

Did you know?

Taking a mouth full!

MAAAX™ LONGfibe™ cubes are taken up slowly to prevent choking!

When horses take up feedstuff, they use their sensor system by smelling and touching the food. Afterwards they start to take it up. Every time a horse picks up food, it will take up 1.5-2.5 mg DM per kg BW. In a 500 kg horse, this will be 7.5-12.5 g DM per pick-up. In comparison to other animals like sheep, the horse takes up way less forage per pick-up (Arnold, 1984). As a consequence, one may say that a horse must have the chance to graze an adequate time of up to 16 hours a day (Keiper et al, 1980, Frape, 2004). The speed of the feed-uptake is regulated by the type and structure of the feedstuff but not by the amount of energy within. Horses do not sense if they are under- or overfed with nutrients. Only if they receive enough forage or not.

When a horse takes a bite of MAAAX™ LONGfibe™ cubes, it will take up around 8.5 g of forage with each bite. The material will be thoroughly chewed and mixed with saliva, while it is transported and rolled through the mouth cavity. When the horse has gathered around 60-70 g in a bolus of 30 % DM and 70 % saliva, the bolus will be swallowed through the esophagus into the stomach.

We recommend further reading:

ARNOLD, G.W.: Comparison of the time budgets and circadian patterns of maintenance activities in sheep, cattle and horses grouped together. Applied Animal Behaviour Science, Ausg. 13, 1984, S. 19-30.

Frape, D.,: Equine Nutrition and Feeding, 4. Edition. Oxford 2011

KEIPER, R.R./KEENAN, M.A.: Natural activity patterns of feral ponies. Journal of Mammals, Ausg. 61, 1980, 116-118.

Ellis, A./Hill, J.: Nutritional physiology of the horse, Nottingham, 2005.

Frape, D.,: Equine Nutrition and Feeding, 4. Edition. Oxford 2011

NRC National Nutrition Council: Nutrient requirements for horses, 5th Edition, 2007.

Geor, R.J., Harris, P.A., Coenen, M. : Equine Applied and Clinical Nutrition, Saunders, 2013