



## 2015 EquiBrew Equine Chronic Skin Condition Project

### Introduction

Since the launch of EquiBrew in August of 2014, horse owners have reported a range of positive effects including calmer, quieter horses, improvements to overall condition, control of diagnosed or suspected ulcers, reduced stereotypic behaviors (windsucking, fence-walking, head flicking, etc.), and improved freedom of movement.

Also reported was the elimination or significant improvement of chronic skin conditions that had previously resisted other forms of treatment.

EquiBrew is unique in the marketplace. It is a fresh fermentation product with a limited shelf life that contains high numbers of live, active probiotic microbes (minimum  $10^9$  CFU/dose lactobacilli) and a complex of metabolites including beneficial organic acids (butyric acid, lactic acids, acetic acid, their esters, etc.).

We assert these unique characteristics are responsible for the effects described below.

### Method

In November 2015, we invited horse owners via Facebook to participate in a case study group for horses suffering from treatment-resistant chronic skin conditions.

Participants were self-selected. They agreed to follow the case study protocol, take before and after photographs, and diligently fill in and return the trial log sheets.

Horses included in the case study group received 250ml EquiBrew daily for 30 days with the product mixed into feed and the dose split if feeding twice or more daily.

We asked participants to record the overall condition of their horse, its chronic skin condition, overall skin condition, freedom of movement, & mood/demeanor. Participants used the Henneke\* horse body condition scoring system, a system of visual assessment with scores ranging from 1 to 9 and this same scale (1-9) was used to score the other four categories, i.e., chronic skin condition, overall skin condition, freedom of movement, and mood.

\* [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henneke\\_horse\\_body\\_condition\\_scoring\\_system](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henneke_horse_body_condition_scoring_system)

Eleven participants completed the course of product administration and returned the weekly log sheets & photographs recording their observations.

The average age of participating horses was **14.3 years** with a range of **5-28**.  
The case study group consisted of geldings and mares and no stallions.

## Results

At the end of day 30 scores had **improved** on average:

- **Chronic skin condition:**     **+100% from 3.5 to 7**
- Body Condition:                 **+10% from 5.2 to 5.7**
- Movement:                       **+17% from 5.8 to 6.8**
- **Overall Skin Condition:**   **+77% from 4.3 to 7.6**
- Mood:                              **+40% from 4.5 to 6.3**

**Table 1**

Age	Chronic Skin Condition		Condition		Movement		Overall Skin Condition		Mood		
	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	
28	4	7	6	6	4	6	5	8	4	6	
8	7	7	4	4.5	9	9	7	7	4	4	
21	4	8	5	5	4	5	4	8	3	3	
20	4	8	7	6.5	7	7	4	8	3	7	
22	2	6	5	6	4	7	4	7	5	6	
9	2	6	6	6	5	7	3	8	2	7	
11	3	7	5	6	3	5	4	7	4	7	
9	5	7	4	5	6	7	6	8	6	8	
13	1	5	4.5	5	6	6	2	7	6	7	
12	3	8	6	6	8	8	3	8	6	7	
5	4	8	5	7	8	8	5	8	6	7	
Average	14.3	3.5	7	5.2	5.7	5.8	6.8	4.3	7.6	4.5	6.3
Improvement		<b>100%</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Significance (p)		<0.001		0.02		0.006		<0.001		<0.002	

Overall there appears to be a significant change (improvement) in each scored category.  
p values were obtained via a paired two sample t-test

## Conclusion

**Administration of EquiBrew improved the chronic skin condition, body condition, freedom of movement, general skin condition, and mood of horses suffering from persistent chronic skin conditions.**

Administration of EquiBrew also produced other reported effects considered beneficial by participants but this project did not investigate or formally score these effects.

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