UK Ag Equine Programs 2015 Calendar: A 12-Month Planning Calendar for the Care and Use of Your Horses

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A 12-month planning calendar for the care and use of your horses.

The Horse is at the heart of everything we do.
UK Ag Equine Programs 2015 Calendar

A 12-month planning calendar for the care and use of your horses.

Developed by the UK Ag Equine Programs Agent Working Group

Contributors: Jason Phillips, Glenn Mackie, Don Sorrell, Nick Carter, Paula Jerrell, Brian Newman, Daniel Wilson, Christopher Jeffcoat, Karen Douglas, Katheryn Cerny, Dr. Fernanda Camargo, Dr. Bob Coleman, Essie Rodgers, Dr. Jim Smith

Editors: Daniel Wilson, Shane Bogle, Bob Coleman

Horse owners: Check through the entire calendar as you may find other pieces of information that you may find helpful at different times of the year.

The information in this calendar is provided to aid owners in planning for the care and use of their horses. When necessary, information is discussed in the month prior to application to allow horse owners adequate time to plan for activities such as weed control, soil testing, and vaccinations.

Contact your local veterinarian for health-related issues and your county extension agent for further information. Phone numbers are listed at the end of the calendar.

Cover photo: Bob Coleman

Uncredited photos contributed by Extension personnel.
January

Feeding your Horse
A major cost of owning a horse is the feed. Setting up a suitable feeding program that meets the nutrient needs of your horses requires planning. All horses require a source of calories, protein, minerals, vitamins, and water. How much of each nutrient will depend on what the horse is doing.

For example:
- The horse at maintenance can be fed an all forage diet supplemented with salt and minerals.
- A lightly worked horse may require a concentrate added to its diet of hay and pasture to meet the extra calories needed for work.

Feeding Considerations
- Determine nutrient needs based on the horse. Consider its age, its size, and the stage of production.
- Evaluate available feeds. What kind of forage do you have and how much? Will you need to supplement the forage with a concentrate?
- Decide if horses need to be grouped or fed as individuals. Consider how feeding practices can help you deal with aggressive horses.
- Provide all horses with adequate access to water. To see the different classes of horses refer to the appendix at the back of the calendar.

Body Condition Score (BCS)
- Get to know your horse by assessing its body condition score, or the amount of fat it is carrying.
- Understand your horse's fat cover and adjust management practices according to your horse's needs.
- Assess fat both visually and by palpation in the six areas where horses accumulate fat: loin, ribs, tail head, withers, neck, and shoulders.
- Know what the BCS means. For example, a horse with a BCS of 4.5 or below may not have the needed fat stores to maintain health if stressed. A horse that is lactating, exposed to extreme cold, or under other severe stress will benefit from a condition score of 6 or 7.
- Remember that horses with high condition scores are predisposed to problems, but the problems are less immediate than those of a horse in poor body condition.
- Assess your horses' BCS in January to determine the effectiveness of diet changes you made in the fall and to readjust accordingly to maintain proper condition for regular maintenance or foaling.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publications Help! My Horse is Too Fat (ASC-187) and Help! My Horse is Too Thin (ASC-188) for more information.

Farrier
Most horses require hoof maintenance every 6 to 8 weeks, either in the form of trimming or shoeing. Find a reliable farrier in your area and get on their schedule now to ensure the best hoof care for your animal. It is important to remember that regular foot care to prevent problems is easier than trying to fix one.
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February

Pasture Evaluation
- Evaluate your pastures and consider seeding clovers.
- Clover improves the overall quality of the forage that your horse is grazing.
- Frost seeding clover is done by broadcasting the seed on the pasture. Frost seeding clover should be done when the soil freezes during the night and thaws during the day.
- Perform a soil test and submit samples to your local county extension office. Allow a couple of weeks to receive your results.
- Consult with your county agriculture extension agent on any needed fertilizer applications based on your soil test results.
- Address any weed issues before seeding clover. Once clovers are growing you will not be able to spray for weeds without killing the clover.
- Pastures with at least 25 percent legumes can save money by reducing the nitrogen you need to apply on the pasture.

