

ProEquine – Technical Sheet

ProEquine is a probiotic that can aid the performance and temperament of horses. The wide ranging benefits seen with the use of ProEquine can be explained by the equally wide ranging benefits of a healthy digestive system for the horse.

The horse has a digestive system designed for the efficient transformation of pasture and roughage into energy and protein. In natural conditions this works well with small amounts of feed grazed regularly.

Even under normal grazing conditions, there can be upsets to the digestive system. These can occur through transport, climatic changes and seasonal changes in pasture quality. Further stresses that impact on the gut include feed changes and the pressure of performing.

Horses often don't take such changes well and the gut plays a large part in this. These changes affect the gut microorganisms that the horse relies on both for efficient digestion and for maintaining good gut wall condition.

ProEquine boosts the gut microorganism activity to enhance the community of microorganisms that digest food and maintain the gut wall.

Hindgut Fermenters

Horses are hindgut fermenters. While they have a small stomach that can access energy from some of the starch in pasture and hay, most digestion takes place in the hindgut which comprises the caecum and the colon. It is here that food spends the vast bulk of the 30 hour digestion time and the digestion is primarily undertaken by microorganisms.

When we seek to get more out of the performance of horses, hard feed is an obvious source of improved energy intake to help the horse cope with the extra demand. Most of the concentrated starch energy in grains though is not able to be unlocked in the short time that the grain is in the stomach. When grains are digested in the hindgut, the digestive bacteria can often release large amounts of lactic acid which is an irritation for the gut wall and causes many other microorganisms to die and release toxins – further disturbing the horse, spoiling its appetite and affecting its temperament and performance.

With ProEquine, the digestion of pasture, roughage and also hard feed can improve markedly. This leads to a healthy appetite and a willingness to perform. The improved production and uptake of energy, protein, vitamins and mineral nutrients helps put the horse in the position to perform to its optimum.

Stimulating Microorganisms

ProEquine stimulates a broad range of micro-organisms in the hindgut and in particular zymogenic bacteria (fast growing digestive bacteria); this enables the animal to get the most out of the feed. The stimulated bacteria are more likely to produce the beneficial acetic acid and propionic acid that the horse utilises for energy and protein rather than the waste lactic acid which upsets the gut and lowers the gut pH. These same microorganisms also release minerals and produce vitamins required by the horse.

Recovery from Antibiotics

When a horse has had a course of antibiotics ProEquine can help with the reestablishment of beneficial gut microorganisms.

Food for Thought

Feed will generally spend 30 hours in the digestive system of a horse. Around 80% of that time is spent in the hindgut. What happens there depends partly on the make up of the feed, and the conditions that the horse is under. ProEquine helps the horse make the most of that time, deriving the maximum amount possible from the feed and reducing the impact of stresses and waste products on the horse.

People using ProEquine have reported that some horses that would previously not eat after a hard gallop or transport have developed an appetite on a regular basis which has allowed extra training and better fitness.