

EXPLORING

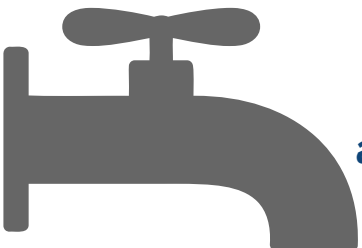
WINTER WATER INTAKE

IN HORSES

LESS HIGH MOISTURE PASTURE COMBINED WITH MORE DRY FORAGES RESULTS IN HORSES CONSUMING LESS NATURAL WATER IN THE WINTER



we need to supply 5-15 gallons of water per day in the winter months



snow or ice is **NOT** an adequate source of water

IDEAL WATER DRINKING TEMP IS 45-65°F

there is no difference in water intake between heated buckets vs heated water tank as long as the water is clean

MOST WATER IS CONSUMED WITHIN 2 HRS OF EATING HAY/GRAIN

make sure buckets are full and easy to access during meal time

HORSES WILL DRINK 40% MORE WATER WHEN IT IS HEATED

if using a tank heater to warm water, inspect it carefully for worn wires or other damage, and check the water for electrical sensation or shock

THERE ARE **2** COMMON COMPLICATIONS RESULTING FROM INADEQUATE WATER CONSUMPTION DURING COLD WEATHER

1. DECREASED FEED INTAKE

consuming lower calories could result in weight loss

2. IMPACTION COLIC / CONSTIPATION

not enough water will result in colic symptoms

SENIOR HORSES MAY HAVE MORE SENSITIVE TEETH AND A LOWER TOLERANCE OF COLD WATER

TIPS FOR INCREASING HYDRATION IN WINTER

- Wet Feed at Each Meal
- Feed a Daily Mash with Beet Pulp or Forage Pellet
- Provide Constant Access to Plain White Iodized Salt

FEEDING PRACTICES TO AVOID

- Wheat Bran
It is High in Phosphorus and Can Unbalance Your Horse's Diet
- Feeding Mash Inconsistently
Feed a Mash Daily, as Feeding Once per Week can Upset Gut Microbes and Cause Gastrointestinal Issues



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