Traveling with Horses
- Horses being transported within the state of Kentucky require a current negative Equine Infectious Anemia test (within the past 12 months) and a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI), also known as a health certificate.
- In-state health certificates are valid for up to 12 months or until the EIA test expires.
- Horses traveling only from farm to farm or only from the farm to the veterinarian DO NOT require a current negative EIA test or a CVI.

- When transporting horses to other states, check with the office of the state veterinarian in the state you are traveling to and make sure you have the appropriate travel documents and health papers.
- For more information on requirements contact www.kyagr.com/statevet

Signs of Foaling
- One of the most consistent signs of impending foaling is a change in the size and secretion of the mare’s udder.
- Udder growth begins approximately 1 month prior to foaling; the most dramatic increase in size occurs in the 2 weeks before parturition.
- Weeks prior to foaling, the mare’s teats may secrete a yellowish-white clear fluid, and this fluid noticeably changes 24 to 48 hours before parturition, when the teats fill and distend with colostrum.
- Mares close to foaling will also undergo changes in behavior. They may appear restless, lie down and get up frequently, swish their tail, pace in their stall, or look at their flanks.

Foal and Mare Care Post-foaling
- Make sure the foal is breathing and that placental membranes are cleared from the foal’s head.
- Assist the foal onto its chest, if necessary. A healthy foal will lift its head and roll onto its chest within a few seconds after birth. A foal will usually stand within 1 hour of birth.
- Once the umbilical cord breaks, dip the foal’s navel with a 1 to 2 percent iodine solution or Nolvasan® solution to dry and clean the area.
- Ensure that the mare expels the placenta within 3 hours after delivery.
- Make sure that the foal receives colostrum within the first 24 hours because it contains antibodies needed for the foal’s immunity.
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Notes
March

Spring Seeding of Clover
- March is a good month for seeding clover into your pastures.
- Clover can still be frost seeded by broadcast casting the seed if temperatures still allow for the ground to freeze during the night and thaw during the day; this freezing and thawing process allows the seed to become covered with enough soil to germinate.
- Clover can also be no tilled into the pasture to a depth of about ¼ inch deep.

Weed Control
- Identify weeds and select the appropriate herbicide to control those weeds for a weed-free pasture.
- For optimum control, adequate moisture along with temperatures at 60°F will be needed for several consecutive days.
- Control of common weeds such as: chickweed, field pennycress, bull thistle, yellow rocket, common burdock, poison hemlock, buttercup, common yarrow, curly dock, wild garlic, and plantain as well as other common weeds.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication Weed Management in Grass Pastures, Hayfields and other Farmstead Sites (AGR-172) for more information.

Getting Ready to Ride
- Consider how long your horse has been on winter vacation. Start slowly at low speeds until the animal is back in condition.
- Avoid increasing the speed of the work, the length of the work or the distance you travel at the same time.
- Examine your horse’s feet. Are they in adequate shape, or do they need additional care to get them prepared for the extra stress of riding?
- Will you need to have your horse shod?
- As the horse acclimates to a new daily routine, monitor the BSC score to evaluate if you need to make changes in your feeding program.
- Remember to start your horse’s fitness program early to allow enough time to prepare for the season’s activities.

Pregnancy Checks
- Have the first pregnancy check done within 14 to 18 days after mare’s last breeding by a veterinarian via trans-rectal ultrasound.
- If the mare is not pregnant, she will be coming back into heat, and a check at this time will allow for adequate time to set up another breeding for the mare.
- Have another check done around 40 days. This check is important because fetal membranes attach to the endometrium and endometrial cups form around day 35.
- Monitor the mare during pregnancy for any unusual discharge or her udder developing too soon before parturition.
April

**Spring Seeding**
At this time no till the seeding is the best method.

- Clover can still be seeded into your pasture until about April 15.

Consult with your county agent to select the appropriate forage varieties for your area and intended use. (See the listing of all county agents at the end of the calendar.)

**Mineral and Salt Supplementation**

- Put mineral and salt products in a suitable feeder that protects the minerals and salt from the elements.
- Place feeder for easy access to your horse.
- Check for consumption. Regular consumption should be 1 to 1½ ounces per adult horse per day.
- The amount may vary depending on animals sweating.
- Use only products designed for horse
- Use loose product to promote greater intake than with block products.

