

IS YOUR HORSE

‘GRASS-AFFECTED’?

Check the list.

Name of Horse:

Date Before:

Date After:

All of the conditions listed are known to respond to diet changes. However the time frame varies depending on severity and/or length of time they have been affected.

To determine if your horse is ‘Grass Affected’, fill out one form per horse, make the recommended diet changes outlined in the ProvideIt Plan on the website for at least a month then repeat and tick the boxes in the after column and compare!

*Some horses, especially head flickers can take several months.

* If you are in any doubt about the welfare of your horse, do not hesitate to call your veterinarian.



B A Showing Signs of Metabolic Syndrome?

Puffy around the eyes, sheath

Bloodshot eyes

Cresty neck

Pads of fat above tail-head, sides of rump and/or behind shoulders

Various edemas

Frequent urination

Laminitis

Crest of neck goes hard

Starts walking stiffly

Sore feet, shifting weight from foot to foot

Progresses to

Reluctance to move at all

Rocked back stance

Lies down a lot

Sweating due to pain

Further Progression will occur to:

Founder where the laminae have ‘let go’

The pedal bone ‘rotates’ or drops causing

Convex soles and if soles are thin it will come through

Extreme pain

Cushing’s Syndrome

Grows long, often curly coat

Failure to shed

Many signs of Metabolic Syndrome above

Depressed

Prone to laminitis

Sweats easily

Early onset of ‘saggy back’

Blood test confirms

B A Signs of ‘Staggers’

Feels heavy on the forehead

Dull/lethargic

Difficulty going down-hills

Difficulty backing up

Stumbles over nothing, drags toes

Bolshy, bargy

‘Zonked’ look, eyes half asleep

Drunken gait, gives out in the hind-quarters

Falls over

Over-reactive especially to noise

Musculo-Skeletal Problems

(these can turn out to be ‘chemistry’ problems)

Tense, worried expression

Muscle sore

Endless saddle-fitting issues

‘Sacro-iliac’ problems...

Tight behind, bunny-hops at canter

Explosive trot-canter transitions

Throws head in the air

Swaps leads behind

Failure to track up

Difficult to bend

Permanent veer in one direction

Would rather jig-jog than walk out

Uncomfortable to ride / sit to trot

*‘Hitches’ a hind leg

*Locking stifles

Seems to need joint supplements

Early onset of arthritis

B A Signs of 'Increased Excitability'

Fence walking / running
Tight muscles, on edge
Twitches when touched on flanks, withers etc
Doesn't like to be touched or brushed
Dislikes cover going on
Hyper-sensitive
Ear-shy, difficult to bridle
Can't put your legs on / Kicks out at your leg
Spooky (at little or familiar things)
Seems like eyesight is affected
Impulsive (wants to run off or get faster)
Separation anxiety / herd bound
Hollows out, wants to put head up
Classed as 'Right-brained extrovert'
No attention span, ADHD
Can't cope with pressure / Loses the plot
Reactive rather than responsive
Limited progress with schooling
Girthy / Cold-backed
Short-steps when first saddled
Sweats with little exertion
Excessive yawning
Bad with needles

Dangerous Symptoms

Pulls back at the slightest thing
Explodes when first saddled
Tail whipping/clamping
'Cover-running' (bolting around when covered)
Bucking, bolting
Overly claustrophobic
Flies back out of the float
Aggression

B A Dangerous (cont)

Excessive separation anxiety
Massive spooks at small things
Head-flicking/shaking
Uncharacteristic behaviour

Head-Flicking & associated issues

(Otherwise known as Head Shaking)

Hyper-sensitivity
Paresthesia (severe itching)
Sacro-iliac and other musculo-skeletal issues above
*Wanting to rub their nose on their leg
*Boxing at their nose
*Muzzle twitching
Light sensitivity/photophobia
Agitation
High urine pH

Reproductive

Hormonal mares/'raging' seasons
Failure to cycle properly
Difficulty conceiving
Abortions/still births/thick placentas
Limb deformities/contracted tendons
*Developmental Orthopedic Diseases
Geldings behaving like stallions

Digestive

Soft to sloppy or projectile manure
Loss of appetite, off feed
Gastric or Intestinal Tract Ulcers
Depressed / agitated / grumpy
Exercise or feed-related bouts of colic
Wind-sucking
Ill-thrift, no top-line
Poor hoof quality and coat colour

B A *Respiratory Conditions

Rhinitis (ulceration of nasal membranes)
Excessive snorting/head tossing
No puff when exercised
Coughing on exertion
Breathing audible even at rest
Pasture heaves/distressed breathing
Develops Allergies

Skin/Hoof Conditions

Mud-fever/sunburn
Rain-scald
Hair loss
*Paresthesia (Excessive Itching)
Weak, scant manes/tails
Poor coat colour
Dry, dull, staring coat
Poor hoof quality
Repeated abscessing
'Snatchy' with hooves for farrier/trimmer
Difficulty holding hind legs up

Other Metabolic problems

(These require immediate veterinary attention but with diet changes there should be no relapse)

Tying Up'
'Gaseous' colic's (very loud stomach noises)
Grass Tetany (tend to lie on their side, head arched back, legs rigid, periodic paddling)
Seizures, convulsions

Signs of Calcium Deficiency

All issues in the list with * - also the following...
Bony enlargements/ splints
Muscle Cramps
'Big Head'