

HORSLYX™ BALANCERS



Providing everyday **balanced**
nutritional support for your horse.

HORSLYX BALANCERS

Used and trusted by horse owners around the world, Horslyx Balancers provide vitamins, minerals and trace elements in one easy to use, cost effective lick.

Horslyx Balancers have been carefully formulated to balance the deficiencies in forage and grazing. This is a unique and innovative approach to ensuring that the modern horse receives an ideal supply of vitamins, minerals and trace elements to support optimum health and vitality.



At Horslyx we are aware that you only want the best for your horse and we are confident in the quality of the products we provide. Horslyx supports ethical sport and monitors for the presence of specified Naturally Occurring Prohibited Substances (NOPS) as required under the rules of racing and affiliated competitions. As such, Horslyx is proud to meet the requirements of the strict BETA NOPS code to ensure control of these prohibited substances. When buying nutritional products for your horse or pony always look for the BETA NOPS logo as reassurance of the stringent quality management procedures undertaken by the manufacturer.

WHY FEED A **HORSLYX** BALANCER?



Horslyx is a balancer, supplied in a palatable lick, containing an optimum level of vitamins, minerals and trace elements all in one tub. A balancer supplies a balance of nutrients that are deficient in the horses basal diet which is typically forage based.

Horslyx Balancers promote a natural trickle feed pattern that allows the horse to self-regulate and consume Horslyx as and when they require it. All Horslyx need to be licked, which takes time and patience. Horses only produce saliva when they are biting, chewing or licking and saliva is an excellent natural buffer and lubricant within the gastrointestinal tract. This leads to better digestion, less stress and a happier, healthier horse.

Horslyx Balancers are ideal for all horses and ponies, both competition and leisure, stabled and grass kept and is even suitable for laminitis prone horses and ponies. Please see our feeding guidelines for further information, either on our website, or on page 15 of the brochure.

KEY INGREDIENTS TO THE RANGE

All Horslyx Balancers are based on the Original Horslyx formula which supports all round health and vitality so as a result there are several key ingredients which are common across the range of products.



Horslyx Balancers are made by an exclusive cooking process, using the highest quality ingredients. This makes them a unique product, which comes with a whole host of benefits to you and your horse.

This also enables the product to be weatherproof and more cost effective than many other products on the market.



All Horslyx Balancers are extremely low in starch, making them suitable for horses, which can react unfavourably to traditional cereal based diets.



Protein is important to all horses since it provides the building blocks (amino acids) required for muscle tissue synthesis. Some amino acids can be manufactured by the horse (these are called "non-essential" amino acids) and some have to be provided by the diet ("essential" amino acids) because they cannot be produced by the horse.



Omega-3 Oils are essential fatty acids, which cannot be manufactured by the body and therefore must be obtained from the diet and they play a useful role in supporting the immune system. The Omega-3 oils in

Horslyx Balancers are from Linseed Oil and can help in producing a healthy glossy coat, healthy skin and boost the immune system. A horse's natural diet can be low in Omega-3 so horses often need an additional source to provide these essential fatty acids for optimum health.



For optimum hoof support all Horslyx Balancers contain a hoof package. This includes Biotin, a water-soluble B vitamin that is produced as a by-product of the breakdown of fibre in the hind gut or must be provided by the diet. It has been shown in several studies to be essential for hoof health, however adding zinc, methionine and providing a full balanced diet is often found to be more effective than biotin alone.



A combination of powerful antioxidants such as Vitamin E, Selenium, chelated Copper and Zinc are induced to support and maintain a healthy immune system, which maximises the ability to support all round health and vitality.

KEY INGREDIENTS SPECIFIC TO PRODUCTS



Added key ingredients in Mint, Garlic, Mobility, Respiratory and Pro Digest Balancers provide additional support specific to each product allowing owners to target nutritional requirements with just one product.



The cool refreshing flavour of real peppermint oil is loved by many horses, the aroma and taste of mint often makes it an ideal appetite stimulant for fussy equines.



Feeding garlic as a fly repellent is not a new idea, and works because high sulphur compounds in garlic are released through the skin via natural body secretions such as sweat, producing an invisible barrier that flies find repellent. Whilst they may still be present around the horse, they seldom land on the skin, and this significantly reduces the level of irritation normally seen.



Glucosamine HCl is a glycoprotein present in joints and is an essential, natural component of ligaments, tendons, cartilage and synovial fluid, the liquid shock absorber which lubricates and cushions the joints during movement.



Methyl sulphonyl methane (MSM), is a readily available source of organic sulphur, a key component of connective tissue, which is important for cartilage and joint support. MSM works in synchrony with glucosamine to help contribute to the overall health of connective tissue and maintain overall joint health, including mobility, flexibility and range of motion for comfortable movement. MSM also possesses antioxidant properties.



Menthol, Eucalyptus and Aniseed - Menthol, eucalyptus and aniseed can help keep airways clear of mucus, which can help the horse to breathe more easily and dramatically reduce stress.



Healthy horses fed adequate amounts of fibre will have the ability to synthesise their own Vitamin C requirement. However, research suggests that supplementation may be beneficial in times of "stress" or where disease is present when the body's ability to synthesise Vitamin C may be compromised (Marlin et al, 2005). Recent research work has also identified that this vitamin, as well as being an antioxidant, plays a crucial role in the horse's respiratory health. Being water soluble, Vitamin C is found in very high concentrations in the fluid lining the airways (Deaton et al, 2002). Vitamin C is also actively involved in the recycling or "re-activation" of Vitamin E. It is also involved in general metabolism, iron absorption and anti-stress hormones.



