

Jungle-Busters

"They're not fussy, they'll eat nearly everything, no matter how unpalatable we think it might be; gorse, brambles, grass – they'll nibble down tight, trample and rip out. Rolling in the dust, scratching the ground with their hooves and pushing through the vegetation is important."



Land Managers

"All this behaviour makes space for nature creating a variety of habitats, everything nature needs to thrive. It's not just on the surface the ponies do amazing things, they breathe life into the soil through their dunging and vegetation crushing hooves, feeding the soil, and supporting life."



Natural Spirits

"They are part of the farming system that is integral to supporting nature. They clear the way for cattle and sheep that graze and behave in different ways, providing further habitat diversity for nature."

"The ponies are also a big part of the spirit of a site, visitors and staff enjoy seeing them and they bring a sense of life to their special places."



Exmoors are the natural choice for a conservation workforce.



Exmoor Ponies: The original Landscape Grazing Managers



Why are Exmoor Ponies used for environmental grazing?

Exmoor ponies make wonderful conservation grazers. Small sturdy and usually no more than 13hh in height they are one of the oldest and toughest of our British native breeds. They thrive on all sorts of different habitats and their instinctive wildness helps them survive and cope in a variety of different situations.

They graze successfully with other animals and are loved by the public, who don't appear to find them as intimidating as cows; and they are not prone to dog attacks like sheep, so can be used on public access sites.

Their needs are really simple: clean water, good fencing and a pen for catching and handling.

Contact Us:

The Moorland Mousie Trust HQ
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Exmoor Pony Centre, Ashwick, Dulverton, Somerset TA22 9QE

The Moorland Mousie Trust Northern Branch
Juliet Rogers: 07710832512



What does The Moorland Mousie Trust Offer?

Our charity is a national leader in providing grazing ponies on loan to organisations/landowners. Our services include...

- Arranging transport either in house for local site or by haulier where appropriate
- Selecting suitable ponies for the site (age, sex, handling)
- Preparing pony group pre-travel (check microchip, worm, health check)
- Ponies can be returned with a minimum of one months notice
- 24 hour telephone advice/ email guidance
- Undertaking onsite husbandry tasks if required (at an extra fee)
- Exchanging ponies where there are issues
- Offering training of staff/volunteers
- Assisting with policies and management documents



What we ask of you..

- Initial non returnable loan fee of £150 per pony
- Daily checking
- Notification of any issues
- Ensure ponies are kept in good health (access to water, food, shelter)
- Ensure arrangements in place for things such as illness/injury
- Maintain boundaries and safety of ponies at all times
- Enter into a Grazing Loan Agreement with the Moorland Mousie Trust

Summary

What are the costs to you? £150 per pony initial fee plus costs of the transport to deliver the ponies on site. Annual welfare costs are usually at a minimum however contingency plans and resources must always be available.



Other Options

The Moorland Mousie Trust can assist in sourcing ponies for purchase by organisations /landowners.

- Select and Prepare ponies for travel
- Ensure correct documentation and paperwork
- Assist with budgeting for the project
- Advise on the suitability of your site

A grazing expert will visit your site and discuss your needs with you.

How much would this cost? In discussion with you we would fix cost for delivering your project which would include the costs associated with our input and resources utilised.



What to do next...

Contact the moorland Mousie Trust to discuss your project

Have the following information ready...

- Name, Contact number, Contact email
- Location of site
- What is the size and type of area to be grazed?
- How many ponies will you need?
- How long do you want ponies for?
- What type of fencing has it got?
- What's the water provision?
- Do you have any equine experience?
- Who would check the ponies?



Don't worry if you don't have all of the answers we can help you to fill in the gaps!