
KAM Animal Services

Tip of the Week

When the Belly Hurts the World Stops!



Many horses suffer from stress related digestive problems. Studies show over 50% of show and race horses have ulcers in their GI tract. When the proper acid-base balance of a horse's digestive tract is disturbed, gastric and/or intestinal ulcers may develop. This increased intestinal permeability creates a pro-inflammatory state that may lead to food sensitivities, allergies, sore muscles and joints, impaired immune system function, colic, laminitis, and many other illnesses.

If one considers the hypothesis “you are what you eat,” you should understand the principle applies to your horse as well. An unhealthy ulcerated gut sets the stage for equine disease. The digestive tract serves as a “door” to the Equine's body. It is of the utmost importance that the “door” remains selectively functional. When it becomes “stuck open,” as with ulcers and dysbiosis, the digestive tract transforms into a highway for toxins and pathogens (bacteria, virus, and yeast) to enter the body and trigger disease, including systemic inflammation and lameness.

The first and foremost objective for your equine partners' wellness program must be a well balanced diet. A nutrient specific supplemental program containing pre-biotics, pro-biotics, digestive enzymes, bioactive immunoglobulins, and *Saccharomyces Boulardii* (a beneficial yeast) will help assure a healthy digestive tract to optimize digestion and absorption.

Once you focus on your horse's digestive health, you will find that most other health and performance concerns will improve all by itself!

For more nutritional information visit www.kamanimalservices.com.