

The Importance of Balanced Nutrition in the Senior Horse

## How You Can Prevent Chronic Health Problems in Your Senior Horse



Generally any horse over 15 years old is considered a senior horse.

That doesn't mean that they can't be active like a performance horse, it just means that their bodies couldn't withstand the physical rigors of an intensive training, conditioning and show schedule.

Actually a well thought out wellness management program that includes exercise and a good nutrition plan is important to keeping the older horse healthy for a long time.



See how the aging process affects horses starting on the next page...

The [aging process in older horses affects their whole body](#); tissues, organs and systems.

- They lose their ability to absorb nutrients fully.
- The ability to metabolize food (convert food into energy) decreases with age.
- There is a loss of organ reserve capacity, loss of muscle mass and tone.
- Bones and joints weaken.
- The output of their hearts decrease and the senior horse can fatigue easily.
- The ability for older stallions to get mares' pregnant decline.
- Older mares have a tougher time becoming pregnant and their ability to have trouble free deliveries decreases.
- They have increased dental diseases.
- Their senses; hearing and smelling are sometimes dulled.
- Their immune system becomes less effective and diseases and infections have a greater effect on the older horse.

All of these health problems can be linked to deficiencies in the horses' diet or to metabolic disorders.

Research has showed that older horses need a higher amount of quality protein, with more easily digestible fiber sources and more trace minerals and vitamins in their diet.

## **Supplementing the older horses diet can help maintain their health and vigor:**

- They should get at least 12% to 14% protein.
- Limited calcium to avoid developing arthritic conditions.
- Extra phosphorus as a daily maintenance is important.
- Lysine to aid in muscle repair and recovery, alleviate stiffness and soreness.
- Feeding a complete feed either by pelletizing or by extrusion with high quality hay is ideal.
- Because of poor digestibility of the senior horse a complete vitamin and mineral supplement is needed to help metabolize fats, proteins and carbohydrates, for proper muscle and nerve function and strong bones to support their own weight.
- Senior horses can also benefit from supplemented fat in their diet to help prevent them from losing condition and becoming ribby. Because the condition of their teeth deteriorates and their digestion is less than efficient fat is more easily digested for calories.
- Based on veterinary research omega 3 oils are beneficial in preventing arthritis, laminitis, small airway disease associated with stabling and dermatitis. All oils provide energy but only omega 3 oil reduces inflammation. Omega 3, 6 & 9 oil has been shown to stabilize blood sugar, support immune function and improve hair coat.
- Probiotics aid in digestion and improve gastrointestinal health of the senior horse. They help reduce the risk of colic, diarrhea, bloating and ulcers.
- Joint nutrients and anti-inflammatories help reduce pain and inflammation and allow the joints to glide freely without friction.

- Antioxidants offer protection against aging, stress, diseases and infections.

All components of tissues are susceptible to free radical damage, but body fat and proteins are particularly affected and disruption of these affects cell function and in turn affects resistance to stress and disease. Antioxidants can not be manufactured by the horse, their only supply is through their diet and supplements.



Senior horses have particular health issues unique to their life stage so feeding the right supplement with the right nutrients in the correct amounts is important in keeping your horse healthy now and in the future.

Animal Kingdom Organics supplement is formulated and blended by a equine nutritionist that has spent over 10 years researching equine nutrition and analyzing horse diets. She has helped her own horses by formulating and blending custom supplements based on their diet and body chemistry.

We do the formulating and blending using only NATURAL ingredients. Our ingredients came from multiple sources and are 100% free of any and all toxic and heavy metals. (most are organic, some are wild crafted, all are natural)

**Instead of having to buy several products we put all of it in one supplement.**

We use "Natures Process" a 3 step process that cleanse, restores and nourishes your whole horse. This is truly the most complete and comprehensive supplement for senior horses. It addresses all of the problems senior horses have and helps prevent future ones.



***It supports your whole horse***

**It's complete**, healthy and will give your horse the support he/she needs for the rest of their life.

Animal Kingdom Organic Horse supplement is the only complete supplement your horse will ever need to help fight the effects of aging and make their life easier.

Animal Kingdoms "Young Again" Senior Horse supplement is available to ensure your horse has improved quality of life, longevity and an active life style.

It allows you to have the best diet possible for your senior horse so they are that much stronger health wise to fight the effects aging has on their body.

We care about your horse like they are our own!

Sincerely,

Mary  
Animal Kingdom Organic Horse Supplements  
*"Keep Them Safe and Healthy For Life"<sup>™</sup>*

References:

The Horse Nutrition Bible, Ruth Bishop  
The Older Horse, Robert Holland DVM, PhD  
Nutrient Requirements of Horses 6<sup>th</sup> revised edition,  
National Research Council of The National Academies

### **Animal Kingdom Organics All-In-One Complete Supplements**

**Saves you time, saves you money** and with scientifically tested and proven facts you can **finally know for certain** that your horse gets the right supplement at the right time and in the right amounts. So **take the guesswork out of supplementing your horse** by analyzing the different life stages of the horses and feeding accordingly.

You get a supplement **with the nutrients specific to that life stage.**

PLUS your horse is provided with **total body support** ... with additional ingredients to support his skeletal system, digestive system, immune system, skin and coat, muscular system, circulatory system, nervous system and respiratory system.

#### **SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENTS**

[Senior Drafts](#) - [Senior Horses](#) - [Senior Pony](#) - [Senior Mini Horse](#)