**Pasture Rotation**

- Divide pastures into smaller paddocks to help reduce or eliminate selective grazing, resulting in more complete utilization of available forage.
- Make sure the energizer for the temporary fence is working properly and your watering system is ready to go.
- Graze one paddock at a time.
- Move animals to the next paddock when forage is grazed down to 3 to 4 inches. Note some areas will have more forage but if the majority of the paddock is 3 to 4 inches in height move the horses.
- Return horses once the forage has returned to a height of 6 to 8 inches, which is normally after a 2 to 3 week rest period.
- Horse owners can use a grazing stick to help evaluate the forage availability.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication *Using a Grazing Stick for Pasture Management* (AGR-191) for more information.

**Compost Unused Hay/Bedding**

A typical horse weighing 1,000 pounds will produce approximately 50 pounds of manure per day, and horses housed in stalls may generate an additional 20 pounds of soiled bedding per day.

Improper management of this waste has the potential to pollute Kentucky’s surface and ground waters.

Composting, when done correctly, is a viable option as composting converts organic matter into a stable humus-like material with a texture and color similar to peat moss or potting soil.

Composting can be accomplished through many ways such as bins or windrows.

How to compost:

- Turn compost piles or windrows. Aerobic (with oxygen) decomposition is more efficient than anaerobic and is achieved through aeration.
- Turn the pile 3 to 5 times every 2 to 3 days when the moisture content is between 40 and 70 percent.
- Maintain temperatures between 135°F and 160°F. A temperature of 150°F is ideal for killing the eggs of parasites.
- Apply stable compost to pastures, gardens, and around trees and shrubs as a mulch or soil amendment.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication *Composting Horse Muck* (ID-168) for more information.
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May

Pasture Stocking Rates
- Horses generally eat 1 to 2% of their body weight on a daily basis. For example a 1,000 lb horse will consume 10 to 20 lb of forage every day.
- Recommended stocking rates for a 1,000 lb horse are 2 to 4 acres per horse.
- If pastures become overgrazed they provide lower quality forages because of lack of growth and stomp loss.
- Under-stocking (a horse on more than 2 to 4 acres) can also be an issue because it will not be able to keep up with the vegetation growth, lowering the quality of forage over time.

Mowing and Dragging of Pastures
- Mow or clip to promote a lush, weed-free pasture and to reduce seed production and the spread of undesirable weeds.
- Mow when weeds are in the stem elongation state, before flowers or seed heads are produced.
- Mow to stimulate the production of tender new forage grasses for grazing.
- Drag to help to spread manure evenly across a pasture, adding to nitrogen fertility and promoting more uniform grazing.
- Drag to reduce the number of parasite populations that might exist in a pasture.
- Drag pastures when weather is hot and dry.

Consult with your county agent regarding the need to drag as not only manure management is an issue but you do not want to spread weed seeds across the pasture. (See the listing of all county agents at the end of the calendar.)

Routine Vaccination Horses
- All horses should be vaccinated annually against the diseases included in the core list; you may use a spring/fall schedule or give all vaccinations at one time.
- If you have horses that travel to such activities as horse shows, sales, horse camps, and trail rides, consider vaccinating them against Equine Herpes Virus (Rhino-pneumonitis), Influenza, and Strangles. These diseases are highly contagious and spread quickly when susceptible horses come in contact with infected horses. The best time to vaccinate against these diseases is about 2 to 3 weeks prior to the show season. Depending on the vaccine, you may need to give boosters every 6 months instead of annually.

- Consult your veterinarian to ensure that you create an effective program to control infectious diseases in your horses.
- If you purchase vaccines from retail stores, keep them cool on ice or in the refrigerator until right before you apply the vaccine to your horse; vaccines lose their effectiveness once they reach room temperature.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication Core Vaccination Program and Infectious Disease Control for Horses (ASC-176) for more information.
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Prevent Overgrazing of Pastures and Paddocks

- Repeated overgrazing over time will deteriorate any pasture or forage system.
- A good way to check if you are overgrazing a horse pasture is to see if manure piles are in excess on a pasture field. While also observing how close the horse(s) are grazing to the manure, the closer they get, the more overgrazed the pasture has become.
- If you have no other options to reduce overgrazing, herd downsizing should be considered or a supplemental feed source should be supplied.

