

EquiMix® Technology – Only Found in the Triple Crown® Line of Horse Feeds

Triple Crown Nutrition has been providing leading edge equine nutrition for over 20 years, using innovations such as fixed formulas and low or no grain inclusion feeds to lower starches and sugars. But the one thing that makes Triple Crown totally unique is the use of EquiMix.

The addition of EquiMix into every bag of Triple Crown feed enhances the highly digestible fiber sources, added amino acids and key vitamins—backing them all with specific ingredient labeling and the most extensive guarantee list in the country.

Triple Crown believes premium feed formulations can make the inside of the horse healthier and promote a stronger, enhanced immune system.

The key nutrients found in EquiMix are:

Live Yeast Cultures (Probiotics) – Live yeast cultures help maintain a healthy microbial population in the hindgut. The hindgut is the main engine of the horse and the microbial population is responsible for breaking down and utilizing the fiber (pasture and hay) that horses need to consume daily to meet the majority of their energy needs. A healthy hindgut also helps regulate immunity, as 70-80% of the immune cells are found in the digestive tract.

- *Guaranteed on the bag as “Saccharomyces Cerevisiae”*

Direct Fed Microbials (Probiotics) – Slightly different than live yeast cultures that help support the microbial population, these are actual microbial strains found in the hindgut. These microbes are constantly under stress from diet, work conditions, temperature extremes, pH levels, illness and a host of other issues. Supplementing the good bacteria helps reduce the potential for excessive bad bacteria that can cause digestive upsets or intestinal inflammation and lead to colic or other digestive related problems. Constantly feeding probiotics proves to be more effective than periodic dosing during stress periods.

- *Guaranteed on the bag as “Lactobacillus Acidophilus”*

Yeast Metabolites (Prebiotics) – Prebiotics differ from probiotics in that the nutrients are not live, but are variations (typically from yeast products) that help create a healthier environment for the live yeast and bacteria. In essence, the metabolites feed the microbes to provide a healthier, more viable population. Like any living organism, the healthier they are, the better they feel and perform. For most other feed companies that claim prebiotics, they only include these yeast metabolites and no additional prebiotics.

Mannan Oligosaccharide (MOS) (Prebiotic) – MOS is a prebiotic that is a variation of the yeast cell wall that attracts pathogenic bacteria, such as E. Coli and Salmonella, and does not allow attachment to the cell wall. Because of its natural preventative properties, MOS products are used extensively in Europe to replace the use of antibiotics in production animals. MOS may not make your horse look better or jump higher, but will help prevent challenges to the digestive system that may keep him from performing at his best.

Mycotoxin Protection (Prebiotics) – Like MOS, the mycotoxin protectants Triple Crown uses are yeast-based. The difference is that they attract and neutralize various forms of mycotoxins. Mycotoxins are created when molds and fungus are stressed, typically by weather. These mycotoxins can cause declines in appearance, body condition and performance. Major feed companies test grains and ingredients to prevent inclusion in their feeds, but university research finds as much as 80% of hay samples with some level of contamination. Common mycotoxins include aflatoxin and fusarium.

Organic Minerals – Organic minerals (also called proteinated and chelated minerals) are mineral salts bonded to a protein or amino acid complex. EquiMix includes five different organic minerals—zinc, copper, manganese, magnesium and iron. Using organic minerals improves absorption and avoids interactions with other minerals. Minerals are listed on feed tags in three different ways: Oxides are the least available to the digestive system (with the exception of magnesium); sulfates are more available, and organic minerals are absorbed the best. Respectively, oxides are the least expensive and organic minerals the most expensive. In order for organic minerals to improve effectiveness, they must make up at least 20% of the overall total mineral content. Triple Crown provides 40% of each mineral as organic.

- *Guaranteed on the bag as "Zinc Amino Acid Complex," "Copper Amino Acid Complex," "Manganese Amino Acid Complex," "Magnesium Proteinate" and "Iron Amino Acid Complex"*

Organic Selenium – Selenium is typically represented on the feed tag as "Sodium Selenite," which is an inorganic form. Organic selenium is represented on the tag as "Selenium Yeast." Yeast forms the same kinds of selenium compounds that plants produce, which are in the forms that horses and other animals evolved to consume. The primary difference between the two sources is the way they are metabolized. The organic form is more easily digested and retained in the tissues and provides a higher level of safety from overfeeding. Some feed companies who now add organic selenium, use both forms. Triple Crown uses 100% organic selenium in all its feeds.

- *Guaranteed on the bag as "Selenium Yeast"*

Digestive Enzymes – The small intestine is responsible for absorbing most of the fats, carbohydrates, protein and minerals from a horse’s diet, both in feed and hay/pasture. Based on how we feed horses, this part of the digestive tract can become overwhelmed with soluble carbohydrates or simply because it’s empty—it doesn’t get enough retention time because a horse goes for a period of time without eating. Without proper small intestine digestion, excess soluble carbohydrates (starch and sugar) can cause problems and any undigested proteins are lost. Triple Crown adds digestive enzymes to the naturally occurring enzymes to help maximize digestion, similar to how probiotics add to the hindgut population.

- *Guaranteed on the bag as “Cellulose” and “Protease”*

Kelp Meal – Kelp meal is a source of natural organic minerals such as boron, chromium and vanadium. Research shows these micro minerals are required by the horse in extremely small amounts, but are critically important for soundness and to improve protein and energy utilization.