Slippery Elm (*Ulmus rubra*) and Seaweed Meal (*Ascophyllum nodosum*) both contain mucilage. Mucilage, also known as soluble fibre, can be particularly beneficial in horses with inflamed mucous membranes and digestive conditions. Mucilage absorbs moisture within the stomach and can form a protective layer reducing the effect of excess acid on the stomach which may be helpful in terms of gastric ulcers.



A prebiotic yeast extract containing MOS (Mannanligosaccharides) helps to flush pathogens out of the gut and Beta-glucans which helps stimulate the growth of beneficial gut bacteria resulting in a healthier balance of bacteria and so can lessen digestive upsets.



A live probiotic yeast helps support digestive health and maintain healthy gut function and help reduce the risk of digestive discomfort. Probiotics pass through the stomach and small intestine and are then functional within the hindgut. They cannot colonise the hindgut and so need fed daily for sustained results.



Emily Galbraith feeds Horslyx Balancers to her team of horses.

Mini

HORSLYX™

THE ULTIMATE REWARD!



Veterinary Physiotherapist, Harriet Beecroft, regularly uses Mini Horslyx during treatment to achieve baited stretches.



Have your horse or pony eating out of your hand with **Mini Horslyx**.

Mini Horslyx is the ultimate reward whether you need a distraction for your horse or pony or simply to treat them for good behavior.

Each 650g tub contains a 3 day supply and is available in Original, Mint, Garlic, Mobility, Respiratory and Pro Digest.



Farrier Abby Bunyard A.W.C.F. finds Mini Horslyx helps to relieve stress in horses worried about shoeing.



- ✓ A healthier alternative to treats and sweets.
- ✓ Use as a simple hand held reward after good behaviour and exercise.
- ✓ Unlike carrots and treats, **Mini Horslyx** cannot be broken or snatched, so it makes the perfect accessory for performing stretching exercises.
- ✓ Distract during routine visits such as vets, farriers and other therapists.
- ✓ Encourage horses that are difficult to catch in the stable and field, as well as those that need some persuasion to load.
- ✓ During clipping, plaiting or trimming help reduce the chance of fidgety behaviour.
- ✓ Ideal for taking to shows and events as a reward plus as a means of topping up vitamin and mineral levels, as well as distracting during times of stress.

To see Horslyx in action please visit our YouTube channel  www.youtube.com/user/HorslyxVideos



Team Smith show horses are fed Horslyx Balancers.

SUPPORTS ALL ROUND HEALTH AND VITALITY



Horslyx Original Balancer will balance any nutrient deficiencies in forage and grazing, plus an antioxidant package to support and maintain a healthy immune system, helping to ensure your horse stays healthy and happy all year round.

When fed at the recommended intake level for your horse, **Original Balancer** can counter any deficiencies in grass and forage whilst also being cost effective and extremely low in starch. Feeding **Original Balancer** costs from just 47p per day when feeding 15kg **Original Balancer** at the recommended intakes for an average 500kg horse.*

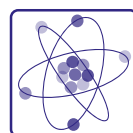
Horslyx Original Balancer is suitable for all horses, from those at rest requiring a low calorie diet to performance horses who may require additional supplementation to meet their nutritional requirements.

*Prices correct as of September 2020.

AVAILABLE IN 650G, 5KG, 15KG, 40KG AND 80KG.



KEY INGREDIENTS



ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	6%
CRUDE PROTEIN	6.5%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.25%
CRUDE ASH	23%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	33%
CALCIUM	2.5%
PHOSPHORUS	1.6%
MAGNESIUM	0.4%
SODIUM	2.5%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, monocalcium phosphate, pure vegetable oil, sodium chloride, prairie meal, calcium carbonate, magnesium oxide.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	25,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	5,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	1,200 mg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	220 mcg
Biotin	12mg

TRACE ELEMENTS

Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	6mg
Copper (from copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	540mg
Copper (from copper (II) chelate of glycine hydrate)	60mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	800mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1080mg
Zinc (from zinc chelate of glycine hydrate)	120mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	5mg



All Horslyx products are manufactured in assurance with the BETA NOPS code.



Phillip Spivey feeds Horslyx Balancers to his showjumpers.

SUPPORTS ALL ROUND HEALTH AND VITALITY WITH A COOL REFRESHING FLAVOUR



Horslyx Mint Balancer will supply your horse with a balance of nutrients to keep them healthy, happy and performing at their best all year round with a cool refreshing peppermint flavour.

As with all Horslyx Balancers, **Mint Balancer** will promote a natural trickle feed pattern that allows the horse to self regulate and consume Horslyx as and when they need it. This leads to better digestion, less stress and a happier, healthier horse.

Horslyx Mint Balancer, along with all the Horslyx Balancers, are ideal for all horses and ponies, both competition and leisure, stabled and grass kept and is even suitable for laminitis prone horses and ponies. Please see pages 11-14 for further information.

AVAILABLE IN 650G, 5KG AND 15KG.



KEY INGREDIENTS



ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	6%
CRUDE PROTEIN	6.5%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.25%
CRUDE ASH	23%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	33%
CALCIUM	2.5%
PHOSPHORUS	1.6%
MAGNESIUM	0.4%
SODIUM	2.5%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, monocalcium phosphate, pure vegetable oil, sodium chloride, prairie meal, calcium carbonate, magnesium oxide, peppermint oil.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	25,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	5,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	1,200 mg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	220 mcg
Biotin	12mg

TRACE ELEMENTS

Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	6mg
Copper (from copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	540mg
Copper (from copper (II) chelate of glycine hydrate)	60mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	800mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1080mg
Zinc (from zinc chelate of glycine hydrate)	120mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	5mg

FLAVOURING COMPOUNDS

Mixture of flavouring compounds	1000mg
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Katie Jerram-Hunnable and Chris Hunnable feed Horslyx Balancers to their team of show horses.

