



Hard Keeper™ Solution

Extra Calories for weight and slow burning energy, with the benefits of Omega-3 and Omega 6 fatty acids



- For horses that can't keep weight on and for healthy skin and coat condition
- Provides slow burning calories in the form of easily digested fats to increase energy intake without making the horse 'hot'
- A rich source of Omega-6 and Omega-3 fatty acids
- Replenishes 7 beneficial direct-fed microbial cultures

A Breakthrough in Horse Health Care Hard Keeper Solution is designed to help horses add extra calories and maintain weight and develop beautiful skin and coat. Feeding extra grain to boost calories can lead to digestive upset and other hazards, and may not help the horse achieve and maintain optimum weight. Instead, Hard Keeper Solution feeds slow-burning calories in the form of easily digested fats to significantly increase energy intake without making the horse "hot" or unthrifty. Hard Keeper also supplies the benefits of Omega-3 fatty acids, which are so important for skin and coat condition. It's the perfect solution for show horses and for any horse that needs help with weight maintenance or coat condition.

Feed Fat For Better Performance, Recovery and Health Over the years there has been great controversy over the ability of the equine system to utilize dietary fat. The common belief had been that a high-carbohydrate, low-fat diet was best, but recent research has shown that a high fat diet (12%+) may actually be of greater benefit to horses. Dietary fat may enhance performance by delaying lactate accumulation, thus delaying the onset of fatigue¹. The feeding of dietary fat has also been shown to naturally increase post-exercise water consumption², which is always important for equine health. Not only has recent research shown that feeding a high-fat diet, for prolonged periods, is not harmful to the equine physiology³, it has shown that there are actual health and performance benefits to feeding diets with over 12% fat.

How Does it Work? Research shows that when fat is added to the feed, even at the extremely high range of 29% of total diet, the horse's metabolism adapts to take advantage of the slower-burning energy source. The equine system will naturally produce and use less glucose and carbohydrates, and will instead use fats for energy⁴. Added dietary fat is usually most beneficial to show horses, horses performing sustained aerobic exercise, and horses in need of improved weight retention.

Omega-3 Fatty Acids and More Hard Keeper is a pleasing blend of grains, fats, and flax seed meal, a rich source of alpha linolenic acid (ALA) and other essential Omega-3 fatty acids. Scientists study Omega-3 fatty acids for their role in maintaining immune balance in the epidermis and for their beneficial impact on prostaglandin activity. Hard Keeper also replenishes six beneficial direct-fed microbial cultures, including *Lactobacillus acidophilus*.

Recommended Feeding Enclosed scoop holds 2 ounces. For enhancing condition of skin and coat, feed one scoop (2 oz by weight) daily. For added calories and maintenance, feed 2 scoops (4 oz by weight) or more daily. Increase feeding of large breeds proportionately according to body weight in excess of 1,000 pounds. Horses in heavy training or performance may be fed 6 or more ounces daily. Keep cool and dry. Reseal after each use. See package for complete instructions.

References:

1. Sloet van Oldruitenborgh-Oosterbaan MM, et al. Exercise- and metabolism-associated blood variables in Standardbreds fed either a low- or a high-fat diet. *Equine Vet J Suppl.* 2002 Sep;(34):29-32. (abstract)

Questions? Call toll-free 1-800-848-2359 for information.
Visit vitaflex.com for product information and special offers!

Vita Flex Nutrition • 301 W. Osborn Rd. • Phoenix, AZ 85013

