

Vistacell – Use in equine

Optimising fibre digestion and nutrient utilisation.

Vistacell is a specifically selected strain of *saccharomyces cerevisiae* for optimum probiotic performance in hindgut conditions. Vistacell improves feed efficiency, fibre digestion and aids the maintenance of a positive gut microorganism balance through competing with the negative microorganisms for free sugars. Vistacell has the highest activity levels in comparison to other available live yeast products due to having the highest colony forming unit (CFU) count per registered feed rate, enhancing its probiotic effect.

What does Vistacell do?

Vistacell optimises equine hindgut conditions through a ‘Weed’, ‘Seed’ and ‘Feed’ mode of action.

- **Weed:** Competes with lactic-acid producing bacteria for free sugars in the hindgut.
 - Reducing the total acid load in the hindgut and aiding the maintenance of a stable hindgut pH.
- **Seed:** Scavenges oxygen to create an anaerobic environment.
 - Creating a favourable environment for fibre-digesting bacteria.
- **Feed:** Stimulates the growth of lactic acid utilising bacteria.
 - Less acid in the hindgut, optimising hindgut conditions.

Why include Vistacell in equine feeds?

In modern equine feeding practices, it is common to provide starch rich concentrates, yet the horse’s gastrointestinal tract regularly can’t cope with the quantity provided.

Starch is digested via the enzymatic action in the foregut; however, fast passage rate and limited digestive action means that the digestive capacity of the foregut is easily exceeded. As a result, some undigested starch can pass into the hindgut where its subsequent fermentation increases the amount of lactic acid produced (figure 1). This change in fermentation decreases the pH and negatively changes the flora make-up in the hindgut.

The action of Vistacell can help to reduce the pH drop in the hindgut and promote the proliferation of the fibre-digesting microorganisms, enhancing hindgut digestion.

Symptoms of poor hindgut health:

Negative behavioural changes

- Reduced appetite
- Loss of body condition
- Reduced stamina performance
- Poor coat and hoof condition

Key Benefits of Vistacell:

1. Enhances fibre digestion by increasing beneficial hindgut microorganism populations.
2. Aids the stabilisation of the hindgut environment.
3. Reduces lactic acid accumulation, aiding the maintenance of a stable hindgut pH.
4. Equine specific research has shown that Vistacell aids feedstuff digestibility.
5. Highest CFU/g of live yeasts available at recommended feeding rate.
6. Reduces the lag time to digestion.

Feed rate:

- Mature horse: 2g per day
- Under 12 months: 1g per day

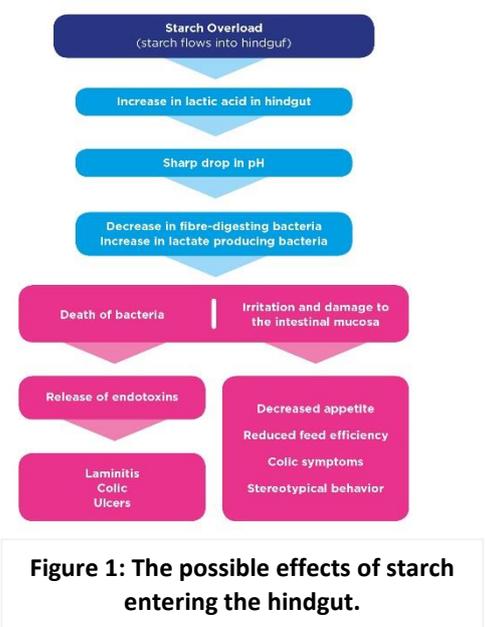


Figure 1: The possible effects of starch entering the hindgut.