



WATER & FIBRE GO TOGETHER

Don't forget one without the other!

WATER

- ▶ makes up 65% of horse's body
- ▶ digestive tract is the main water reserve of the horse
- ▶ horse will drink 37-45 L/day!

Water needs to be clean and fresh

Water intake is proportional to fibre intake - The more fibre the horse eats the more water is needed

Water in Fibre

- ▶ hay - 10% water
- ▶ fresh pasture - 80% water
- ▶ horse needs more water when fed hay due to its lower water content

FIBRE

- ▶ found in plant material
- ▶ fermented by microbes in hindgut
- ▶ feed a minimum of 1% body weight in forage per day (5kg of forage for a 500kg horse)

Lack of dietary fibre can lead to hindgut acidosis, colic and gastric ulcers

Feed more fibre to increase your horse's water intake

DIGESTIVE HEALTH

- ▶ fibre & water are needed to keep things moving through the digestive tract - **Reducing the Risk of Colic!**
- ▶ water is needed for proper digestion of food (for every 1 kg food - 3L water needed to digest)