Weaning Foals

The process of weaning foals is a natural activity, but one that horse owners need to prepare for. To minimize stress on the foal, the mare and the owner, consider the following:

- Wean foals at 4 to 6 months of age.
- Get the foal used to consuming other feed—forage and the concentrate it will be fed after weaning—2 to 3 weeks prior to weaning. Use a creep feed at the rate of 1 pound of feed per day per month of age of the foal; remove any feed not consumed daily and replace with fresh feed.
- Make sure foals are healthy and used to being handled.
- Wean in a safe place the foals are accustomed to.

- Remove the mares. In total separation, remove 1 or 2 mares from the oldest foals to a place on the farm out of sight and hearing. With gradual separation, move 1 or 2 mares to a pasture or paddock adjacent to the foals to allow for contact but no nursing; after 5 to 7 days, move the mares out of sight and sound. Removing a couple of mares at a time will give the newly weaned foals companionship, which can aid in the adjustment process.
- Watch feed consumption of foals who have just been weaned. They may need up to 21 days to completely recover from the separation. During this time, they may back off eating.
- Be prepared to deal with this stressful time.

Post Weaning Mare Management

- Reduce the grain intake of the mares to reduce milk production.
- Adjust the mare’s feeding program to meet her requirements after milk production has stopped.
- Adjust Body Condition Score as needed by adding a grain ration to a mare in a BCS below a 5 or possibly removing the grain from the feeding program if the mare is gaining in body condition or is above a BCS of 7.
July

Calculating Winter Hay Needs*
- Horse owners need to plan for the hay needs for the upcoming winter feeding period.
- Mature and low-maintenance horses consume 1.5 to 2 percent of their body weight per day.
- Growing horses, nursing mares, and horses with heavy work or exercise will eat 2.5 to 3 percent of their body weight.

*See work pages following the calendar.

Registering Foals
Breed registries have specific regulations on how to proceed.
Research the particular breed and be able to meet all of the regulations.
You will need to know:
- Age to register a foal for cost savings
- Required information about artificial insemination or assisted reproductive practices
- Who is responsible to register the foal (mare owner or recorded lessee)
- Accurate color and markings, with the required photographs of correct views and of suitable quality
- Signed certificates with correct fees included

Testing Hay
- After determining the amount of you hay you need and locating it, test the hay for quality.
- Take an average of 20 random core samples from a lot of hay to determine the average quality. Most extension offices have hay probes that are available for loan.
- Package correctly and send to either a certified lab or the Kentucky Department of Agriculture forage testing division (1-800-248-4628).

Consult with your county extension agent for agriculture on how to properly interpret the results. (See the listing of all county agents at the end of the calendar.)

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental publication Interpreting Forage Quality Reports (ID-101) for more information.
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August

Soil Test
- Sample pastures at least every 2 to 3 years.
- Sample at a 4-inch depth with a soil probe (the soil probe may be available on loan from your extension office).
- Take three random probes per acre from a uniform field.
- Keep soil free of organic material.
- Mix the probes in a clean bucket for uniformity and put the material into the proper soil testing container provided at your local extension service.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publications Establishing Horse Pastures (ID-147) and Soil Sampling and Nutrient Management in Horse Pastures (AGR-200) for more information.

Pasture Management
- Remove horses and apply nitrogen to cool season pastures that are to be stock-piled.
- Evaluate pastures to determine needs for renovation and other improvements.
- Plant perennial grasses at optimal rate, date, and depth as shown in the Grain and Forage Crop Guide for Kentucky (AGR-18).

Consult with your county agent for agriculture to develop a suitable renovation plan. (See the listing of all county agents at the end of the calendar.)

Breeding Horses
- Have your bred mare evaluated by the veterinarian to determine pregnancy. This is the optimal time to do so.
- Put mares in early gestation on a supplement concentrate program.
- After pregnancy has been determined, devise a nutritional program to meet the mare’s individual needs.
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September

**Body Condition Scores (BCS)**
- Get to know your horse by assessing its body condition score, or the amount of fat it is carrying.
- Understand your horse’s fat cover and adjust management practices according to your horse’s needs.
- Assess fat both visually and by palpation in the six areas where horses accumulate fat: loin, ribs, tail head, withers, neck, and shoulders.
- Know what the BCS means. For example, a horse below a 5 BCS may have fat stores too low to maintain health if stressed. A horse that is lactating, exposed to extreme cold, or under other severe stress will benefit from a condition score of 6 or 7.
- Remember that horses with high condition scores are predisposed to problems, but the problems are less immediate than those of a horse in poor body condition.
- For most horse owners a good goal for BCS on their horses is a 5 that is where they should start.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publications Help! My Horse is Too Fat (ASC-187) and Help! My Horse is Too Thin (ASC-188) for more information.