WITH THE POWER OF NATURAL GARLIC



Horslyx Garlic Balancer contains pure garlic oil to help provide a natural and effective way to help combat the problem of biting insects.

Two independent research studies carried out at The University of Aberystwyth have shown that feeding **Garlic Balancer** can significantly reduce the irritation from flies and other biting insects whilst horses are at grass. The most recent report concluded: "This level of reduction is indicative that the consumption of **Horslyx Garlic Balancer** produces a beneficial effect for the horse and that this reduction in insect burden will allow the horse to be less irritable and more manageable".

A third independent study at Aberystwyth demonstrated that **Garlic Balancer** had beneficial effects in decreasing the number of times each affected horse tried to alleviate the irritation of sweet itch. This research concluded: "Feeding **Horslyx Garlic Balancer** helped to alleviate irritation caused by sweet itch, which in turn may reduce stress, making for a happier, more responsive and co-operative horse". Find out more on our website www.horslyx.com.

AVAILABLE IN 650G, 5KG, 15KG, 40KG AND 80KG.



KEY INGREDIENTS



ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	6%
CRUDE PROTEIN	6%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.25%
CRUDE ASH	25%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	30%
CALCIUM	2.3%
PHOSPHORUS	1.6%
MAGNESIUM	0.4%
SODIUM	3.5%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, Sodium chloride, Monocalcium phosphate, pure vegetable oil, calcium carbonate, prairie meal, magnesium oxide, pure garlic oil.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	25,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	5,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	1,200 mg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	220 mcg
Biotin	12mg

TRACE ELEMENTS

Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	6mg
Copper (from copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	540mg
Copper (from copper (II) chelate of glycine hydrate)	60mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	800mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1080mg
Zinc (from zinc chelate of glycine hydrate)	120mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	5mg

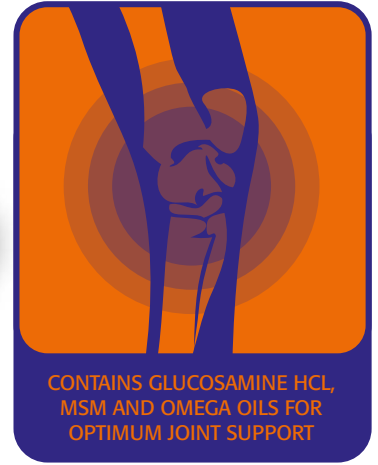


All Horslyx products are manufactured in assurance with the BETA NOPS code.



Richard Nichol uses Horslyx Mobility Balancer on his team of showjumpers.

SUPPORTS HEALTHY JOINT FUNCTION



Horslyx Mobility Balancer can be used to help maintain healthy joints in all horses, of all ages and breeds, whether for a performance horse that requires support for hard working joints, or as an aid for older horses that may have suffered from wear and tear over the years.

Independent research was conducted at the University of Central Lancashire using 6 Thoroughbred horses based at the Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Centre. This independent university research clearly demonstrated that **Horslyx Mobility Balancer** can help reduce joint stiffness in otherwise clinically sound horses and when used regularly will help maintain healthy supple joints and allow mobility and flexibility for comfortable movement. Find out more on our website www.horslyx.com.

As with all Horslyx Balancers, **Mobility Balancer** is extremely low in starch, making it suitable for horses which can react unfavourably to traditional cereal based diets.

AVAILABLE IN 650G, 5KG AND 15KG.



KEY INGREDIENTS



ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	6%
CRUDE PROTEIN	6.5%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.25%
CRUDE ASH	23%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	33%
CALCIUM	2.5%
PHOSPHORUS	1.4%
MAGNESIUM	0.4%
SODIUM	2.2%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, pure vegetable oil, monocalcium phosphate, sodium chloride, prairie meal, calcium carbonate, methyl sulphonyl methane (MSM), glucosamine hydrochloride, magnesium oxide.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	25,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	5,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	2,000 mg
Vitamin C (ascorbyl monophosphate)	2,000 mg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	220 mcg
Biotin	12mg

TRACE ELEMENTS

Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	6mg
Copper (from copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	540mg
Copper (from copper (II) chelate of glycine hydrate)	60mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	800mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1080mg
Zinc (from zinc chelate of glycine hydrate)	120mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	5mg



SUPPORTS A HEALTHY RESPIRATORY SYSTEM



All horses require a healthy respiratory system to ensure optimum performance. **Horslyx Respiratory Balancer** is an effective addition to the diet to help support all equines from the competition horse to the family pony.

Respiratory Balancer is designed to provide a two-pronged approach in supporting a healthy respiratory system. Ingredients such as menthol, eucalyptus and aniseed support the airways, meanwhile the high specification balancer package helps to maintain immunity.

Licking takes time and patience which is perfect for horses that are stabled for long periods of time and can help reduce stress and boredom, plus the specific **Respiratory Balancer** ingredients can help maintain healthy breathing and lessen the chance of ill-health affecting performance levels.

AVAILABLE IN 650G, 5KG AND 15KG.



