

HAYLAGE FOR ALL INCLUDING GOOD DOERS...

EH HAYLAGE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY ED HOWARD AT HIS FARM IN SOUTH NORFOLK OVER THE LAST 30 YEARS, CULMINATING IN A HIGH-QUALITY RANGE OF HAYLAGE PRODUCTS.



Ed began looking into the quality and availability of haylage when his event horse Basil developed recurrent airway obstruction (RAO). Unable to find a product he was totally satisfied with, Ed set aside some of his own land to begin producing his own product. This proved a success and the commercial growing of grass for haylage began.



'Matching the correct haylage to the horse is essential, as their needs vary so much. It is much more beneficial if the haylage fed matches their physical need and this is why EH Haylage produces four different types of product.'



EH Haylage Original is produced for competition horses and ponies, young stock and breeding adults. It has a dry matter of 60-70 per cent which means that it is drier than other haylages, therefore the customer is not wasting money on water within the product. This also means that horses are less likely to become loose/scour and their droppings remain firmer. [Protein 8-11 per cent, energy 9-11 MJ/KG, NDF fibre 50-60 per cent.]

EH High Fibre is aimed at horses and ponies in light work and hacking. [Dry matter 65-75 per cent, protein 7-9 per cent, energy 8-10 MJ/KG, NDF fibre 60 - 75 per cent.]

EH Lite is aimed at horses and ponies not in work, laminitics and those needing to lose weight. [Dry matter 60-75 per cent, protein 6-8 per cent, energy 7-9 MJ/KG, NDF fibre 65-75 per cent.]

EH Soft Cut is aimed at veterans, poor doers and those with poor dentition or digestion. [Dry matter 60-70 per cent, protein 13-15 per cent, energy 10-12 MJ/KG, NDF fibre 50-60 per cent.]

As you can see, each product has a different feed value, fibre content and dry matter percentage. The haylage is analysed at the time of cutting and again prior to being packaged into the circa 20kg bags. It is the speed at which EH Haylage can harvest the haylage that adds to the consistent quality of the product. EH Haylage can crop 100 acres per day, which equates to 25,000 small bales of haylage. This enables them to harvest en masse when conditions are perfect.

Ed has developed and trialled their new product, Lite haylage, specifically for the growing number of overweight and laminitic ponies and horses. 'One of saddest things about this is that these animals are being starved,' said Ed. 'Horses have a physiological need to chew and are designed to trickle feed, so withholding forage for hours on end is so cruel. Another motivation for the development of Lite was that many people are forced to soak the hay offered to overweight animals in order to leech its feed value. I wanted to eliminate the need to soak hay [a

dismal practice during the freezing winter months] as it is highly labour-intensive, messy and many animals dislike the sour nature of the end product. I set out to see if I could develop a viable haylage product that was low enough in feed value to allow them to eat at a normal rate and still lose weight. When the nutritional analysis came back it indicated that we had produced a low calorie haylage. This gives hope for those prone to laminitis who are routinely subjected to long periods between meals. Hopefully this means that periods of hunger and emptiness of the stomach — which may lead to gastric ulcers, stable vices and diminished quality of life — may be a thing of the past. I then turned to Redwings Horse Sanctuary to actually trial the product on a selection of overweight animals.'

The trials on EH Haylage were performed between the beginning of February and end of September last year at Redwings' Norfolk farms. Farm Manager Emma Lacey selected equines who needed to lose weight (condition score of 4 or above) and/or maintain current levels.

Two groups of equines were selected, all of whom live out 24/7 in a sparse field. All were fed Dodson and Horrell Ultimate balancer at a rate of 100g per 100KG of body weight.

Trial A 5th Feb - 2nd Apr (56 days)

The purpose of this trial was to establish if horses can be fed EH Lite at normal levels of 1.5 - 2 per cent of total body weight in forage per day and still lose weight, proving that restricting access to forage was not necessary. Each horse had access to 10KG of forage per day, which equates to 1.8% percent of bodyweight. Out of the nine equines in this trial, the average weight loss per equine was 20KG.

