

Here to help



and of course HORSES!

## Waconia Farm Supply Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1, April, 2008

The staff at Waconia Farm Supply, Delano Farm Supply and Elk River Farm Supply would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You". We hope you enjoy this second edition of our quarterly equine newsletter. Watch for future editions on equine nutrition, horse "tips," new products, and industry news.

### New product Spotlight



### Feed Tag Myths (Part 1 of 4)

"Well...what percentage of protein does it have?" This is how most horse owners classify the feed they give their horses. "My horse doesn't do much and is fat so I only need a 10% sweet feed or just oats." I hear this all the time so let's put some feed tag myths to rest.

Myth #1: The higher percentage of protein will make my horse "hot."

Proteins are a chain of amino acids which are the building blocks for the growth and repair of tissues. Protein can be used for energy but it is a very inefficient source so the body will not use it for energy unless it has to. When you short change your horse of protein he will not be able to recover from exercise as easily and it may compromise his health. When looking at "sweet feeds" as a general rule you will find less pellet and more of the corn and oats component the lower protein you go (unless there is a lot of indigestible fiber added to cheapen the feed). The pellet is what contains the all the goodies: protein, vitamins and minerals, the stuff even the horse at maintenance needs. The horse at maintenance or light work doesn't demand a high calorie load but still needs adequate vitamins, minerals and digestible protein (the protein in most grass hays isn't very digestible). Calories come from the corn and oats in the "sweet feed." When the horse isn't being used enough to burn those calories they turn to fat and may become excitable—hence the "hotness." If you have a horse that is prone to being "on the muscle" the best way to keep him focused is regular riding and keeping starches (corn, oats, barley) to a minimum in his diet, not cutting out the protein he needs. A balanced animal will be more enjoyable in the show ring or on the trail. Check out our locally made Power Gold line of feeds!

With competitions starting up and putting your horses back to work you may be looking for a joint maintenance program. For as little as \$1.37/day you can maintain your horses joints with the highest quality Hylauronic Acid (HA) on the market. Beware of lower molecular weight knock-offs—get the real deal. Injectable HA will give you peaks and valleys of effectiveness. Daily oral dosing will help your horse maintain therapeutic levels of this important joint component. HA is the fluid your horse needs in his joints to keep his cartilage healthy.

*Glucosamine* = healthy cartilage  
*HA* = healthy environment to produce healthy cartilage.

Stop into one of our stores to view the informational DVD and pick up some Lubrisyn—The natural choice for healthy joints.

[www.lubrisyn.com](http://www.lubrisyn.com)

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### Wouldn't it be nice to get some Solitude from the bugs this summer?

**POWER GOLD**



This is what we have to deal with: bitterly cold winter, slushy, mucky spring and now **bugs!!** To get a jump on those nasty flies that hover around the face, (leads to runny eyes and possibly infection), bite the legs, (induces stomping, thrown shoes, chipped up feet) and make your horse just plain miserable you have to start thinking about it now. There are many household remedies that may or may not work for your facility such as garlic (bad breath) or apple cider vinegar (horse may or may not gobble up the basic stuff). One thing that does work and has science behind it is Solitude. I had a farrier friend of mine over to trim up a horse and he commented on how few flies I had around in mid July (or was it August, I can't remember). I didn't really think about it because I was used to not having flies around, where he travels to different barns and gets to deal with fly infestation and horses that won't stand because of it. My barn is not the picture of cleanliness so I knew that wasn't the reason I had hardly no flies, then I got to thinking...It was the Solitude! For more information on this fabulous, fly preventative email or call one of our equine specialists or just stop into one of our stores. [http://www.pfizerah.com/product\\_overview.asp?drug=SI&country=US&lang=EN&species=EQ](http://www.pfizerah.com/product_overview.asp?drug=SI&country=US&lang=EN&species=EQ)

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[erinr@waconiafarm.com](mailto:erinr@waconiafarm.com).

#### Upcoming Events:

- April 25-27 — MN Horse Expo
- July 08 — Sherburne County Fair  
Wright County Fair
- August — Customer Appreciation  
Polo Party  
Carver County Fair
- September — Trott Brook Horse  
Trials  
Champ Show