KEY INGREDIENTS



ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	6%
CRUDE PROTEIN	6.5%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.25%
CRUDE ASH	23%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	33%
CALCIUM	2.3%
PHOSPHORUS	1.6%
MAGNESIUM	0.4%
SODIUM	2.5%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, monocalcium phosphate, pure vegetable oil, sodium chloride, prairie meal, calcium carbonate, pure menthol granules, magnesium oxide, pure eucalyptus oil, pure aniseed oil.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	25,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	5,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	3,000 mg
Vitamin C (ascorbyl monophosphate)	3,000 mg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	220 mcg
Biotin	12mg

TRACE ELEMENTS

Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	6mg
Copper (from copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	540mg
Copper (from copper (II) chelate of glycine hydrate)	60mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	800mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1080mg
Zinc (from zinc chelate of glycine hydrate)	120mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	5mg



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SUPPORTS A HEALTHY DIGESTIVE SYSTEM



Horslyx Pro Digest Balancer contains a combination of ingredients to support the digestive system from the stomach to the hindgut while licking enhances saliva production which helps buffer stomach acidity. Slippery Elm and Seaweed Meal are included as a source of mucilage while a prebiotic supports beneficial gut bacteria and a live probiotic yeast helps provide a buffering action in the hindgut.

With increased magnesium levels and a low starch content **Pro Digest Balancer** is suitable for any horse but is especially aimed at those prone to digestive upsets.

A spiced apple flavouring is included to tempt fussy feeders and the high specification Horslyx Balancer package includes the full spectrum of vitamins, minerals and trace elements required to balance the deficiencies in forage and grazing.

AVAILABLE IN 650G, 5KG, 15KG AND 40KG.



KEY INGREDIENTS



ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	6%
CRUDE PROTEIN	6.5%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.25%
CRUDE ASH	23%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	33%
CALCIUM	2.2%
PHOSPHORUS	1.5%
MAGNESIUM	0.9%
SODIUM	2.7%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, monocalcium phosphate, pure vegetable oil, sodium chloride, prairie meal, calcium carbonate, magnesium oxide, Actisaf yeast, yeast product, Bark (Slippery Elm), Seaweed meal.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	25,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	5,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	2,000 mg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	220 mcg
Biotin	12mg
TRACE ELEMENTS	
Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	6mg
Copper (from copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	540mg
Copper (from copper (II) chelate of glycine hydrate)	60mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	800mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1080mg
Zinc (from zinc chelate of glycine hydrate)	120mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	5mg
ZOOTECNICAL ADDITIVE	
Saccharomyces cerevisiae NCYC Sc 47	8 x 10 ¹⁰ cfu
FLAVOURING COMPOUNDS	
Apple Flavouring	500mg

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR HORSE'S DIGESTIVE HEALTH?

We all love our horses and want to do our best for them, and everywhere we have it drummed into us that optimum digestive health is the key to everything! If their digestive system isn't in tip top health their coat won't shine, their hooves are likely to be in poor condition and issues such as weight loss, loose droppings and problems such as laminitis, gastric ulcers and even colic are possible.

BACK TO BASICS

Horses have evolved to continuously roam over vast areas and graze, or 'trickle feed' for 16 – 18 hours per day. Despite the fact that our equines today are kept in relative luxury in comparison to their ancestors their digestive system is still similar, meaning that the horse still needs this trickle feed supply of nutrients to remain in optimum health.

The digestive system starts with the mouth and licking enhances saliva production which helps to buffer stomach acidity and this can help reduce the risk of stomach ulcers. The horse's stomach is the size of a rugby ball and is where the digestion of starch and sugar commences to be completed in the small intestine, but it is the hindgut where the main focus for the horse should be. Two thirds of the equine digestive system is in the hindgut, or the caecum and large intestine, and this is where the fermentation of fibre takes place by micro-organisms and beneficial bacteria.

When the hindgut is healthy and the horse is trickle fed ample amounts of good quality forage, plus a balanced diet, the hindgut will provide the horse with warmth from the effects of the fibre digestion, and a range of B vitamins which ensure that the horse's skin and coat are healthy and his hooves are in good condition.

Unfortunately modern feeding practices are unlikely to follow this trickle feeding pattern. More typically they provide large irregular meals based on cereals with restricted access to forages, and in certain circumstances long periods of time with no forages available.

This can result in problems directly affecting the digestive system such as colic, digestive upsets such as loose droppings and gastric ulcers, but can be much wider ranging and include laminitis and EMS, stress, poor performance and even stereotypies.

FORAGE FIRST!

To improve the digestive health of our equines the first place to look at is forage. It's the most important element of their diet and forage types include grass, hay, haylage, straw and short chop fibres. Basing the equine diet on forage, at a minimum of 1.5% of bodyweight, to provide the optimum amount of fibre and providing vitamins, minerals and trace elements to balance the diet with extra calories provided only when needed, should result in a happier, healthier horse.



WHAT ELSE?

Apart from providing horses with sufficient forage, owners can offer products that enhance saliva production such as Horslyx and offer products containing ingredients that can be beneficial in terms of gut health such as **Pro Digest Balancer**. The most common choices of supplements to support digestive health include mucilage, or soluble fibre, prebiotics and probiotics.

Mucilage, or soluble fibre, absorbs moisture within the stomach and can form a soothing layer reducing the effect of excess acid on the stomach wall which may be beneficial in terms of gastric ulcers.

Prebiotics are fed to promote good bacteria within the hindgut or to provide stimulation of the hosts immune function.

Probiotics are live yeasts based upon *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. They pass through the stomach and small intestine and then are functional within the hindgut.

Looking for products which contain a blend of these ingredients can be beneficial to those horses suffering from digestive upsets.

Find out more about digestive health and **Pro Digest Balancer** at Horslyx.com



All Horslyx products are manufactured in assurance with the BETA NOPS code.

WORRIED ABOUT SUGAR?

Sugar can be really scary whether we are looking at our own diet, or those of our horses. However, it is essential to life for all of us and here we will learn more about sugar.

