

Diet Recommendations for Horses with HYPP



Condition

Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis (HYPP) is a genetic condition affecting the transport of ions across cellular membranes. Clinic symptoms include third eye-lid prolapse, increased respirations, muscle twitching and tying up, especially affecting the muscle of the hindquarters causing “dog-sitting”.

Nutritional Management of the Condition

There are two nutritional management factors involved with HYPP horses. First, and the most critical, is to maintain a total dietary potassium below 1%. Since the forage/hay is the largest source of potassium in the diet, knowing the potassium content of the hay is critical. Grass hays tend to have lower potassium levels than alfalfa, but they are still not always below 1%. Secondly, having a safe but adequate level of grain or carbohydrates in the diet helps stimulate the regulation of proper levels of potassium in the blood.

Dietary Recommendations – Mature Idle Horses

Horse's Weight	Hay Potassium < 1%	Special Needs™ Supplement	Grain*
400-700 lbs	8-14 lbs	1 scoop daily	1-2 lbs daily
700-1000 lbs	14-20 lbs	2 scoops daily	2-4 lbs daily
1000-1300 lbs	20-26 lbs	3 scoops daily	4-6 lbs daily
1300-1600 lbs	26-32 lbs	4 scoops daily	6-8 lbs daily

Dietary Recommendations – Horses in Training

Horse's Weight	Hay Potassium < 1%	Special Needs™ Supplement	Grain*
400-700 lbs	10-17 lbs	1 ½ scoops daily	1-3 lbs daily
700-1000 lbs	17-25 lbs	3 scoops daily	3-5 lbs daily
1000-1300 lbs	25-33 lbs	4 scoops daily	5-7 lbs daily
1300-1600 lbs	33-40 lbs	5 scoops daily	7-9 lbs daily

* An alternative source of fat based calories would be Progressive Nutrition Envision Classic®
1 lb of Envision Classic® replaces on average 3 lbs of grain

For More Information

Since the nutrient contribution of hay is very important for horses with HYPP, it may be necessary to analyze hay nutrient content in order to assess the potassium in the hay. To learn more or get details on forage analysis and diet formulation, call (888) 239-3185 or email customerservice@prognutrition.com.