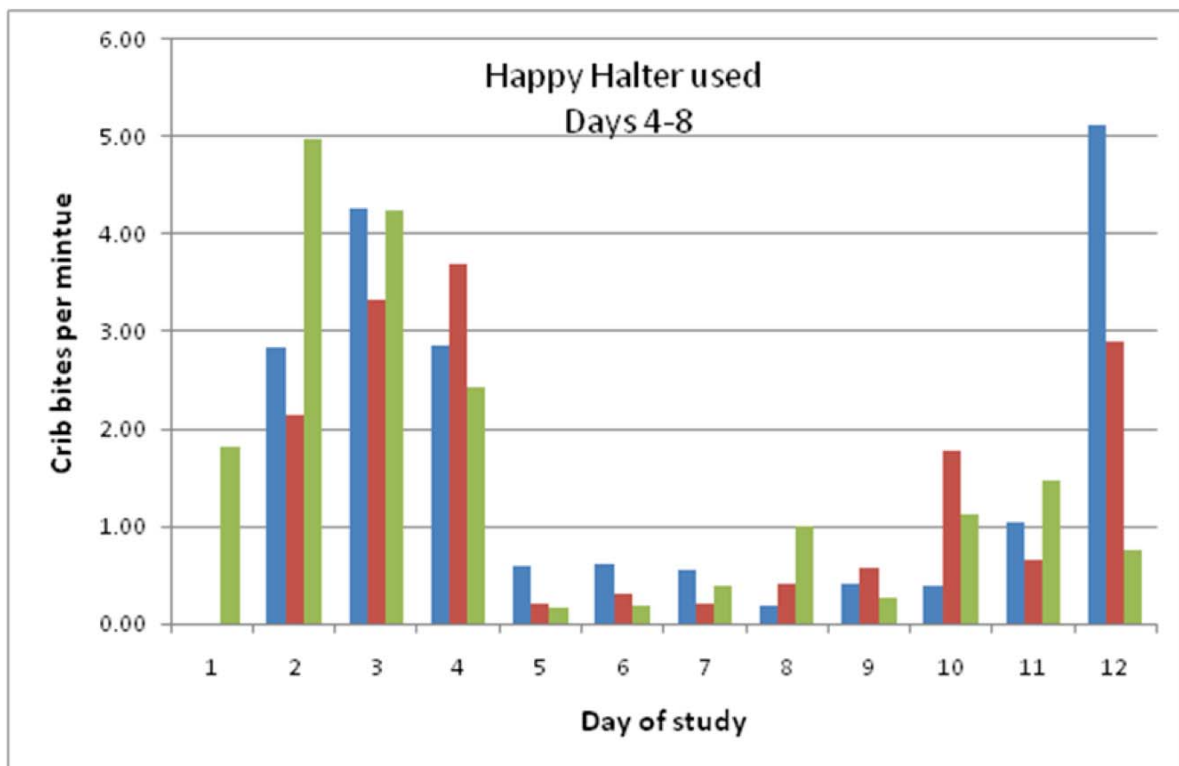


The Happy Halter is being studied by equine behavior researchers at the University of California, Davis. Horses with a history of cribbing were observed before and after use of the Happy Halter to see if it reduced the number of times the horses cribbed. So far it appears that some horses responded well and their cribbing rate dropped dramatically, others did not respond to a 5 day treatment regimen.

This chart shows the results of a “responder.” On the horizontal axis is the day of the study; on the vertical axis is the average number of crib bites per minute. Several times a day the horse was observed and the number of crib bites counted.

As you can see, in the first few days (baseline) this horse cribbed between 2 and 5 times per minute. Then from Days 4 to 8, the Happy Halter was used for 20 minutes, once a day. The cribbing rate dropped to less than 1 bite per minute. On days 9-12 there were no Happy Halter treatments, and the cribbing rate increased.



This was a pilot study with a small number of horses. Because the results were promising, the next step is to test a larger number of horses. The Davis researchers will be recruiting owners of horses that crib. Owners will be instructed how to use the Happy Halter and collect data. The horses won't leave home!

If you are interested in participating, please let the researchers know.

Send an email to jberger@ucdavis.edu. Please include “Happy Halter” in the subject line. Tell us where you're located, a brief note about your horse that cribs, and how best to contact you.