We all, including our equines, need sugar to be able to perform normal physiological functions. Glucose is the primary energy source utilised by body cells and organs including the brain, making it impossible for our horses (and us) to survive without sugar! Glucose is in fact the only energy source the brain can use. If the horse is not supplied with enough sugar through the diet then they will convert other nutrients into glucose to meet that demand.

SO WHAT IS SUGAR?

Sugar is a carbohydrate, like starch and fibre, and sugar can be split into types depending on the number of units they contain:

- ✔ Monosaccharides or 'simple sugars' consist of a single unit. These include glucose (blood sugar), fructose (fruit sugar) and galactose.
- ✔ Disaccharides consist of two units and include sucrose (the kind that goes in your tea and the sugar contained in molasses!), lactose (milk sugar) and maltose (from partially digested starch).
- ✔ Oligosaccharides are made up of multiple units and include fructans and starch.



SO WOULD HORSES EAT SUGAR IN THE WILD?

The horse is an herbivore and has evolved to eat a high fibre diet consisting of a variety of vegetation, eating for 16-18 hours a day. However at certain times of the year this vegetation would contain high levels of sugar – as sucrose, glucose and fructose – as well as the fibre essential for the horse's gut health. As a result of evolution, the horse's digestive system is designed to be able to cope with sugar as a component of feed as long as it is broken down and digested in the small intestine. This happens when the intakes of sugar are little and often, i.e. trickle fed, for example, when the horse is grazing over a 16 – 18 hour period.

CAN WE AVOID SUGAR FOR OUR HORSES?

In a word NO! As grass should be the largest proportion of most equine's diets, then avoiding sugar completely is practically impossible. Horses are designed to be able to digest sugar, and sugar free feeds will be virtually impossible to find as most of the raw materials are plant based and these will all contain some level of natural sugar.







IS THIS A PROBLEM FOR OUR HORSES?

In healthy, exercised horses, sugar should not cause a problem, however there are undoubtedly some horses and ponies that do need a low sugar (not sugar free) diet, particularly those prone to laminitis or suffering from Cushing's disease or EMS.

For those equines who do require a low sugar diet, it is even more important to ensure they receive their vitamins and minerals to provide a balanced diet, without the unnecessary extra calories that a concentrate feed may provide.

SO WHAT DO WE KNOW?

Many owners now understand that forage is the largest source of sugar in their horse's diet, however assessing the amount of sugar in the bucket feed can be more difficult. It is also important to consider the total intake of sugar in a 24 hour period, rather than just one particular part of the diet, remembering that horses can cope well with sugar when the intake is little and often, as when grazing or when accessing a lick throughout the day.

Comparison of sugar content in the daily diet of a 500kg horse					
Feed		Daily intake Fresh Weight	Daily intake Dry Weight	Sugar Supply	Sugar Tea Spoon / Bag Equivalent
	Grass	50kg	10kg	2000g	2 bags 
	Hay	11.5kg	10kg	1000g	1 bag 
	Horslyx	0.25kg	0.24kg	82.5g	16.5tsp 

Grass is the largest source of sugar in the horse's diet, typically containing 20 % sugar in the dry matter (DM). A typical 500 kg horse will easily consume 50 kg of fresh grass (approximately 10 kg DM) in a single day, equating to around 2000 g of sugar!

WORRIED ABOUT SUGAR?

READING THE FEED LABEL

When we look at what we feed our horses and finally get around to the actual label, it can appear bewildering with analysis, feeding rates and ingredients listing.

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Often we will pick out one thing we think we understand which might concern us, such as the sugar percentage, however that is not the whole story. Looking at just the percentage content of sugar in the feed and thinking that is the important bit is easy to do but without the feeding rate, the percentage inclusion doesn't make much sense! Below we look at how it is important to consider these feeding rates when looking at the percentage content of sugar. The highest percentage sugar content does not always contribute the most sugar to the diet when fed correctly!

Horslyx	'Cool' mixes	Low sugar Complete Fibre Feed	Hay
33% sugar Negligible starch	Average 8% sugar Average 20% starch	Average 5% sugar Average 3% starch	Average 10% sugar Negligible starch
500kg horse fed 250g per day = • 82.5g sugar and negligible starch per day	500kg horse fed 3kg a day = • 240g sugar and 600g starch per day	500kg horse fed 2.5kg per day = • 125g sugar and 75g starch per day	500kg horse fed 10kg (DM) a day = • 1000g sugar and negligible starch per day



From the above table it can be seen that Horslyx has the highest percentage content of sugar at 33%, however it has the lowest feeding rate of 250g. This means that it would only contribute 82.5g of sugar to the diet of a 500kg horse. The low sugar complete fibre feed (such as recommended for laminitis prone equines) has a very low percentage sugar content of 5%, but when fed at the recommended rate of 2.5kg for a 500kg horse would contribute 125g of sugar to the diet. Both these products are designed to be fed little and often, Horslyx by licking occasionally throughout the day, and the low sugar complete fibre feed by several bucket feeds, and in this manner the sugar should be digested in the small intestine over a period of 24 hours as nature intended.

HOW DO HORSLYX BALANCERS FIT IN?

- ✓ Horslyx is often viewed as a high sugar product, but in reality when the recommended intakes are followed, it is relatively low in comparison to other feed products.
- ✓ The recommended daily amount of a Horslyx Balancer for a 500kg horse, provides less sugar than 1kg of hay would!
- ✓ Remember that Horslyx is a balancer designed specifically to balance the deficiencies in forage and grazing. Horslyx Balancers plus forage results in a balanced diet which provides all the nutrients and sufficient energy for many horses and ponies.
- ✓ For those horses which have a higher energy requirement than Horslyx Balancers plus forage, the licks can be used alongside cereal based feeds as a vitamin, mineral and trace element top up and a boredom breaker and to alleviate stable stress.

