

## Feeding for Hoof Health – Shod or Not



No matter if the horse in your care is barefoot or shod, every hoof care provider depends on the horse receiving good nutrition to grow strong, elastic hooves.

Some horses need to be shod, all horses need to be trimmed on a regular basis. For the hoof care provider hoof health is of utmost importance. Brittle hoof walls cannot hold a shoe, insufficient wall growth will not allow to set the nail holes far enough apart to

give the hoof enough integrity. Even the best farrier cannot overcome the results of an insufficient diet.

### Diet Selection Helps Prevent Common Hoof Problems

Diets high in protein help build strong hoof walls and strong attachments. Diets high in digestible fat help to keep the horn structures supple from the inside out and help with shock absorption.

Diets with high levels of NSC (>15%) (i.e. most grain based diets) can contribute to laminitis through carbohydrate (NSC) overload of the intestines and the hindgut.

For more information or to order CoolStance / PowerStance, please call 803-647-1200 or e-mail [Claudia@stanceglobal.com](mailto:Claudia@stanceglobal.com)

1. *Acidosis in the hindgut.* Fructans and starch overload in the hindgut can cause acidosis, resulting in a rapid decline in pH and sudden death of the intestinal organisms. These organisms release highly toxic endotoxins, which contribute to the cause of laminitis.

2. *Carbohydrate overload of the intestines.* Too much soluble carbohydrate in the intestines causes increased uptake of glucose. This causes the horse to produce higher levels of insulin, and the horse becomes insulin resistant. High levels of insulin cause laminitis. High levels of circulating glucose also cause nutrient partitioning and storage of carbohydrate or fat leading to obesity. Obesity is recognized as a major contributor to laminitis.



Laminitis can usually be avoided by feeding low NSC feeds, together with exercise, to avoid obesity. Select feeds with a low NSC (<15%), reasonable protein, sulphur amino acid content, and oil to maintain hoof integrity and vascular function in the hoof. Regular trimming is also recommended to maintain a balance that allows the laminar attachments to be evenly loaded, as this is essential to ensure adequate blood circulation within the hoof.

**CoolStance**, also known as copra meal, is a feed that meets the standards of the above requirements. CoolStance contains: only 11% NSC, 10% coconut oil, 15% fiber and 20% protein and high DE (digestible energy). No fillers or grains are used in this feed, purely 100% coconut meal. CoolStance can be fed to all horses for cool, calm energy that provides a shiny coat, better muscle development, especially the muscles of the top line, and improves overall health from the inside out.

The copra meal used in CoolStance is 100% GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) and chemical free.

CoolStance is brown because it has been processed with low heat during the expelling process. The low temperatures do not change the oil, nor harm the product.

CoolStance is made exclusively from the white flesh of the coconut called copra. This feed contains no other ingredients. The oil is extracted mechanically (no chemicals are used).

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