

The Importance of Your Horse's Gut Microbiome

What is a microbiome?

A microbiome is the community of micro-organisms living together in a particular habitat. The equine gut microbiome refers to all of the microbes in the hindgut, which act as another organ that's crucial for health.

What does the microbiome do?



- Harvests nutrients & energy from the diet
- Resists the colonization of pathogens
- Develops the immune system
- Detoxifies toxic compounds in the host

What does the microbiome impact?



- Immune function
- Inflammation
- Obesity
- Metabolic Disorders
- Behavior
- Diarrhea
- Colic

What affects the microbiome?



- Lifestyle
- Environment
- Dietary patterns
- Gastrointestinal distress
- Dietary change
- Hindgut Acidity

Feed management practices that benefit the microbiome



- Feed forage regularly
- Feed high quality forage
- Feed several sources of forage
- Feed clean forage

Veterinary Contact Information

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____



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