

Equine nutrition

THE ROYAL
(DICK) SCHOOL
OF VETERINARY
STUDIES



Equine Nutrition

Dr Jo-Anne Murray

(PhD, PgDip, PgCert, BSc (hons), BHSII, RNutr)

Senior lecturer in animal husbandry and nutrition





Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to:

- Describe the anatomy of the gastrointestinal tract of the horse
- Discuss the digestive physiology of the equine gastrointestinal tract and appraise its limitations in relation to nutrient digestion
- Recognise and critically appraise nutrient sources for horses and ponies
- Define the nutrient requirements of horses and ponies
- Propose recommendations on rations for horses and ponies in various production states

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Content

- Week 1: Anatomy and physiology of the gastrointestinal tract
- Week 2: Nutrient digestion in the equine gastrointestinal tract
- Week 3: Equine nutrient sources and feeding management
- Week 4: Equine dietary management
- Week 5: Equine clinical nutrition



Equine nutrition



Importance of equine nutrition

Cornerstone of animal productivity,
health & welfare

- Horses depend on their owners/keepers
 - Limited knowledge
- Diets generally do not vary
- Thus, small errors = problems
 - Deficiencies/excesses
 - Disease
 - ↓ Performance
 - Behavioural issues
 - Obesity/weight loss



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**Nutrition isn't
everything, but
there's nothing
without it**



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**Good luck with the
course 😊**

