



days at
Dunrovin

February 2019

Dunrovin's Donkey DIVAS



Miss Maude

Miss Gertie

The DIVAS Dish - Animal Advice from the Wise Asses



Sharing Hay

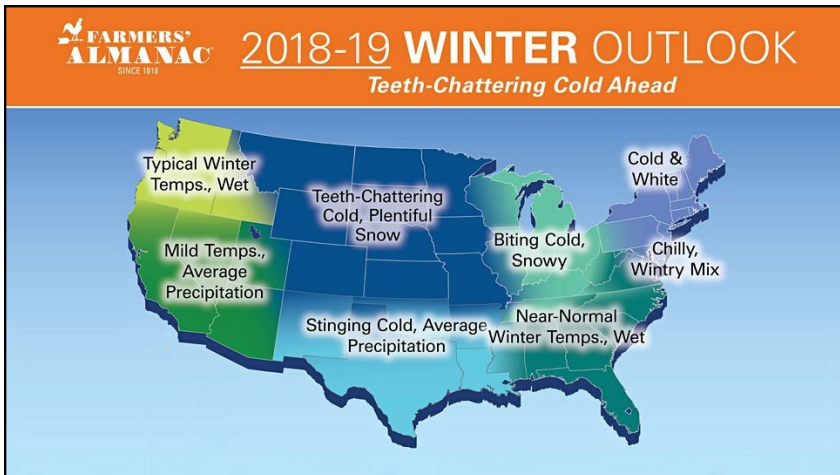


Dear Miss Gertie and Miss Maude,

I'm sure you receive lots of letters, and thank you in advance for reading mine. I am at a loss about what to do to this winter. A complete loss.

The other day, I was nibbling on some ground cover near the river and mumbling to myself about what the heck I was going to eat this winter. My home range includes Dunrovin Ranch, your home, and as I usually do, I worried about the amount of grass and leafy things that would be around until spring. I'm a worrier, I don't mind admitting.

The old beaver who built the dam across the slough told me that the Farmer's Almanac predicted "Teeth-Chattering Cold, Plentiful Snow" in my home range. It turns out that he relies on the book.



He said the horses at Dunrovin get fed very well and generously share hay with deer. Mr. Beaver also said the humans at the ranch seem to enjoy having "wild" animals come and go (I put "wild" in quotes, because my wild days are far in the past). He also mentioned birds eating at bird feeders and leaving lots of seeds underneath.

He tore out the map from his Almanac, gave it to me, which was nice of him, and told me that I should ask you for advice.

Oh, his name is Gilford Roberts Beaver, and he says you know everything about this area. I think that's his name, anyway; it is a long one and I was really hungry. I was a little distracted.

So, my question is: Is it true that deer are allowed to share the horses' hay and the birds' seeds at Dunrovin, and will I be safe if I decide to winter along with the Dunrovin Ranch herd?

Regards,



Cheryl Whitetail, Local Doe

Our Dear Miss Cheryl,

You have indeed received sound advice from Mr. Roberts. Dunrovin Ranch's horses often share their hay with visiting deer. However, we might take exception to Mr. Roberts' reason for their generosity. Congeniality has less to do with it than sheer, utter laziness. They are spoiled. They know full well that should they express a desire for more hay, the human in charge of feeding them will simply up their rations.

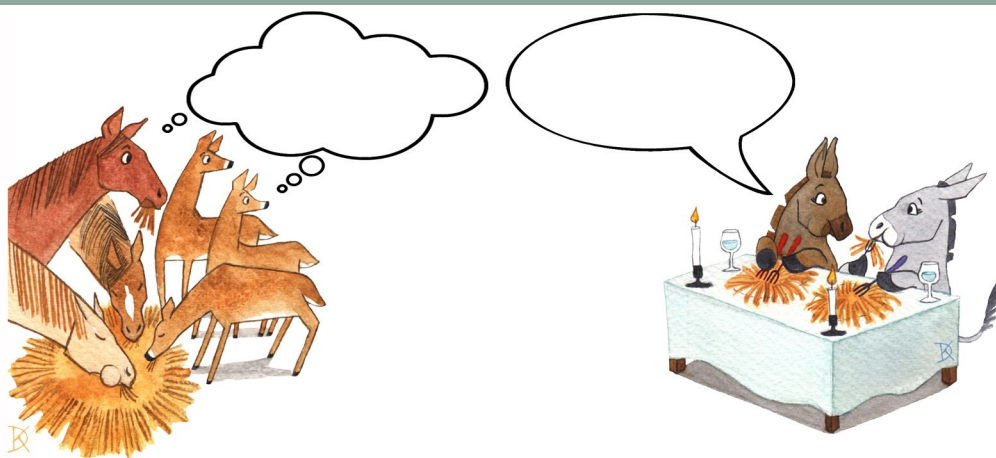
We would, however, like to point out one small issue with inviting yourself to Dunrovin for the winter. There is the question of OUR hay. While you are most welcome to share in the horses' daily hay rations, we feel it our duty to warn you that OUR hay is different. It's special. It can't be eaten by animals other than donkeys with a refined and developed palate that have become accustomed to a high-quality hay of mixed grasses and alfalfa. It has taken years for our delicate digestive tracts to adjust to such rich food. It would certainly make you sick.

So, by all means do incorporate Dunrovin Ranch into your winter plans. The horses will pay you no mind, and the birds are such messy eaters that there are always plenty of seeds under their feeders. We are certain that all your nutritional needs will be met. However, be sure to stay clear of our hay bowls and grain dishes. While it grieves us greatly not to be able to share, we will be vigilant and chase you off for your own good.

Have a safe and happy winter,

Miss Gertie Miss Maude

Caption Contest



What are the horses and deer thinking? What is Miss Maude saying to Miss Gertie?

Email caption suggestions and animal letters to DunrovinDivas@gmail.com

Identify suggested captions by month and year of contest: February 2019

Selected entries will be published in future issues.