

# 3 easy steps to determine if a feed is “low starch”:

## 1. Check the NSC (nonstructural carbohydrates) value of the feed.

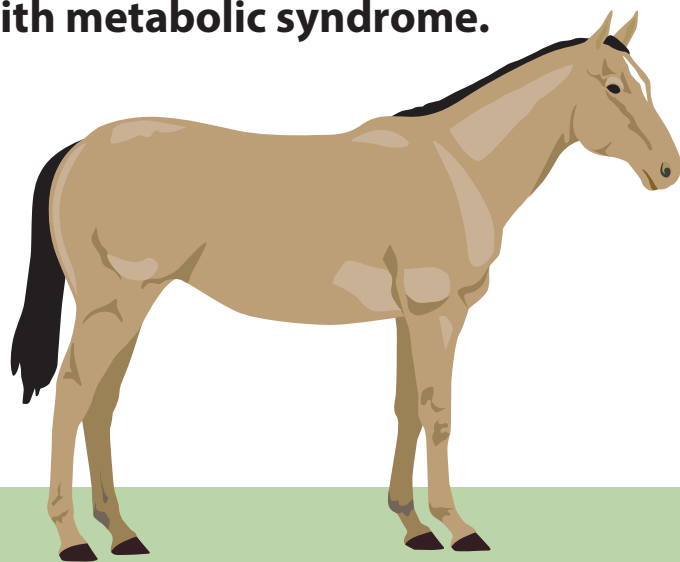
NSC is a combination of WSC (water-soluble carbohydrates, aka sugars) plus starch.

## The NSC level recommended for insulin-resistant horses is 10%.

The following guidelines are used by feed manufacturers:

NSC SCORE	STARCH LEVEL
35% or above	high starch
20% to 35%	relatively low starch
20% or less	low starch

A horse feed can be labeled “low starch” and still not be appropriate for a horse with metabolic syndrome.



## 2. Look for fat and fiber ingredients at the top of the ingredient list.

When high-starch cereal grains are removed, fat and fiber are used to replace needed calories.

### Common sources of fiber:

Soybean hulls

Beet pulp

Alfalfa meal



### Common sources of fat:

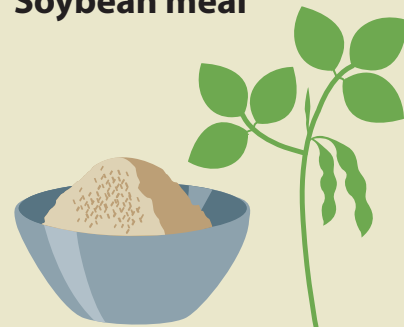
Rice bran



Soybean oil



Soybean meal



Ground flax



## 3. Make sure any cereal grains and molasses are only present in small amounts.

It’s okay for a low-starch feed to contain some cereal grains, and even molasses, if they are included in small amounts and the NSC level remains at or below 10%.

Cereal grains and molasses should be listed at the end of major ingredients, but before the list of vitamins and minerals.



**LOW-STARCH HORSE FEED**

**GUARANTEED ANALYSIS**

Digestible Energy (Min.).....	3.30 Mcal/kg
Protein (Min.).....	12.5%
Fat (Min.).....	12.5%
Fiber (Max.).....	22.0%
NSC (Max.).....	10.0%
Calcium (Min.).....	0.9%
Calcium (Max.).....	1.4%
Phosphorus (Min.).....	0.55%
Potassium (Min.).....	0.85%
Copper (Min.).....	42 mg/kg
Selenium (Min.).....	0.3 mg/kg
Zinc (Min.).....	127 mg/kg
Vitamin A (Min.).....	11,550 IU/kg
Vitamin D (Min.).....	1,155 IU/kg
Vitamin E (Min.).....	440 IU/kg

**INGREDIENTS**

Soybean Hulls, Stabilized Rice Bran, Alfalfa Meal, Wheat Middlings, Soybean Meal, Beet Pulp, Soybean Oil, Molasses, Salt, Calcium Carbonate, Choline Chloride, Zinc Sulfate, d-Alpha-Tocopheryl Acetate (source of natural vitamin E), Yeast Culture, Ferrous Sulfate, Zinc Proteinate, Copper Proteinate, Manganese Proteinate, Manganese Sulfate, Copper Sulfate, Sodium Selenite, Folic Acid, Mineral Oil, d-Calcium Pantothenate, Riboflavin Supplement, Vitamin A Acetate, Vitamin B12 Supplement, Thiamine Mononitrate, d-Biotin, Niacin Supplement, Menadione Sodium Bisulfite Complex, Pyridoxine Hydrochloride, Ethylenediamine Dihydrochloride, Vitamin D3 Supplement

**NET WT 50 LB (22.67 KG)**

## Does your horse need an additional vitamin and mineral supplement?

If you feed less than the manufacturer’s minimum recommended amount of a commercial low-starch feed then you need to supplement with an additional vitamin and mineral pellet. Micro-Phase™ was developed to provide your sugar-sensitive horse with the nutrients needed to stay healthy.



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