



# THE SCOOP

APRIL/MAY 2020 | VOLUME 2



# FEEDING LAMINITIS PRONE HORSES & PONIES

There are two scenarios often with horses prone to, or suffering from, laminitis. The first one is the overweight pony or horse, and the second is a horse that is light in condition and therefore requires feed for weight gain.

In each instance the horse will need to come off pasture or have it strictly managed. It is vital during this time that they still receive adequate fibre to maintain gut health and keep the digestive system functioning as it should. To this end, ensuring they receive their daily fibre intake is key - a minimum of 1% of their body weight in hay/chaff or pasture daily on a dry matter basis.

However, after their fibre requirements are met, the way these horses are managed is very different. For the 'good doers' it is a case of providing a quality vitamin and mineral supplement or balancer pellet to provide key nutrients in a low intake of feed, avoiding the calories associated with the higher feed rates of full feeds. It is also important to remember that the horses off pasture will need to be provided with those nutrients plentiful in pasture but short in other feed stuffs including Vitamin E, K and C.

The pony or horse prone to, or suffering from, laminitis that is light in condition will require careful consideration of feed stuffs to be utilised. There are feeds formulated specifically for these horses, including **Dunstan All-4-Feet**, that is low in starch and sugars and has elevated levels above most standard feeds of the nutrients that the horse would normally be receiving in plentiful amounts from pasture, including Vitamin K, C and Vitamin E. The role of Vitamin E and Vitamin C are important in these horses. As antioxidants they help to protect against inflammatory conditions therefore fostering tissue repair and healing. As a full feed, the higher intakes provide calories required to maintain or increase body condition utilising 'safe' ingredients such as; Lucerne,

Soya Hulls and Oils. A slightly higher protein level again takes up the shortfall from pasture and added amino acids along with a higher inclusion of Biotin assist with maintaining hoof integrity. The additions of live yeasts assists both with fibre digestion as well as contributing to maintaining an optimum hindgut ph. Both attributes are beneficial for all horses, however, are of even more significance in maintaining the health of horses being more intensely managed. Other calorie sources that can be incorporated into the rations of these horses are Vegetable Oils (**Dunstan Trifecta Oil**) and non -molassed beets (**Dunstan Betabeet**)

GRETEL WEBBER  
Dunstan Nutritionist



# PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

## DUNSTAN BREED & GROW

*A low-starch, high fibre pellet formulated for Broodmares & the Young Growing Horse.*

- **Low GI status** assists to minimise the negative effect of insulin on joint and cartilage development.
- **High fibre**, low-starch formulation helps to ensure good hindgut micro-flora activity and reduce the likelihood of digestive upsets associated with high-starch, low-fibre diets.
- **Quality protein** ingredients to ensure good amino acid status.
- Includes a comprehensive mineral and vitamin supplement with minerals in their **Organic form** including Selenium Yeast.
- Includes **Natural Vitamin E** for improved bio-availability
- A balanced inclusion of **calcium and phosphorus** to promote sound **bone & joint** development.
- In the mares last trimester of pregnancy, adequate mineral supplementation is of key importance for foetal development and skeletal health of the subsequent foal. When fed at the recommended intakes,

Dunstan Breed & Grow will provide the necessary intake of these **key nutrients**.

- The addition of a **live yeast** aids digestion and assists in maintaining a more **optimal hindgut pH**, therefore contributing to the overall health of the intestinal ecosystem.
- Includes **Mannan Oligosaccharide** and **Aluminosilicate Clay** to aid in digestive comfort.



### FEEDING RECOMMENDATIONS

(Amounts per horse per day when offered as the full feed)

Weanling	2.5kg – 4kg
Yearling	3kg – 5kg
Pregnant Mare	2kg – 4kg
Lactating Mare	3kg – 5kg

The above recommended feeding rates for **Dunstan Breed & Grow** are based on a 500kg (mature weight) horse and are guidelines only. Daily feed amounts will vary depending on pasture availability, body condition and an individual's metabolic rate.

### NOTES:

- Divide the daily feed into as many feeds as possible, at least two, but feed no more than 2kg of **Dunstan Breed & Grow** per feed.
- If pasture is limited, increased levels of fibre must be added to the diet. The minimum requirement of 1.0% of the horse's body weight must be fed as fibre each day, (on a dry matter basis). Supplementary fibre can be provided in the form of hay, chaff and **Dunstan Breed & Grow**.
- Always ensure horses have access to clean, fresh drinking water.
- High Copper levels in **Dunstan Breed & Grow** make it unsuitable for feeding to sheep.

# Q & A



## MELISSA GALLOWAY

Favourite Drink



LEMON LIME &  
BITTERS

Favourite Tack



FRATELLI FABBRI  
LONG BOOTS

Favourite Snack



POPCORN

Meet 27 year old Melissa. Melissa is Blenheim's very own Dressage Queen, and Dunstan is very proud to have her as part of our Team. We chatted to Melissa just after she was crowned with the New Zealand Dressage Horse of the Year Title with her stunning gelding, "Windermere J'Obei".

