



THE SCOOP

SPRING 2020 | VOLUME 3





PASTURE & SUGAR LEVELS MANAGING RISKS DURING FROSTS

Pasture and sugar levels – managing risk – especially during frosts

Understanding how grass grows, and the effects of climatic changes on the fluctuating levels of sugars, is very important for owners of horses and ponies that are pre-disposed to laminitis and conditions which are exacerbated by consuming grass which has increased sugar levels.

The key points of how grass grows are below – (from the laminitis website).

- Green plants create sugar through the process of photosynthesis.
carbon dioxide + water + sunlight = sugar + oxygen
- Plants use the sugar for growth and reproduction - this process is called respiration.
glucose + oxygen = carbon dioxide + water + energy for growth/respiration
- When sugar production from photosynthesis is greater than the sugar required for growth/reproduction, the excess sugar is stored as fructan or starch (carbohydrates) for later use.
- Plants respire all the time, in darkness and in light, but only photosynthesize in light.
- Increased light leads to increased photosynthesis (up to a point). No light/darkness: respiration rate is higher than photosynthesis (there is no photosynthesis without light).
- Dim light: photosynthesis at same rate of respiration.

Bright light: photosynthesis rate is higher than rate of respiration.

Under normal circumstances, when the temperature is above 5°C, grass undergoes sugar accumulation during the day, (higher on sunny days). The sugar levels will be highest at the end of a sunny day. These accumulated sugars are then used up overnight as the grass grows and sugar levels are lowest by 5am. This is one reason why it is better to turn your horse out at night onto pasture and then stable or yard during the day as the grass is accumulating sugar faster than it can use it for growth during the daytime. There are however some exceptions to this, and these are, when the grass is struggling to grow during drier seasons, and the temperature is too low for the grass to grow (frosty conditions). These environmental conditions result in heightened sugar levels, as they are stored in the plant ready for when the grass can grow.

OF KEY IMPORTANCE at this time of year when we are getting frosts, is that grass hardly grows (respires) when temperatures are below 5°C. Therefore, the levels of sugars build up in the plant, concentrating the amount available to your horse or pony as he grazes.

The Solution:

The risk of elevated sugars will remain if there is cold frosty weather with bright sunny days, and especially where the temperature does not rise above 5°C. Only once the temperature rises consistently above 5°C it will be sufficient for the plant to respire (grow and use up stored sugars), and on cloudy days will

the sugar levels be lower (and safer) to graze.

If you are removing your horse from pasture over a risk period (or to reduce the effect of exposure to sugar levels in grass for shorter periods during a day), you could opt to replace some of your horses fibre (pasture requirement) with hay that has been soaked (to reduce sugar levels), or provide larger amounts of ensiled fibre in their diet, such as Fiber Protect®, FiberEzy®, Equifibre Lucerne Pro®, Equifibre Meadow Pro® or by adding the 'super fibre' Dunstan Betabeet to their diet. Soaking of hay is a less reliable way to remove a consistent amount of sugar.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE:

Prevent or limit access to grass during and after sunny frosty weather until the weather changes to milder nights and overcast days. Feed fibre sources with sugar and starch levels below 10% instead.

It is not the frost itself that is the risk, it is the weather conditions that cause the frost, so do not allow horses to graze once the frost has melted with the sun - wait until the grass has been able to respire and use up some of its sugar.

Robyn Hirst BSc MAgr.Sci (Equine Studies)
Forage Technical Manager



PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

FIBER BOOST®

Everyday Superfood For Optimal Growth And Condition

FiberBoost® is an oat free, specifically formulated feed comprising fresh cut lucerne and freshly kibbled barley, mixed in the correct proportions, being a 2:1 ratio by weight. This ratio is ideal to buffer the stomach against excessive acidity caused by grain. It increases saliva production, slows intake, increases digestion and metabolism of both the grain and fibre portion, plus maintains healthy gut function and hydration. The unique process of controlled fermentation of the barley enhances its starch digestibility to a level above that achieved by micronisation.

