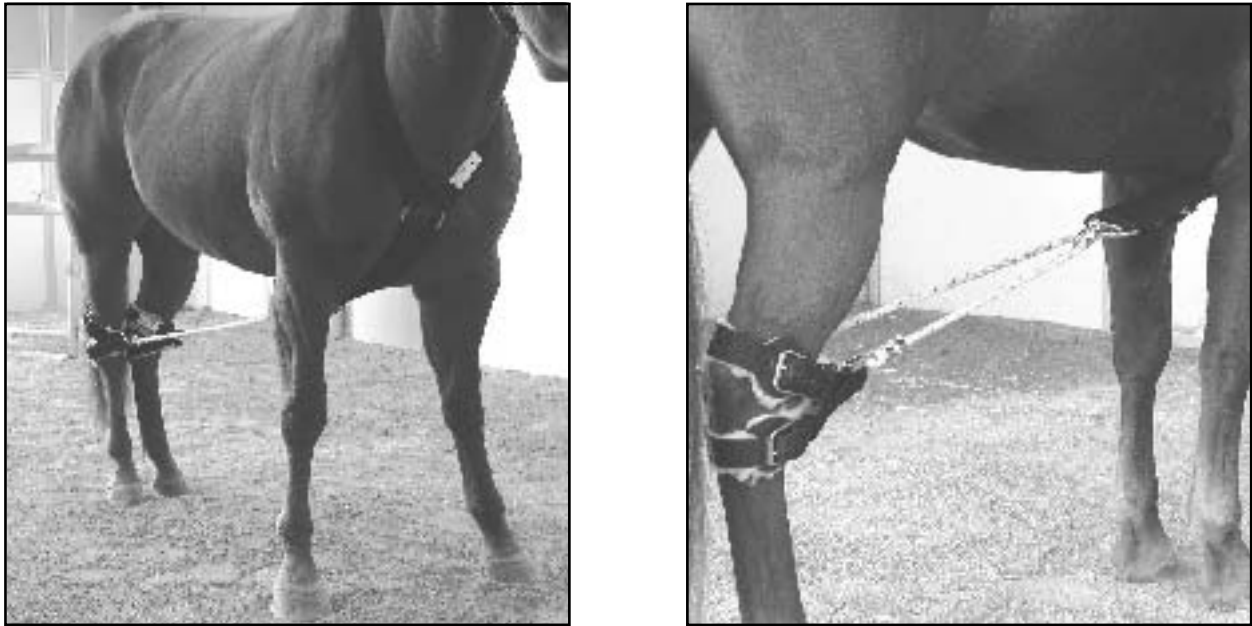


FIGURE 2 - Diagram of Parts

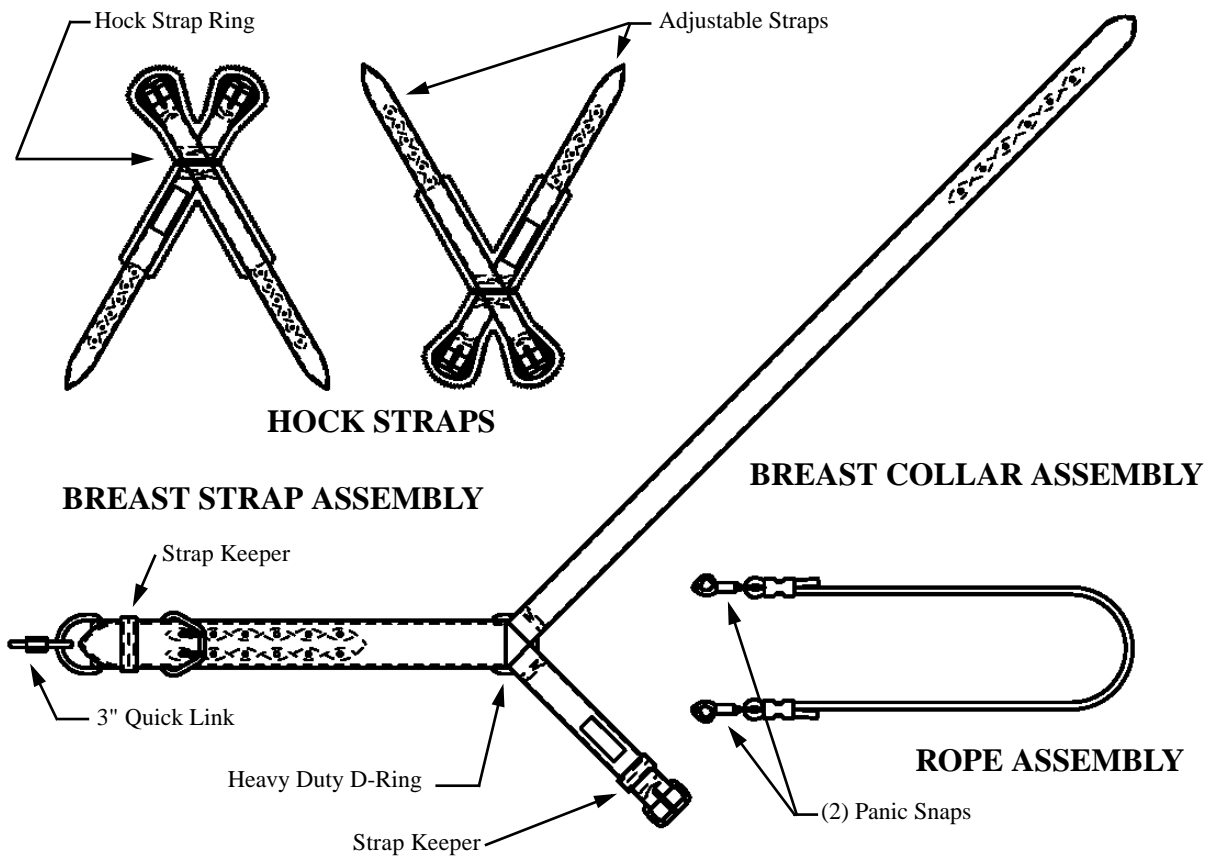


TABLE 1. MARE BREEDING HOBBLER SIZE CHART				
Mare Size		SMALL 12-14 Hands 500-800 lb	AVERAGE above 14-16 Hands	LARGE above 16 Hands above 1200 lb
Mare Breeding Hobbles Part Number		542S-400	542A-400	542L-400
<i>Replacement Parts</i>	<i>Color</i>			
542A-401 Collar Assembly	Black	✓	✓	✓
542A-402 Breast Strap Assembly	Black	✓	✓	✓
542S-403 Hock Strap, small	Blue	✓		
542A-403 Hock Strap, average	Black		✓	✓
542A-404 Rope Assembly, Average	White with Blue Specks	✓	✓	
542L-404 Rope Assembly, Large	Red with White Specks			✓
542-406A User's Guide		✓	✓	✓

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