



2017 EquiBrew Rain Scald Case Study Group Report

Introduction

Since the launch of EquiBrew in August of 2014, horse owners have reported a wide 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, including "Rain Scald", 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 July 2017, we invited horse owners via Facebook to participate in a case study group for horses suffering from Rain Scald.

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 trial received 250ml EquiBrew daily for 15 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 Rain Scald issue, overall skin 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., Rain Scald, overall skin condition, freedom of movement, and mood, with 1 being worst possible and 9 being best possible.

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

Seven participants completed the course of product administration and completed the online before & after surveys and sent photographs recording their observations.

Results

At the end of **day 15** scores had **improved** on average:

- **Rain Scald:** **+3.1 from 3.3 to 6.4**
- Body Condition: unchanged
- **Overall Skin Condition:** **+2.6 from 4.3 to 6.9**
- Movement: +1.4 from 5.6 to 7.0
- Mood: +0.9 from 6.0 to 6.9

Table 1

Rain scald		BCS		Skin		Movement		Mood	
Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
3	5	4	5	3	7	3	5	2	4
3	4	5	5	7	7	7	8	6	8
2	8	3	5	3	7	7	9	8	9
3	6	5	6	5	7	5	8	7	8
4	8	6	5	6	7	8	8	7	7
5	6	3	4	3	6	4	4	5	5
3	8	5	5	3	7	5	7	7	7
3.3	6.4	4.4	5.0	4.3	6.9	5.6	7.0	6.0	6.9
+3.1		+0.6		+2.6		+1.4		+0.9	
p<0.005		NS [#]		p<0.005		p<0.01		p<0.05	

Average Change Significance*

* p values were obtained via a paired two sample t-test

NS = not statistically significant @ p<0.05

Conclusion

Administration of EquiBrew improved the Rain Scald issues, freedom of movement, general skin condition, and mood of horses suffering from rain scald.

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

Following pages:

Photographs of typical results and comments from Case Study Group Participants.

Typical results:

Before



After



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After



Case Study Participant Comments:

I must say I'm quite satisfied with the product and I'll definitely be using it again and recommending it to other people I know. My horse Benji was a rescue and I had him four weeks before doing the case study and he had quite bad rain scald that just wasn't wanting to go away no matter what treatment I tried. Fifteen days of using EquiBrew not only did it clear up but the hair growth is coming back too. In the fifteen days feeding him EquiBrew he's gained more condition and his overall skin and coat is looking much better in the four weeks I had him on hard feed. Only difference was putting EquiBrew in his feed. I'll definitely continue using EquiBrew on him and my other horses as well. As they say; Happy Horse, Happy Owner.

The main difference is the scabs and areas have started to dry up and the scabs are falling off and its dry underneath the scabs. Before the trial there was blood and pus under the scabs.



Case Study Participant Comments (cont.)

All scabs have come off and healed over and the hair is growing back.

Has mainly cleared.

Much improved.

With administration of EquiBrew, washing with iodine wash and changing the rug, the rain scald has cleared up well, less scabby bits and less itchy. New hair is starting to grow through and he's got a shine back in his coat.

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