Fiber Boost® is the highest energy/calorie product within the Fiber Fresh range. It is therefore ideal to maintain body weight in older horses.

- For horses that require a conditioning, slow-release high energy performance feed.
- Fresh cut lucerne and freshly kibbled barley with *Xanotylde®
- A feed with the correct proportions of fibre to grain (2:1) for gastric health
- Builds top-line and condition
- Superior protein and amino acids for young growing horses

FEEDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Light Work (resting/pleasure)

Moderate Work (Show Jumping/Dressage/Eventing)

Heavy Work racing/endurance)

Growing Horses & Pregnant Mares

Breeding Stallions

Lactating Mares

1kg - 3kg

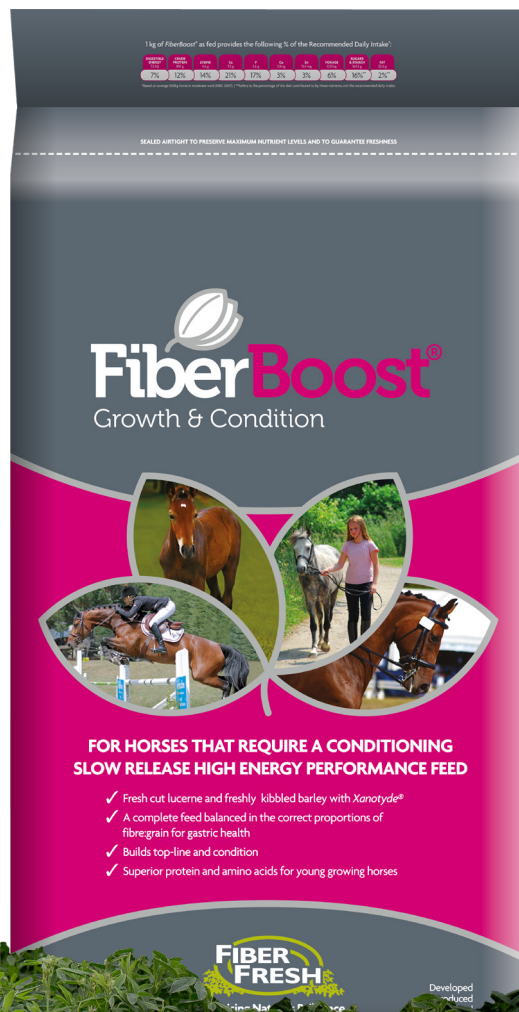
2kg - 6kg

4kg+

2kg - 6kg

3kg - 6kg

4kg+





CHRISTINE WEAL

Favourite Drink



BOURBON & COKE

Favourite Tack



KINGSLAND JACKET

Favourite Snack



COFFEE

Christine Weal is a very successful dressage rider based in Te Awamutu, Waikato. Christine has had great success throughout her career both in and out of the arena, with one of her most fondest memories being producing a young horse to Prix St George, who then went on to win at Aachen with Chris Burton as an eventer. "I was thrilled to be an owner that day, this horse wasn't easy to produce so getting him to the top of two disciplines was a great achievement", Christine recalls. Christine is also an extremely active coach and thoroughly enjoys helping young riders produce their horses through the grades.

Christine has been a part of Team Dunstan for a number of years and loves incorporating the Dunstan range into her feeding regime, with a particular soft spot for Dunstan Breed & Grow. Christine's partner, Zoie Gray, is the Dunstan & Fiber Fresh Territory Manager for the Waikato, so it is no secret the pair live and breathe Dunstan in their household!

Christine has an impressive competition team for the season with Schindlers Liszt, her top horse of three, making the step up to Level 8 with her sights firmly set on Grand Prix. Christine is a valued member of the Dunstan Team and we wish her all the best for the season.

CHRISTINE vs ZOIE

WHAT CHRISTINE SAID...

