



Horse found slaughtered at property in Hialeah

BY ANDRE C. FERNANDEZ
a1fernandez@MiamiHerald.com

Animal Recovery Mission and Hialeah police are investigating the illegal slaughter of a horse early Thursday morning at a 50-acre property in Hialeah.

Richard Couto, founder and lead investigator of ARM, said a three-year old mare quarter horse was let out of its stable some time between 1 and 5 a.m. Thursday, led into an isolated field, stabbed and let bleed to death as the perpetrator butchered it for its meat. The property where the horse was found is located in the 97000 block of Northwest 138 Street.

Couto said his group has not yet identified who or how many assailants were involved, but suspects they could be the same people responsible for previous horse slaughters in the area over the past year.

"My group has investigated two other horse slaughters in the vicinity of the property in the past 10 months and the method used in this crime matches the previous ones," Couto said.

Couto's group has investigated and closed 18 illegal slaughter houses in the area over the past three years.