

- BREEDING SEASON -

Giving your horse the best start in life

Preparing your foal for a healthy life begins at conception, through gestation and into their first few years of growth. The right nutrition in pregnant mares reduces complications at birth.

Likewise, the correct diet for foals reduces their risk of Developmental Orthopaedic Diseases (DOD), ensuring they grow up to be healthy and sound horses.



Pregnant mare feeding tips

Increase vitamins and minerals but not calories

1-7/8 months

Increase calories in the final 3 months of gestation

8-11/12 months

THROUGHOUT

- Provide your pregnant mare with access to clean water and salt.
- Avoid fescue hay or pasture.
- When in doubt ask an equine nutritionist.
- Know your pregnant mare's body condition score.
A Barastoc body conditioning score above 4 adds unnecessary weight to their limbs.
You can find this tool and others under the 'Resources' section of our website: barastochorse.com.au

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What to feed foals

Foals require high fibre; low GI feeds like Barastoc Breed N Grow. Breed N Grow contains all the necessary ingredients and nutrients to produce healthy horses.



Barastoc Breed N Grow

- ✓ A low to moderate starch feed which has a lower glycaemic index (GI) response to feeding.
- ✓ High fibre content encourages digestive safety, especially when horses are fed in groups and may consume their feeds at a faster rate.
- ✓ Reduced risk of colic and laminitis because of the high fibre.
- ✓ Potential to cause better behaviour in young horses which can reduce wear and tear related injuries.
- ✓ Safe to feed without chaff.
- ✓ Pelleted design making it ideal for economical paddock feeding.



FOAL RISK FACTORS

Developmental Orthopaedic Diseases (DOD)

DOD's are a range of conditions that can occur in a growing horse. Including OCD.

Osteochondritis Dissecans (OCD)

OCD is an interruption in bone development. During normal bone growth, cartilage is remodelled into bone, however, this process can go wrong, which leads to OCD lesions.

One of the causes of OCD is the wrong nutrition, particularly deficiencies, excesses, and imbalances of nutrients. Feeding a high grain diet to achieve the greatest growth in your foals will increase the risk of DOD problems. Feeds that have a lower glycaemic index are associated with a lower incidence of OCD.

