

Horse Management Tips

Horses are grazing animals and are meant to graze all day and have room to roam. Current trends in horsekeeping limit them to graze, by housing them in stalls, small paddocks, and feeding them only a couple times per day.

Below are some tips for managing horses to accommodate for the shift in the way we are housing and feeding horses.



Feeding Your Horse

- Feed on a regular basis.
- Feed at least two times per day. Feeding smaller amounts more frequently throughout the day is ideal.
- Fresh water and salt should be available at all times. During the winter months, be sure the water is not frozen to avoid colic.
- Never feed moldy and/or dusty hay or feed.
- Avoid sudden changes in the diet if at all possible. Changes should be made gradually, over a few days.
- Never give grain or water to an overheated horse.
- Feed horses by the weight of the feed, not by volume.
- Minimize flies during the warmer months by removing manure from pastures, feeding areas, and other places where horses congregate.
- Schedule routine dental exams and deworm regularly.
- Avoid overfeeding.
- Exercise horses daily. Horses that are stalled require daily turnout to help prevent colic and other digestive disorders.
- Feed each horse as an individual, based on exercise level and body condition.



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