Who do you currently have on your Team?

I have my two Grand Prix horses - "Windermere Johanson W" who is an 11 year old gelding and "Windermere J'Obei W" who is a 9 year old gelding. both are by Johnson.

I also have a 6 year old mare called "Windermere Zephora" by Zonik, our of a Johnson mare. And I have a 5 year old gelding by Negro called "Windermere Integro" who I am very excited about.

I have another Johnson mare going to the breakers any day as well so I am looking forward to starting with her !

What is your greatest accomplishment?

My greatest accomplishment in riding would have to be scoring 75.655% in my freestyle in Australia at Dressage by the Sea! My greatest accomplishment in life would be marrying my husband, Lachy.

What are your short term goals?

To continue improving all my horses and slowly stepping the young ones up as they are ready. And increase my percentages at Grand Prix!

What would be the pinnacle of your career?

The pinnacle of my career is probably winning the Grand Prix Dressage Horse of the Year, this year. But I am equally, if not more so, proud of my results in Australia!

How do you stay motivated each day to train and chase your goals/dreams?

Watching the best riders in the world motivates me to be better. I also have a lot of self-motivation. I have big dreams and things I want to achieve and I feel my horses are talented and I genuinely enjoy training them every day. That definitely keeps me motivated, just wanting to get them to their potential and show off how great they are!

Do you have another 'day job' outside of riding?  
I am full time riding and coaching!

What is your top coaching technique?

I think it important when teaching to treat every horse and rider as individuals, understand what each rider is wanting with their riding and where they want to go to help them get there.

What are your favourite Dunstan products?

My favourite Dunstan product is Dunstan Maxim Low-GI ! All our horses are on it and absolutely love it !

What is your best feeding tip?

Adding Dunstan Betabeet to your feed that is quite damp, especially if you are travelling is great to help keep the horses hydrated and wanting to drink and eat on arrival.

If you could invite 3 people to dinner who would they be and where would you take them?

Catherine Dufour, Carl Hester, Bethany Hamilton. I would take them to Gramado's, a delicious Brazilian restaurant in Blenheim!

5 QUICKFIRE ROUNDS:

Coffee, Tea or Hot Chocolate? Hot Chocolate  
Sweet or Savoury? Sweet  
Sunrise or Sunset? Sunset  
Summer or Winter? Summer  
Recipe Books or Wing It? Recipe Books  
Town or Country? Country  
Books or Movies? Movies  
Cats or Dogs? Dogs  
Snow White or Cinderella? Cinderella  
Mountains or Beach? Beach

**Melissa loves to feed**



**DUNSTAN  
MAXIM LOW-GI**



**DUNSTAN  
MUSCLE 'N SHINE**

# SERIES FINAL EQUIFIBRE JUNIOR RIDER

1st:	Dylan Bibby	127pts
2nd:	Georgia Bouzaid	120pts
3rd:	Sophie Townsend	116pts
4th:	Rylee Sheehan	109pts
5th:	Anna Nalder	99pts
6th:	Margot Curtis	81pts
7th:	Samantha Carrington	77pts
8th:	Peita Milne	70pts
9th:	Kimberly Carrington	67pts
10th:	Sophia Blackbourn	66pts

Right: Equifibre Junior Rider Series Winner, Dylan Bibby and his mount Wenrose Vertigo



# SERIES FINAL DUNSTAN AMATEUR RIDER

1st:	Ashley Johnston	102pts
2nd:	Jessie Goggin	90pts
3rd:	Anna Kincheff	66pts
4th:	Kaleigh Kent	64pts
5th:	Amelia Clark	62pts
6th:	Margaret Ridley	54pts
7th:	Shelley Bridgeman	48pts
8th=:	Hayley Morgan	46pts
8th=:	Jo Bell	46pts
8th=:	Kelly Evans	46pts

Right: Dunstan Series winner, Ashley Johnston and Miss Vee NZPH



# DUNSTAN AMATEUR SERIES WINNER ASHLEY JOHNSTON

Hi Dunstan,

With all that is going on in the world today I received some pretty exciting news that "Miss Vee NZPH" and I have officially won the Dunstan Horsefeeds Amateur Rider Series in Show Jumping.

Vee has led this series from almost the start to the end and was the only horse to have 6 wins.

It is super fitting that Dunstan sponsored this series as Vee lives off your horse feed and has done for the last 5 years since I've owned her.

We are so grateful for your sponsorship of this series and how much Dunstan supports this sport. It certainly has felt like a full time job chasing this series!!

We love the Dunstan Muscle 'n Shine - Vee pretty fairly represents a ball of shining muscle! Her condition is amazing despite travelling so many miles this season. She always jumps off the float bright eyed and keen to get on with competing!

