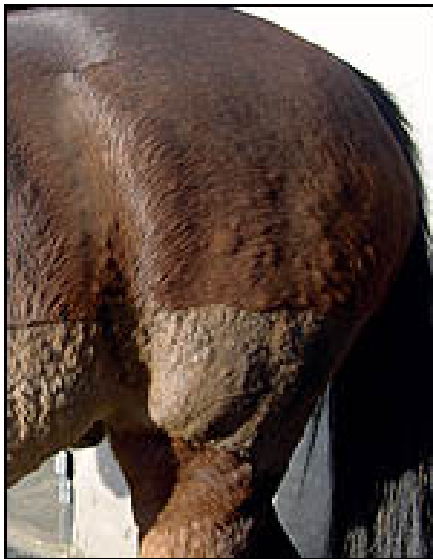


## Feeding and Urticaria or Hives in horses

### What is Urticaria or Hives in horses?

Hives, also called Urticaria, are small lumps that appear on skin as a result of an allergic reaction to a change in diet, and insect bite, or reaction to chemicals such as shampoos, insect sprays. As hives are the result of an allergic reaction it is sometimes very hard to isolate the cause and then eliminate it.



*A serious case of hives on a horse (source: HorseandHound.CO.UK)*

### How do I know my horse has Urticaria or Hives?

- Small lumps under the skin
- Irritation and swelling around the head, neck, muzzle, ears, vulva and legs
- Horse can harm or break the skin trying to relieve irritation and/or itching

Some horses will display no symptoms, some will have sudden onset and disappearance of hives, whilst in severe cases, there can be swelling over most of the body.

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

## What causes Urticaria or Hives in horses?

Some vets will prescribe an antihistamine if the horse's hives are serious and in other cases they use corticosteroids to reduce the inflammatory response of the horse. The use of steroidal medication has been known to cause digestive upset (**ulcers**) and in some cases laminitis. The use of Omega 3 in the diet is the natural way to reduce the inflammatory response and as it is an essential fatty acid it does not cause gut problems.

## How diet helps Urticaria or Hives in horses

Avoiding rations that are very high in protein is advised as it is the protein content of allergens that causes the onset of hives.

## Recommended Stance Horse Feed for Urticaria or Hives in horses

The Stance Equine Feeding system outlines feeds with low sugar and starch. These include

- **CoolStance** contains <12% NSC, which reduces the amount of fermentable sugars that can cause an increase in blood glucose and insulin, and cause insulin resistance.
- **PowerStance** contains MCT in the coconut oil, and Lauric Acid

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