SO WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT?

- ✓ Sugar is a natural part of the horse's diet and horses are highly efficient at digesting it, as long as the intakes are little and often.
- ✓ Grass is the largest part of the horse's diet typically containing 20% sugar in the dry matter (DM).
- ✓ It is important to consider feeding rates when looking at the percentage content of sugar. The highest percentage sugar content does not always contribute the most sugar to the diet when fed correctly!
- ✓ When introduced and fed correctly Horslyx Balancers offer a safe method of ensuring all horses and ponies, including those which are prone to laminitis or overweight, receives the necessary nutrients they require.
- ✓ Remember, don't worry about your horse's teeth and Horslyx; the enamel on horses' teeth is far tougher than the enamel which protects human teeth and when a horse licks Horslyx it releases a large amount of saliva which washes over the teeth raising the oral pH and washing away any sugar residues from the teeth.

To find out more about sugar please visit our YouTube channel

 www.youtube.com/user/HorslyxVideos



WHAT ABOUT STARCH?



Starch, like sugar, has had a lot of negative publicity lately but is it warranted? Whilst horses had evolved to digest fibre as their source of energy, once they were domesticated and the impact of work and competition meant that fibre would not provide enough energy so we would feed them grains. Grains such as barley, oats, wheat and maize are a high starch product (e.g. barley approx. 55% starch and 2.5% sugar) and would provide a quick release source of energy, ideal for the working equine, so why the bad press? Often, it is not the product that is the issue, but the way in which it has been used. Few horses nowadays work as hard as a true working horse, apart from those at top competition level, and feeding excessive amounts of grain to those horses and ponies which do not require it (through body type or work level) isn't only unnecessary, but can cause health issues as wide ranging as colic, ulcers and laminitis.

- ✔ Starch, sugar and fibre are all carbohydrates, but as they are all composed differently, they are digested differently by the horse.
- ✔ Fibre is a structural carbohydrate that the horse digests by fermentation using the microbes in the hindgut.
- ✔ Sugar is a simple carbohydrate made up of one or two monosaccharide units and is easily - and efficiently - digested in the small intestine.
- ✔ Starch is made up of many (glucose) monosaccharide units. The starch should be digested fully in the small intestine into the simple sugars of the individual glucose molecules to ensure it is fully absorbed before reaching the hind gut.

SO, WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

There are two issues, firstly the quick release energy of starch digestion can cause excitability in some horses, especially if they are receiving more calories than they need for their workload. Secondly if excess starch is fed not all of it gets digested and absorbed in the small intestine, and some enters the hind gut, where it is quickly fermented to lactic acid, this can lead to digestive or metabolic disorders such as stomach ulcers, colic or tying up.

The important fact is that starch must be digested and absorbed in the small intestine and should not be allowed to pass into the hindgut. The population of microbes in the hindgut can become unstable with the introduction of starch, which can lead to disruption of the digestion process as some of the essential bacteria die, reducing the efficiency of fibre digestion and the introduction of toxins produced by the dead bacteria, which can lead to disease, such as laminitis.

HOW DO YOU COMBAT THIS?

A low starch diet is ideal for horses which react badly to starch. Basing the diet on the slow release energy sources of oil and fibre, especially the super fibres of alfalfa and sugar beet, and adding a balancer is the aim. You can be reassured that all Horslyx Balancers have a very low starch level and so are suitable for those equines which need a low starch diet, and as they are designed to balance the deficiencies in forage and grazing they are the perfect accompaniment to a forage based diet.



WORRIED ABOUT LAMINITIS?



- ✔ In simple terms, laminitis is an inflammation of the laminae, causing pain and lameness. The severity ranges from mild discomfort to more extreme pain causing the horse to be unable to stand.
- ✔ The little and often “trickle feeding” intake pattern of a Horslyx Balancer means the sugar is absorbed in the small intestine, so is less likely to upset the flora in the hind gut, significantly reducing the risk of laminitis.
- ✔ Monitoring the intake for laminitis prone horses is the key to safety when feeding Horslyx Balancer.
- ✔ If restricting the forage ration then do not allow free-access to Horslyx, as a hungry horse is more likely to over-consume Horslyx Balancer.
- ✔ If you suspect that your horse is suffering from laminitis, we advise that you call your vet straight away.



NORMAL



LAMINITIC CHANGES



FEEDING THE LAMINITIS PRONE HORSE OR PONY

Horses prone to laminitis will often have to endure a diet which minimises the calories and starch they receive and avoid turnout on pasture, especially for a long period of time. However, it is important not to forget that the laminitis prone equine still requires the vital vitamins and minerals in the diet and when feed and turnout is simply reduced, they often do not receive the nutrients they require to maintain health and well being.

Horslyx Balancers offer an ideal method of controlling calorie intake in horses and ponies prone to laminitis without compromising on valuable vitamins and minerals. The carefully chosen ingredients offer a balanced and palatable method of feeding the required nutrients to help with hooves, coat and skin and general wellbeing. Horslyx Balancers are also very low in starch which is also important for equines prone to laminitis.

The rate of consumption of food is the key to safe feeding for overweight equines and those suffering from or prone to laminitis. Licking takes time and patience and the intake of the product can also be easily restricted.

Introduce Horslyx Balancers gradually and provide your laminitis prone horse or pony with access to the nutrient rich lick for 10 minutes a day to begin with. Once they have become more accustomed to the product this can be upped to 1-2hrs per day or using the 5Kg Holder with the restrictor bars which will allow restricted access 24hr a day.

