

Jackson Co man sentenced on animal cruelty charges

**(KNZA)--A Jackson County man convicted of 45 counts of animal cruelty has learned his fate.**

**Jackson County Attorney Shawna Miller tells MSC News that Frank Johnson, of rural Hoyt, was given a suspended one year jail sentence Monday and placed on two years supervised probation.**

**As a condition of his probation, Miller said Johnson is to not possess any animals during that time.**

**He was found guilty following a bench trial last month, which consolidated two cases against him. Johnson has filed a notice of appeal.**

**The first case was filed last August after 12 horses, determined to be in poor health, were removed from Johnson's farm.**

**The second case was filed in December, charging Johnson with an additional 33 counts of animal cruelty. That followed an investigation in November by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.**

**The Sheriff's Office first began receiving complaints in April 2017 that the horses at the farm were living in poor conditions.**

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