

oes your horse need a 'low-carb' diet?

simple carb

are digested in

foregut

Horses get energy from carbs in

complex carb

hindgut

their food. The type & how it is fed is important for digestive health.

the practice of decreasing simple carbs, while increasing complex carbs

Benefits:

- maintains proper pH balance for the good bugs in the hindgut!
- prevents spikes in blood glucose (decrease in insulin release)

undigested simple carbs

impaired fibre digestion

acid in

When horses are given excess grain, the foregut may not be able to completely digest simple carbs.

passed to hindgut for fermentation

> Fat supplementation may be required for performance horses on low-carb diets in order to meet their energy requirements.

- assess horse's energy requirement
- base diet on a foundation of forage & formulate according to energy level
- don't forget to balance your vitamins & minerals!
- feed concentrates in small amounts 2-4 times a day

A low-carb diet may help horses with Cushings Disease & Laminitis.

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