Trial A Horse Type	Start Weight (kg)	Condition Score	End Weight	Total Lost
Arab cross	597	4	580	17
TB x Irish	462	3	423	39
Native mare	648	4	608	40
Cob mare	531	3.4	503	28
Piebald cob	599	5	589	10
Arab	417	3	397	20
Welsh x TB	482	3	478	4
Cob gelding	619	4.5	611	8
Welsh pony	542	3.5	529	13
Av. weight	544		524	20
Average weight loss 0.36kg per day				

Trial B 7th - 21st Aug (14 days)

In this trial the ponies were provided with 2.7kg of forage per day, which equates to one per cent of body weight.

Trial B Pony Type	Start Weight (kg)	Condition Score	End Weight	Total Lost
Welsh pony	348	4	321	27
Welsh mare	262	3.5	238	24
Welsh pony	275	4	258	17
Moorland pony	293	4.5	287	6
Native mare	207	4.5	181	26
Av. weight	277		257	20
Average weight loss 1.43kg per day				

Trial C 22nd Aug - 18th Sep (26 days)

In this trial, ponies were provided with 4KG of forage, equating to 1.6 per cent of bodyweight, and still maintained weight loss. This proved that even small 'good doer' ponies can be fed EH Lite generously and maintain a steady weight loss.

Trial C Pony Type	Start Weight (kg)	Condition Score	End Weight	Total Lost
Welsh pony	321	4	305	16
Welsh mare	238	3.5	227	11
Welsh pony	258	4	240	18
Moorland pony	287	4.5	279	8
Native mare	181	4.5	176	5
Av. weight	257		245	11.6
Average weight loss 0.45kg per day				

In conclusion, by feeding the correct percentage of the most suitable haylage, we can either maintain or reduce weight without the need to compromise the quantity of forage an equine is allowed to eat. This allows the animal to chew, which produces saliva to combat acidic gut conditions which can lead to ulcers. Furthermore the constant gut movement and digestion of small regular meals is more natural. Working alongside their nutritionist, Redwings now use EH Haylage Lite for their laminitic and overweight horses.

'This new product will enable owners to feed an increased volume of forage, without the fear of weight gain or to assist with weight loss,' said Ed. 'Once the pony/horse is down to the desired weight, customers can then mix in the high fibre product to maintain the animal's weight at the desired condition score.'

**NEW
PRODUCT**

EH HAYLAGE LITE has been researched extensively and produced as a product for overweight horses, ponies and laminitics.

Independent trials at **Redwings Horse Sanctuary** have indicated that with EH HAYLAGE LITE, restricted access to forage may no longer be necessary. It allows a natural trickle feeding system, when fed up to 2% of bodyweight, yet still maintains weight loss. Horses are designed to eat little and often, and have an inherent need to chew, which is fulfilled with this product.

Furthermore, this trickle feeding helps maintain saliva production, helping to combat stomach ulcers and behavioural issues, often seen when the diet is restricted.



Feeding guidelines

- Feed EH Haylage Lite up to 2% of of your horse/pony's bodyweight per day, e.g. 500kg animal - 2% = 10kg
- For a balanced diet, feed alongside a quality vitamin and mineral supplement.
- To ensure weight loss, restrict access to grass and all other feeds.
- For more feeding advice, go to www.ehhaylage.co.uk or call us on the number below.
- Use within five days of opening.

FOR OVERWEIGHT HORSES AND PONIES, LAMINITICS AND THOSE NOT IN WORK

ANALYSIS: Dry Matter: 60-75% Protein: 6-8% Energy: 7-9 MJ/Kg NDFibre: 65-75%

Give your horse the best chance in life - feed EH HAYLAGE

Produced by: EH Haylage Ltd.

Hill Farm, Brooke Road, Shotesham All Saints, Norwich, Norfolk NR15 1XL

Tel: 01508 550318 www.ehhaylage.co.uk