Coffee or Tea?	Coffee only people who watch coronation street drink tea.
Sweet or Savoury?	Hard to choose
Sunrise or Sunset?	Sunset
Summer or Winter?	Def winter so I can have a reason to buy more jackets
Recipe Books or Wing It?	Wing it... I have recipe books with the thought of reading them but we dont get to that point and whenever have all the ingredients!
Town or Country?	Country but close to town....for coffee
Books or Movies?	Movies
Cats or Dogs?	Dogs!
Mountains or Beach?	Beach
Netflix or YouTube?	Netflix for chilling out and you tube for training
Call or Text?	Text....I dont like talking
Ice Cream or Ice Block?	ice cream
Running or Walking?	Walking im not fast enough to be a runner.
Burger or Pizza?	Burger
Passenger or Driver?	Driver, zoie is scary when she drives my truck.
Float or Truck?	Truck
Toilet Roll: Over or Under?	Under
Coke or Pepsi?	Coke
Dunstan or Fiber Fresh?	Dunstan
Warmblood or Thoroughbred?	Warmblood
Carl Hester or Isabelle Werth?	Who is Carl Hester??? Only Germans know how to dressage correctly, and Isabell is pretty amazing.
Keg or Bag?	Keg
Hay or Silage?	Silage at home hay at the shows
Coaching or Riding?	Love doing both and gives me balance, coaching makes you think more and I like helping people figure out how they change things to make them move and go better, and it keeps me thinking when I ride my horses as well.
Confirmation or Paces?	In dressage we need both.... they have to be good movers but also have to have a good shot at staying sound, they need to have good confirmation.
Short Coat or Tails?	Short coat
Passage or Piaffe?	To be good Grand Prix horses they need both but when you start adding passage it's really cool how you can change a horses trot and balance so much.
Top Hat or Helmet?	Top Hat

WHAT ZOIE THINKS CHRISTINE SAID...

Coffee or Tea?	Coffee
Sweet or Savoury?	Sweet
Sunrise or Sunset?	Sunset
Summer or Winter?	Summer
Recipe Books or Wing It?	Wing It
Town or Country?	Town
Books or Movies?	Movies
Cats or Dogs?	Dogs!
Mountains or Beach?	Beach
Netflix or YouTube?	Netflix
Call or Text?	Text
Ice Cream or Ice Block?	Ice Cream
Running or Walking?	Walking
Burger or Pizza?	Burger
Passenger or Driver?	Passenger (She makes me car sick!)
Float or Truck?	Truck
Toilet paper: Over or Under?	Under (Strictly!)
Coke or Pepsi?	Coke
Dunstan or Fiber Fresh?	Dunstan
Warmblood or Thoroughbred?	Warmblood
Carl Hester or Isabelle Werth?	Always German
Keg or Bag?	Keg
Hay or Silage?	Silage
Coaching or Riding?	Coaching (She likes telling people what to do!)
Confirmation or Paces?	Confirmation (can't run with an unsound horse)
Short Coat or Tails?	Anything Kingsland
Passage or Piaffe?	Passage
Top Hat or Helmet?	Top Hat

NATIONAL SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT

2020 - 2021 SEASON

EQUESTRIAN

- Dunstan Amateur Rider Show Jumping Series
- Fiber Fresh Category B Show Hunter Series
- Dunstan & Fiber Fresh National Equestrian Centre, Taupo
- Dunstan Ex-Factor (Beyond the Barriers)
- Dunstan Super 5 Dressage League
- Dunstan National Level 1 Amateur Dressage Championship
- Fiber Fresh National Level 4 Amateur Dressage Championship
- Woodhill Sands
- Dunstan & Fiber Fresh Young Rider Camp

RACING & BREEDING

- Dunstan Horsefeeds Sire's Stakes 3 Year Old Fillies Series
- Dunstan Horsefeeds Stayers Series
- NZ Thoroughbred Breeders Association
- NZ Standardbred Breeders Association
- NZ Trainers Association
- Counties Racing Club
- Cambridge Raceway
- Alexandra Park
- Junior Free-For-All, Addington Raceway
- NZ Metro Series
- New Zealand Bloodstock