Allowing them restricted access to Horslyx Balancers will give you peace of mind that they are still receiving a balanced diet without the risk of adding extra calories through concentrate feed.



HORSLYX FEEDING GUIDELINES

Horslyx Balancers offer a unique and natural way to balance your equine's dietary requirements.

Designed to be as natural as possible for your horse or pony, Horslyx Balancers should be fed in a 'trickle feed' style. This system replicates what our horses and ponies would have done in the wild and helps their digestive system to operate with maximum efficiency.

As with all new products we would advise you to introduce Horslyx Balancers into your equine's diet slowly, monitoring the intake rate. Once your horse or pony has become accustomed to their Horslyx Balancer you will often find their consumption will decrease and the product can then be left for them to use freely as and when they naturally feel they need it.

Horslyx Balancers can be used alongside a forage only diet, if your equine is consuming the recommended intake, the Horslyx Balancer will supply all the essential vitamins and minerals they need to be happy and healthy. For those animals requiring a little more energy Horslyx Balancers can also be used in conjunction with traditional cereal diets or high fibre diets.

Licking takes time and patience, which is perfect for horses that are stabled for long periods of time and can help reduce stress and boredom.

SIZE OF ANIMAL	TARGET INTAKES	5kg WILL LAST APPROX	15kg WILL LAST APPROX	40kg WILL LAST APPROX	80kg WILL LAST APPROX
Pony 300 kg	200 g per day	25 days	75 days	200 days	400 days
Horse 500 kg	250 g per day	20 days	60 days	160 days	320 days
Large Horse 700 kg	300 g per day	17 days	50 days	133 days	267 days

Feeding Horslyx should have little or no effect on your horse's energy levels providing recommended target intakes are followed.

HOW TO FEED HORSLYX BALANCERS

- ✓ 80kg Horslyx XL+ Balancer is ideal for groups of horses in the field to ensure they are supplied with essential vitamins and minerals. 80kg Horslyx XL+ is for mechanical handling only.
- ✓ 40kg Horslyx XL Balancer is also ideal for groups of horses in the field and can be manually handled. We recommend the use of mechanical aids such as a sack barrow for ease and working as a team.
- ✓ 15kg Horslyx Balancers are designed to be used with the 15kg Horslyx Holder.
- ✓ 5kg Horslyx Balancers are designed to be used with the 5kg Horslyx Holder.
- ✓ 650g Mini Horslyx is designed to be fed from the hand and is ideal as a distraction or reward.

Always offer Horslyx Balancers at a minimum of two tubs when there is more than one horse to avoid bullying



SUITABILITY

- ✓ Suitable for all horse and ponies regardless of age, breed and workload. Horslyx Balancers are designed to benefit all horses ensuring they are getting the correct amount of vitamins and minerals in their diet alongside a natural feeding regime.
- ✓ Horslyx Balancers are suitable for horses and ponies who are susceptible to or suffer from laminitis. As with all horses and especially laminitis prone equines, new products should always be introduced slowly and we recommend your equine has no longer than ten minutes with their Horslyx Balancer to begin with. This can be extended as your horse or pony gets used to the product and it becomes part of their regular diet.
- ✓ Remember if a horse or pony is on restricted rations of forage we recommend restricted access to Horslyx to avoid over-consumption. For more information on feeding the laminitis prone horse or pony please visit page 14.

⊘ Contains Copper – Do not feed to sheep.

HORSLYX HOLDERS

We recommend the use of our holders for the 5kg and 15kg products.



5KG HORSLYX HOLDER

The 5kg Horslyx Holder provides an ideal way of keeping your 5kg Horslyx Balancer clean and away from stable debris, as well as preventing it from being kicked or trodden on. The 5kg Horslyx Holder comes with a detachable restrictor grill, helping to prevent a greedy horse or pony from over consuming.



15KG HORSLYX HOLDER

The 15kg Horslyx Holder offers a totally weatherproof and cost effective feeding method for the 15kg Horslyx Balancer. The 15kg Horslyx Holder is multi-purpose and can also be used as a floor feeder in the field or stable.

HORSLYX SMALLHOLDER



SUPPORTS ALL ROUND HEALTH & VITALITY FOR ALL RUMINANT STOCK



Smallholder Block offers value for money as it is hard and concentrated and has to be licked, making it last a long time, and as a consequence is cost effective to use.

Smallholder Block is fed on a free access, self-help basis so they are typically consumed on a "little and often" basis throughout the day. This trickle feeding system mimics the way all ruminants - such as cattle, sheep, goats, camelids and deer - naturally graze and provides them with a continuous supply of essential nutrients over a 24 hour period.

AVAILABLE IN 5KG AND 15KG.

KEY INGREDIENTS



Smallholder Block corrects nutrient deficiencies in all types of forage to ensure a balanced diet for all types of ruminant stock.



Smallholder Block contains powerful antioxidants to support and maintain a healthy immune system.



Smallholder Block stimulates forage intakes and improves forage digestibility so greater reliance can be placed on home grown forages.



Smallholder Block improves animal health and performance by providing all the nutrients likely to be deficient in forage.

ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	14%
CRUDE PROTEIN	12%
PROTEIN EQUIV OF UREA	5%
CRUDE FIBRE	0.1%
CRUDE ASH	17.5%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	38%
CALCIUM	3%
PHOSPHORUS	1%
MAGNESIUM	0.25%
SODIUM	0.1%

COMPOSITION (in descending order of inclusion)

Dehydrated cane molasses, Pure vegetable oil, Monocalcium phosphate, Calcium carbonate, Urea, Prairie meal.

