



2016 EquiBrew Picky Eater Case Study Group

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, improvements to chronic skin conditions, control of diagnosed or suspected ulcers, reduced stereotypic behaviors (windsucking, fence-walking, head flicking, etc.), and improved freedom of movement.

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 product characteristics are responsible for the effects described below.

Method

In August 2016, horse owners were invited via Facebook to participate in a case study group for racehorses and performance horses with picky eating habits that were limiting their ability to remain in hard work.

Participants were self-selected. They agreed to follow the case study protocol and complete online surveys at the start and finish of the case study period.

Horses included in the trial received 250ml EquiBrew daily for 14 days with the product mixed into feed and split if feeding twice or more daily.

We asked participants to record the overall condition of their horse, the severity of the picky eating behavior, skin/coat condition, freedom of movement, and 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., picky eating behavior, skin/coat condition, freedom of movement, and mood.

*(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henneke_horse_body_condition_scoring_system)

The average age of participating horses was **8.2 years** with an age range of **5-14** years. The case study group consisted of geldings and mares and no stallions.

Ten participants completed the course of product administration and completed the online start and finish surveys recording their observations.

Results

At the end of day 14 scores had **improved** on average:

- **Picky eating:** **+87% from 3.8 to 7.1**
- Body Condition: +21% from 4.2 to 5.1
- Movement: +44% from 5.0 to 7.2
- Coat Condition: +46% from 5.0 to 7.3
- Mood: +59% from 4.6 to 7.3

Table 1

Age	Condition		Picky Eating		Movement		Coat		Mood		
	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	Day 1	End	
7	5	5	3	9	7	9	8	9	6	8	
14	6	6	4	5	2	8	5	8	2	7	
5	3	4	3	6	2	7	1	7	4	8	
5	4	6	5	9	5	7	6	9	5	8	
8	4	4	4	9	7	8	2	5	5	9	
8	4	6	4	7	7	8	6	7	7	7	
10	4	5	3	5	5	7	6	7	4	7	
5	4	5	4	6	3	6	3	7	4	6	
9	4	5	5	8	6	7	7	7	4	5	
11	4	5	3	7	6	5	6	7	5	8	
Average	8.2	4.2	5.1	3.8	7.1	5	7.2	5	7.3	4.6	7.3
Improvement		21%	0.9	87%	3.3	44%	2.2	46%	2.3	59%	2.7
Significance (p)		<0.002		<0.001		<0.004		<0.002		<0.001	

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

Conclusion

Administration of EquiBrew significantly and rapidly (14 days) improved the picky eating behavior, body condition, freedom of movement, skin/coat condition, and the mood of race and performance horses with a reported history of picky eating behavior that limited their ability to remain in hard work.

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