EQUIFIBRE®
LUCERNE PRO.
THE SAME
GREAT
LUCERNE
FEED WITH
A LITTLE
PACKAGING
MAKEOVER

NEW NAME
AND A BRAND
NEW BAG

AVAILABLE IN NOVEMBER 2020 FROM
YOUR LOCAL HORSE FEED RETAILER



REGIONAL SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT

SEPTEMBER

- Rotorua Show Jumping Spring Show
- Otago/Southland Pony Club Camp
- South Island Show Jumping & Show Hunter Young Rider Camp
- Fiber Fresh Grand Prix Show Jumping, Woodhill Sands
- Northland Mini Circuit Series
- Cowboy Challenge Waikato
- Mid-Northern Rodeo
- Harness Racing Waikato

OCTOBER

- Foxton Pony Club Show Hunter Championships
- South Island 3 Day Eventing Champs
- Pony Club Eventing Teams Event
- Fiber Fresh Championship, Northland Show Hunter
- Maunu Pony Club
- Mid-Northern Rodeo
- Waitemata Show Hunter Clinic
- Southern Hawkes Bay Eventing
- Gisborne Dressage Qualifying Champs
- Central Districts Dressage Championships
- AMDG Dunstan Spring Series
- Motueka Mini Show
- RADR's October CTR
- Harness Racing Waikato
- Auckland Racing Club
- Counties Racing Club

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MEADOW PRO.
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NEW NAME
AND A BRAND
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CHANGING SEASONS CHANGING FEEDS

Many people are 'chomping at the bit' to get out and about but unfortunately, due to a year many would like to see the back of, we are restricted to what's on and where we can go.

However, in anticipation of a busy season and with spring upon us, it is important to remember that both the change in season and change in our horses' activity level will impact on their supplementary feed requirements.

Horses that have wintered 'Well'

For horses that have wintered 'very well', spring is a time when it may be necessary to reduce supplementary feed intake and possibly restrict pasture access. The increase in pasture availability (accompanied by its elevated sugar levels), as well as milder climatic conditions will mean horses will do better. Therefore if they are already in good order, calorie intake needs to be reduced. This is of particular importance for young growing horses.

It is often the time of year when balancer pellets come into their own. A product like Dunstan Multi-Ultra, a low intake vitamin and mineral pellet, can be fed to provide key nutrients which are limited in a pasture only diet, however without the higher intakes of a full feed. Based on a 500kg bodyweight the recommended intake of Dunstan Multi-Ultra is approximately 400-500g per day,

depending on activity level. If they do need a little more, then a semi-concentrate like Dunstan Resolve® is the next 'step up' in feed intake, with a full profile of nutrients being provided in 1.5kg of Dunstan Resolve®, (based on a 500kg bodyweight).

Horses needing additional spring weight gain.

In contrast, horses that have come out of winter lighter than owners would like, can take advantage of the warmer weather and increased pasture availability to see an improvement in body condition. However, if work is going to be introduced or increased, the additional expenditure in energy will need to be replaced with an increase in calorie contribution to ensure they are gaining the desired weight. The feeds you choose in most instances will depend on the temperament of the horse. For more highly strung individuals or those that are known to be grain-sensitive, a low starch, no grain full feed like Dunstan Maxim Low-GI is ideal. Further 'cool calories' can be provided with the use of vegetable oils such as Dunstan Trifecta Oil - a highly palatable blended oil - or non-molassed Dunstan Betabeet which is low in starch and sugar. This calorie - dense super

fibre is great for condition and digestive health.

For horses that need a bit more 'energy' in their work as well as body condition, Dunstan Eezymix and Dunstan Competition Mix® provide two great options depending on you and your horse's preferences! Dunstan Eezymix is a fully extruded nugget and Dunstan Competition Mix® is a lightly molassed textured feed. Both contain a blend of extruded cereal grains (excluding Oats) plus quality protein sources as well as a full vitamin and mineral premix, utilising organic minerals for improved bio-availability and Natural Vitamin E. These horses will also benefit from some added Dunstan Trifecta Oil to boost the calorie density of the feed for weight gain without the horse having to eat more feed. This can be useful if you are only able to feed your horse once daily and you are unable to feed more feed due to current meal sizes.