We are very grateful to Dunstan for both sponsoring this Series, but also for being our choice of fuel and nutrition for Vee for the last 5 years

Thanks a lot Team and stay safe,

Ashley & "Miss Vee NZPH"





# CHOOSING YOUR FIBRE WISELY

For a healthy functioning digestive system all horses require a minimum of 1% of their body weight in fibre (Dry matter) per day. Ideally it needs to be available 24/7 to allow for their digestive system to function as nature intended. Horses are designed to graze moist forages ~ 18 hours per day and have a behavioural craving for fibre/ chewing activity.

Their gut is designed to be full of forage,

- Forage in the stomach to control acidity
- Keep the whole gut at correct pH
- Keep the hindgut full to prevent twists/kinks
- Fuel the microbes that extract energy from forage for the horse
- Constant slow release energy for the horse

Any equine diet should be comprised of at least 50% fibre - or more. Inadequate forage fibre can lead to acidosis - leading to ulcers, laminitis, tying up, wind sucking, also colic, choke, and consumption of alternatives e.g. bedding, cribbing and/or potential metabolic problems.

This fibre requirement can come from grass, hay, haylage, chaff, fermented forage (**Fiber Fresh/ Equifibre**), or beet. The amount and type offered will depend on age, body condition and workload.

During times of forage shortage, or if the horses are being offered a supplementary feed, a fibre source in the form of chaff is often used in the diet. Therefore, it makes sense to offer a fibre that meets dietary requirements, but is also more digestible (less waste per Kg of feed offered).

It is well documented that the fermented forages (**Fiber Fresh and Equifibre**) are superior to dry chaff alternatives, for the following reasons;

- Superior nutrient retention during the ensiling process (drying reduces many nutrients including Vitamins A and E) - shown in published trials. Ensiling captures 85-90% of the crop's original nutrients.
- The protein % in the dry matter is significantly higher in an ensiled product, thus more protein per kg of DM, and in a digestible form. Better value per Kg of DM.
- Higher digestibility (18% higher than dry chaff) - (Stowers et.al. 2013), meaning less wastage.
- Equine essential Amino Acids, Lysine and Methionine were higher in the ensiled forage (Stowers et.al. 2013).
- Assists with passive hydration in the horses diet, which is helpful for those equines that don't drink well - especially performance horses where extra water can

aid in recovery following athletic performance.

- Not dusty - better for those horses with respiratory conditions
- It is also ideal for equines requiring low starch/sugar diet (<10% starch/sugars). International equine nutritional recommendations for laminitic/ laminitis prone horses and ponies is that sugar + starch content in feed is <10%. For this reason Lucerne is very highly recommended for low sugar diets. Most meadow hay is 10-20% starch + soluble sugar and is still 5% once soaked - soaking doesn't always remove a consistent amount of sugar.
- **Fiber Protect** 0.5-0.90% starch, 0.5-2.1% soluble sugars
- **Fiber Ezy**: 0.5-1.5% starch, 1-4% soluble sugars

**The numerous reasons above show why fermented or moist forage such as Fiber Fresh or Equifibre is a very valid choice to include in your horses diet.**

If you would like to find out more about our **Equifibre** and **Fiber Fresh** range please make contact with our Forage Specialist, Robyn Hirst. Robyn is only happy to help!

**ROBYN HIRST**  
robyn@dunstan.co.nz  
021 911 148



# MEET THE TEAM ROBYN HIRST

*Forage Specialist, Territory Manager - New Plymouth/Manawatu*

Robyn brings to Dunstan a passion in all things equine, having competed in Eventing, Dressage, Showing, CTRs and has also dabbled in racehorse ownership. She is also a Current List 5 ESNZ Dressage judge.

Robyn's keen interest in horses is balanced by a science/technical background and she holds a BSc Animal Sci and a Masters in Equine Studies which was focussed around equine nutrition and reproduction. Her Master's Study was centered on seasonal variation of pasture quality on commercial equine farms in NZ.

Robyn is very proud to be a part of the Dunstan

Horsefeeds Team, and a uniquely NZ Company dedicated to bringing science-based, quality nutritional solutions to NZ horses and ponies - "Feeding for health and performance".

**Top Feeding Tip:** "Fibre and plenty of it! Keep your horse healthy, happy and performing – be sure your horse's diet contains sufficient quality fibre. And don't forget the **Dunstan Muscle n Shine!**"



Clockwise from Top Left: Supreme Winner of our Easter Recycling Competition, Olivia Peacock with her His & Hers Raceday Outfits.

Dunstan Team Rider, Matt Dickey competing in the 1.35 Championship Final at Horse of the Year

Girls enjoying Resolve Day with their free Resolve slushies in the Dunstan, Fiber Fresh and Equifibre tent at Horse of the Year

Dunstan Chevy Truck front and center at Horse of the Year

# DECADES OF DELIVERY



*Love your horse®*

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