

Horse Evolution on Trial

By Veronica Faye

Frantically, evolutionists are continuing to grasp at shreds of evidence to use as support for their viewpoint. Unfortunately, horses, some of God's most beautiful creatures, are being used to propagate the lie of evolution. Secular scientists attempt to prove evolution by asserting that horses are gaining information, and as a result are becoming more evolved. Further they assert that the splint bones of the horse are a remnant of the toes that once existed during prehistoric eras. Additionally, claims are made that the size variation in the fossil record shows that there were once prehistoric horses that were much smaller than domestic horses are today. However, upon examination, these "proofs" of evolution are found insufficient.

Although evolutionists assume that life forms are becoming increasingly more complex and gaining information, there is a definite loss of information which is evident in the genus Equus.

Equine Species	Number of diploid chromosomes	Number of haploid chromosomes
Equus przewalskii Przewalski Horse	66	33
Equus caballus Domestic Horse	64	32
Equus asinus Domestic Donkey	62	31
Equus burchelli boehmi	44	22

Common Zebra		
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As seen in the chart above, the Przewalski horse, which is assumed to be the most primitive, has sixty-six diploid chromosomes, more than any other breed of horse. Domestic horses have sixty-four diploid chromosomes, domestic donkeys have sixty-two, and the common zebra has only forty-four diploid chromosomes. If the Przewalski horse is the foundation of the modern horse, then this demonstrates a loss of information. This is the complete opposite of the claim evolutionists make that species gain information. Furthermore if Przewalski horses are the ancient ancestor and domestic horses the more evolved, shouldn't the Przewalski horse have died out as it was being replaced by more evolved horses? The Answers in Genesis Creation Museum has clearly shown that species of equines with differing numbers of chromosomes can produce offspring, which supports the Biblical creation model of a horse kind. In their petting zoo, they have a zonkey (a donkey and zebra cross) and a zorse (a horse and zebra cross). This is no different than the hearty mule that farmers have bred for centuries. Further evidence of a loss of information is also found in the Arabian breed. Most breeds of *Equus caballus* have six lumbar vertebrae, whereas Arabians are missing a vertebra and only have five. Fatal genetic diseases such as Combined Immunodeficiency, found in Arabians, and Lethal White Foal Syndrome, found in American Paints are prevalent because of a loss of information and result in the death of the foal. In the Impressive lineage of the American Quarter Horse breed, there is a genetic anomaly, Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis, which causes the horse to drop dead with no warning. In 1996 AQHA mandated that all horses foaled from the Impressive lineage must have this fact noted on their registration papers as a warning to potential breeders. If there was a beneficial gain in information as horses presumably evolved, then there would not be a

prevalence of genetic diseases. These examples demonstrate evidence that there is an unmistakable and harmful loss of information.

The splint bones which run along the horse's cannon bone are often discarded as vestigial in nature with no distinct purpose and are assumed to be left over from the horse's alleged evolution from a three-toed to a one-toed animal. Modern veterinary scientists have noted functions of splint bones which include: protecting important veins and nerves, forming a groove for the suspensory ligament, providing protection to the deep flexor tendon, and distributing energy when a horse lands after a jump. These important functions hardly seem vestigial.

Finally, evolutionists use the argument of size variation to supposedly prove evolution of the horse and the existence of prehistoric horses. Although in the chart of horse evolution artistically imagined by Othniel C. Marsh in 1874, the animals progressively get larger, but variation in size does not prove one species changing into another. Rather, variation in size is evidence of variations within a kind. In the sphere of domestic horses there are the extremes of size variation from Miniature Horses to Shires. Miniature Horses average thirty-two inches (eight hands) at the withers and are a scaled down horse with proportionate limbs, and Shires average sixty-eight inches (seventeen hands) and are one of the largest breeds of horse. Both breeds have the same amount of chromosomes and in theory could be bred together. The "prehistoric horses" illustrated on charts of horse evolution more closely resemble capybaras (rodents of unusual size) with three small hoof like toes on the back and four on the front. Sadly, this model of horse evolution continues to be propagated in science books geared toward children. The evolutionary metamorphosis of the horse demonstrates a philosophy of origins; it is not a provable scientific fact.

In summary, horses are often used to promote evolution. The Bible indicates a different philosophy of origins; livestock was created by God on the sixth day of the creation week, according to their kind, as fully formed animals. Through genetic features, the uses of splint bones, and size variation, evolutionists try to form evidence for their viewpoint. If the theory of evolution was put on trial in a court of law, the evidence evolutionists would use to uphold it would be ruled conjecture and would not stand. Horses are evidence of creation and not products of evolution.

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