ADDITIVES (added per kg)

VITAMINS	
Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	100,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	20,000 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	1,000 mg
VITAMINS	
Urea technically pure	17.5g
TRACE ELEMENTS	
Iodine (from calcium iodate anhydrous)	60mg
Cobalt (from coated granulated cobalt (II) carbonate)	16mg
Manganese (from manganese (II) oxide)	900mg
Zinc (from zinc sulphate monohydrate)	1800mg
Selenium (from sodium selenite)	9mg

TOP TIPS FOR INTRODUCING Smartlick TO YOUR HORSE OR PONY...

When you first introduce Smartlick to your horse or pony, sometimes it takes a little while to get used to them, so here's a few tips gained from our wide experience of feeding blocks to horses and pony:

⑦ Let the tub 'breathe' for 10 minutes after opening, especially the first time as due to the manufacturing process a strong smell is often given off when opening the tub which can appear unpalatable. After 10 minutes the true vanilla smell and taste comes through.

⑧ If your horse takes to Smartlick straight away, leave out for 10 minutes for the first few days then take it away, especially if they are not used to blocks. This just helps stop the horse thinking this is a one off, so they need to consume the whole tub straight away! Once they know it is a regular part of their paddock, their intake is usually little and often and they will self-regulate to recommended daily amounts.

⑨ If your equine friend doesn't take to Smartlick straight away, take the tub away and bring out another day or offer when the horse is in the yard or stable. Don't leave it in paddock to bake in the sun or fill up with rain as this won't help get your horse onto it. Last thing you want in a block is for it to go soft in the rain or hard in the heat so your horse either consumes well over what it needs or can't access it at all!

⑩ Being weatherproof Smartlick stays a preferred consistency and hardness so intakes are little and often. If the block doesn't go down as fast as other blocks, this is not a problem. More is not necessarily better when it comes to equine feed blocks!



Charlotte Martin feeds Smartlick to her team of horses.



Feya Gatskell feeds Smartlick to her event horses.



Smartlick is a poured block which comes from the Horslyx stable. Using a different manufacturing method to Horslyx, this results in an economy option for those looking for a no-frills, high quality lick. Smartlick contains a blend of essential vitamins and minerals to help maintain ideal condition for every horse and pony, plus a yeast-based prebiotic to support beneficial intestinal bacteria. Antioxidants and Biotin are also included for all round health. Smartlick has been manufactured in accordance with the BETA NOPS code and therefore monitored for the presence of specified Naturally Occurring Prohibited Substances (NOPS) as required under the rules of racing and other affiliated competitions.

VALUE AND QUALITY

Smartlick is a poured block supplying an essential blend of vitamins and minerals with a tasty vanilla flavouring for improved palatability. It has been formulated to have a combined sugar and starch level of less than 30% with a starch level of less than 10% and a sugar level of 20%. When considering sugar levels, it's important to remember the overall sugar taken in the day, so the 20% of sugar in Smartlick when fed to a 500kg horse at recommended intakes of 250g per day will only provide 50g of sugar per day, which is similar to two large apples and the 9.25% starch will contribute only 23.2g of starch to the diet which is just less than two Weetabix! The intake from Smartlick will be gradual over the day unlike the apples or Weetabix which will be rapidly consumed. Smartlick is a high quality, cost effective solution for feeding horses and ponies, providing vitamins, minerals and trace elements whether at grass or stabled, in work or leisure, young or old.

Smartlick is incredibly good value and the suggested retail price is £19.99 for 12.5kg. A 12.5kg tub should last approximately 50 days for a 500kg horse at recommended daily intakes of 250g per day, which results in a cost per day of just 40p*.

*Prices correct as of September 2020.

FEEDING GUIDELINES

- ⊙ Smartlick is suitable for all horses and ponies, at grass or stabled, regardless of age or workload.
- ⊙ Introduce gradually into the diet before allowing free access.
- ⊙ Recommended intake for a 500kg horse is 250g/day.
- ⊙ To avoid bullying always offer a minimum of two tubs when feeding more than one horse.
- ⊙ Contains Copper – DO NOT FEED TO SHEEP.



INGREDIENTS

ANALYTICAL CONSTITUENTS

CRUDE OIL & FATS	1.1%
CRUDE PROTEIN	13.5%
CRUDE FIBRE	1.2%
CRUDE ASH	27.9%
SUGAR (expressed as sucrose)	20.0%
STARCH	9.25%
CALCIUM	5.0%
PHOSPHORUS	1.2%
MAGNESIUM	1.4%
SODIUM	3.7%

COMPOSITION (IN DESCENDING ORDER OF INCLUSION)

Sugar cane molasses, Soyabean meal*, Wheat, Sodium chloride, Dicalcium phosphate, Calcium carbonate, Calcium oxide, Magnesium oxide, Yeast product. *May be from GM sources

ADDITIVES (ADDED PER KG)

Vitamin A (retinyl acetate)	18,000 iu
Vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol)	3,600 iu
Vitamin E (all-rac alpha tocopheryl acetate)	50 mg
Biotin	2 mg

TRACE ELEMENTS

Iodine (as Calcium iodate anhydrous)	5 mg
Copper (as Copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate)	50 mg
Manganese (as Manganese (II) oxide)	10 mg
Zinc (as Zinc oxide)	45 mg
Selenium (as Sodium selenite)	1.5 mg

FLAVOURING COMPOUNDS

Vanilla Flavouring	4000 mg
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Smartlick



Smartlick, the no frills feed block
from the HORSLYX™ stable