## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE EQUINE SCIENCES PROGRAM





## AGING HORSES BY TEETH

- 1. Horse cuts baby teeth
  - a. 8 days center incisors (top and bottom)
  - b. 8 weeks intermediates
  - c. 8 months corners
- 2. Cups go out of baby teeth
  - a. 1 year centers (top and bottom)
  - b. 1½ years intermediates
  - c. 2 years corners
- 3. Horse cuts permanent teeth
  - a. 2½ years centers (top and bottom)
  - b. 3½ years intermediates
  - c. 4½ years corners
- 4. A five year-old horse is said to have a "full mouth" because all permanent teeth are in place.
- 5. Cups go out of permanent teeth
  - a. 6 years lower centers
  - b. 7 years lower intermediates
  - c. 8 years lower corners
  - d. 9 years upper centers
  - e. 10 years upper intermediates
  - f. 11 years upper corners
- 6. An 11 year-old horse is said to have a "smooth mouth" because all the cups are now gone.
- 7. There is a 7 and 11 year hook on the upper corners
- 8. Galvaynes groove appears on the upper corners when a horse is about 11 and gets longer with age
- 9. As a horse gets older
  - a. angle of incidence increases
  - b. teeth wear down
  - c. gums recede
  - d. teeth become more triangular in shape

Wolf Teeth - Located in front of molars, usually in the upper jaw, but sometimes in lower as well.

**Canine Teeth** - between incisors and molars - appear at 4-5 years. Almost always found in males, only seen occasionally in females.

## **Number of Teeth**

Young Horse has 24 temporary teeth

Mares - 36-38 - Mature Mouth (depends on whether canines appear or not) Stallions - 40-42 - Mature Mouth