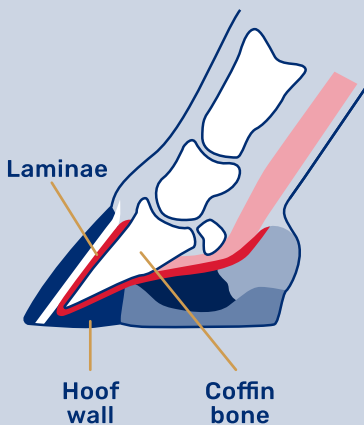


FEEDING METABOLIC HORSES PRONE TO LAMINITIS



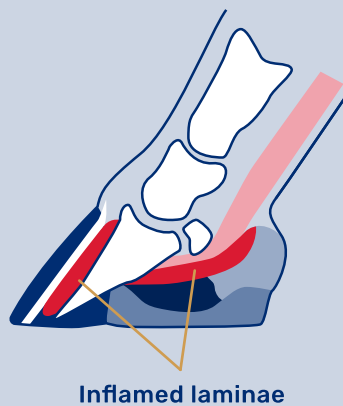
If your horse is living with a metabolic disease, they have a much greater risk of developing laminitis – an irreversible condition that can cause extreme hoof discomfort and long-term damage. Establishing routine hoof checks to look for any signs of laminitis can help you stay ahead of issues. Making adjustments to your metabolic horse's feeding program may also be necessary as you work to improve their quality of life and reduce their risk of a debilitating laminitic event.

THE SERIOUS EFFECTS OF LAMINITIS



HEALTHY HOOF

In a healthy hoof, the coffin bone is attached to hoof wall by the laminae.



LAMINITIS

In a laminitic hoof, the laminae is inflamed and can be damaged. Laminitis can be uncomfortable and painful for your horse.



FOUNDER

Founder happens when the coffin bone detaches from the hoof wall. The coffin bone can rotate or sink, and push through the bottom of the hoof.

WHAT YOUR HORSE EATS AFFECTS THEIR HOOVES

Why metabolic horses are at greater risk for developing laminitis

Common equine metabolic diseases like EMS and PPID impact a horse's endocrine system – which produces hormones that regulate bodily functions like metabolism, growth, reproduction, sweating and more. As a result, horses with these diseases often have weight issues or poor body condition scores due to fat deposits.

Laminitis is a common symptom of these diseases.

Understanding sugar & starch levels (NSC)

Your horse's metabolism is directly affected by their sugar and starch intake. Identifying their accessible sources of NSC helps you to monitor, minimize or eliminate NSC intake based on their needs.

Recognizing pasture and grazing risks

Spring and fall pastures bring an increase in starch and sugar levels, plus grasses tend to have more sugar in the morning, versus at night. Access to these areas should be stopped or limited – by restricting time or using a grazing muzzle. The best place for these horses would be a dry lot with low NSC hay.

Choosing the right hay/forage

Your horse needs to consume 1.5% of their body weight in forage daily – which can be achieved through grazing, hay, or a combination of both. Weighing hay is recommended to take the guess work out of how much you are feeding. Seek out hay that has a low NSC value which can be achieved by having a hay analysis done. Also, soaking a serving of hay in cold water for 60 minutes, then draining the water prior to feeding can help lower NSC.

What to look for in your horse feed

Weight management is essential for your metabolic horse's overall health and for reducing damage caused by laminitis. While restricting access to pasture and hay can lower starch and sugar intake, you may unintentionally not provide enough protein, fat and fiber as well as vitamins and minerals. Balancers are a simple solution to meet daily vitamin and mineral requirements while keeping NSC values low.

Check feed and forage packages for NSC levels and opt for one with a lower NSC value. Feeds and forages that are low in fat, starches and sugars – while being vitamin and mineral dense – help ensure that your horse gets essential calories while maintaining proper nutrition for a metabolic horse.

WHAT IS NSC?

NSC stands for non-structural carbohydrates.

Non-structural carbohydrates, such as sugar and starch, are digested rapidly and energy is released quickly for a short burst of energy.¹

These adjustments can help your metabolic horse maintain a healthy weight and body condition while reducing their risk of suffering a tragic laminitic event. Contact us to discuss your horse's specific nutritional needs and learn what Triple Crown products can help – we are here for you.

Call us at 1-800-451-9916
or visit TripleCrownFeed.com

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