Spring and special care horses

For many horses, special care must be taken during spring due to pre-existing conditions and or predisposition to laminitis or behavioural issues. These horses will need to have a reduced pasture intake and therefore supplementary feed will play a bigger role as a calorie source. Of key importance will be to ensure fibre requirements are met due to pasture access being reduced. Horses require a minimum of 1.5% of their body weight in hay/ chaff or pasture daily on a dry matter basis. Providing quality hay and or haylage will, in most instances, be the primary source of supplementary fibre. Further quality fibre can be added with Dunstan Betabeet which will contribute both valuable fibre and calories to maintain condition (as a

'super fibre' it is more calorie dense than traditional fibre sources). The addition of ensiled Lucerne products like Fibre Protect® will support fibre supplementation and provide quality proteins. Dunstan All-4-Feet is a suitable full feed. As it is low in non-structural carbohydrates, this feed is tailored for horses prone to laminitis. It contains elevated levels of key nutrients present in pasture that will now be limited in the diet, including increased levels of Vitamin E and Vitamin C. Elevated levels of Biotin in Dunstan All-4-Feet assist in hoof quality and growth.

So as spring approaches and we aim at spending

more time out and about with our horses, it is important to remember the significant changes in seasonal conditions and activity level that will impact on our horses' nutritional requirements. If you have any queries in regard to feed and suitable Dunstan Feeds coming into spring, please give Dunstan a call on 0800 438 678.

Gretel Webber Ass. Dip. App.Sc. BBus. MSc Equine Equine Nutritionist



DUNSTAN & FIBER FRESH YOUNG RIDER CAMP

Congratulations to the Young Riders drawn to attend the very first Dunstan & Fiber Fresh Young Rider Camp!

LAURA SMITH
ALYARA NOGUEIRA
DANNI DODSON
ADDISON HEMPHILL
LEXIE ORANGA
LUCY JACKSON
ABBY SNODGRASS
MOLLY MCEWAN
BRIA FITZGERALD
DANNIELLE PECK
CAITLIN HENRY
MAKAIHA DUNN
SOPHIA SMYTH
KATE POTTER
LAUREN ROSE HARDGRAVE
ALEX NASMITH
SERAPHINE RUCH

GEORGIA MULLINS
NELLIE JEFFARES
HAYLEY PALMER
ABBIE CARMICHAEL
BAILEE STERLING
ALICE MOIR
KATIE BIBBY
MOLLY BYFORD
HAYLEY MORRISON
OPER-LEVIN
ROSA KATAVICH
LUCY SCHICK
SARA BLACKWOOD
LEXI NOLAN
SAMANTHA BELSHAM
SAMANTHA WAKELING
MAIAH KITCHEMAN
OLIVIA PRENDERGAST

CHARLOTTE GUY
LULU TOMLINSON
KODI CHAMERLAIN
LUCY HILL
SINEAD GORDON
BRIANNA KERSAL
SAMARA-JANE LOWE
AMY CHAMBERLAIN
ISABELLE MURROW
ISOBEL JAYNE BEVITT
LUCY DAGNALL
MADISON STUART
ARDEN CRAW
SASHA MACNAMARA
ISA LUXTON-SYMES
GEORGIE COOP
ANNA WADE

DUNSTAN **HORSEFEEDS**

GOLDEN DIPPER

THE GREAT NEW ZEALAND GOLDEN DIPPER HUNT

**SUPPORT LOCAL AND FIND THE GOLDEN DIPPER IN ANY OF OUR
DUNSTAN EQUESTRIAN PRODUCT RANGE TO WIN!**

5 Golden Dippers to be found across New Zealand.
All winners will receive:

- A LESSON WITH ONE OF OUR 'TEAM DUNSTAN' SPONSORED RIDERS
- 10 BAGS OF DUNSTAN HORSEFEED OF YOUR CHOICE
- NEW ZEALAND FARMED CHRISTMAS HAM
- A DELICIOUS HAMPER FILLED WITH NEW ZEALAND MADE PRODUCTS



Love your horse®

