

# Low Starch Diets

Equine Diets formulated with low or no grain contents have come into vogue in recent years. In reality, most horses do not require specifically lowered starch feeds and in some situations, such as late gestation and lactating mares, along with performance horses, it may actually be contraindicated. However in situations where horses with health conditions that cause them to poorly regulate insulin and or regulate starch (glycogen) storage, it is imperative that their diet not include high concentrations of starch or simple sugars.

Owners with horses that have Cushing's, glycogen storage disease (genetic tying-up), and obese horses that have or may become insulin resistant should not use feeds which are corn or oat based. Horses that have had and are predisposed to laminitis should also consider using a low starch diet. Low starch horse feeds will not have any negative effects when fed to "normal" horses and owners with special needs horses may find it more convenient to have the entire herd on Prince Lo-Carb Maintenance diet rather than inventory several different feeds. Owners of horses that have severe conditions should also restrict horses to hay diets and should consider soaking the hay remove as many soluble sugars as possible.

Prince Regency Lo-Carb contains no grains and is designed to have fiber content similar to that found in early vegetative alfalfa or grass. The starch content is also similar to that found in forages. Prince Regency Lo-Carb is balanced using three digestible fiber sources: alfalfa meal, also a source of protein and minerals; soy hulls, highly digestible fiber; and wheat midds, digestible fiber also needed for the manufacturing of pelleted feeds. Because of the highly digestible fiber content Prince Regency Lo-Carb Maintenance feed does provide a significant amount of energy and should be fed at similar rates as other maintenance products. Owners should feed at levels to reach desired body condition scores. [Owners needing to severely restricting calories, not just starch, should consider specifically designed supplement. Please contact us directly for recommendations in these particular cases.]

Prince Regency Lo-Carb feeds should not be fed as a sole source of feed. Although the fiber level is similar to forages, it lacks the fiber length and "gut fill" necessary to keep horses satisfied. Additionally, longer fiber parts of the diet are essential in the prevention of colic.

## Key Features of Regency Lo-Carb Maintenance (#210017)

- Contains highly digestible fiber sources
- Contains added fats (high in Omega-3 fatty acids)
- Chelated Mineral-superior biological availability
- Proteins balanced for amino acids.
- Contains Natural Vitamin E- Greater biological availability with increased plasma concentrations compared to synthetic forms.