**Breeding Horses**
If you haven’t already done so, send your breed registrations and stallion breeding reports to the proper associations.

**Showing Horses**
If you have not checked send in registrations for any year end awards programs you may be eligible for.

**Weed Control**
Identify weeds and select the appropriate herbicide for the desired control. For optimum weed control, adequate moisture along with temperatures at 60°F will be needed for several consecutive days.

**Winter Blankets**
- Does your horse need a blanket this winter? Consider the following to answer the question:
- Horses living outside will acclimate to the colder temperatures by growing a heavier hair coat. This starts in the fall as the days get shorter. This hair coat along with a good winter feeding program, a BCS of 5 or greater and shelter will allow the horse to handle most winter conditions.
- If you blanket a horse kept outside ensure the blanket fits properly.
- Check daily horses that are blanketed by removing the blanket.
- Watch for horses over heating with a blanket on. This may cause them to sweat and a wet horse will be a cold horse.
- Horses turned out for a couple hours per day with a thin hair coat will benefit from being blanketed during turnout during the winter.
- Do all horses need a blanket it depends but many do not. Consider the need before adding a blanket and when you do check daily.
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October

High Traffic Pads
Make plans for a winter feeding area. High traffic pads are an excellent choice to reduce muddy conditions in feeding areas. Excessively muddy conditions impact the health and well-being of horses by making walking and standing difficult. Construction of a high traffic pad in areas where horses congregate to provide a sturdy surface and significantly reduce mud.

- Determine your area for installing a high traffic pad, such as around gates.
- Excavate the area through the topsoil layer until stiff, stable soils are encountered, usually the top 9 inches.
- Separate the soil from the rock layers with Geotextile placed according to the manufacturer’s recommendations.
- Place a base layer of No. 2 or No. 4 crushed stone on top of the Geotextile, typically 6 inches deep but can be deeper.
- Lay a layer of densely graded aggregate as the final surface material on the pad with a depth of 2 to 3 inches, graded with a slight slope, and packed with a smooth drum roller.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication High Traffic Area Pads for Horses (ID-164) for more information.

Composting converts organic matter into a stable humus-like material with a texture and color similar to peat moss or potting soil.

Hay Feeders
Hay feeders can reduce feed costs for horse owners by reducing the loss of hay by up to 50 percent.

Rotate the hay feeder location throughout the field, or locate them on a high traffic area pad to help control feed waste and areas of mud.

Winterizing
- Check all water systems and put away all parts that are not permanent and cannot withstand freezing temperatures.
- Clean and store temporary fencing systems that have been used for rotational grazing.

Forages
- Apply phosphate, potash, and lime according to soil test recommendations. Consult with your county agent when making your fertilizer decisions.
- Beware of prussic acid poisoning from grazing summer annual grasses following frost.
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</table>
November

Forages
- Begin grazing stockpiled cool-season grass pastures.
- Continue to inventory hay supplies and needs.
- Continue testing hay for nutrient.

Grouping Horses for Winter Feeding
- Group horses according to nutritional needs.
- Consider exercise requirements, BCS, and general maintenance requirement in how they are grouped.

Feeding in Horses during the winter
- Horses that are kept outside require protection from wind and the elements. This can be done with a wind break of trees, a run-in shed or a high porosity wind fence.
- Provide a source of clean water.
- Provide an adequate feed source. Feed hay in a suitable feeder to reduce waste.
- Provide adequate access to all horses.
- Horses can be wintered on hay alone, if it is of high enough quality and meets their nutritional needs.
- They should be provided 2 percent of their body weight in high-quality forage a day if they are at the optimal BCS.
- Cold temperatures can increase their hay need by a third.
- Compensate for low-quality forage or a lack of hay by adding a grain ration.
- Assess your horse’s body condition score once a month to evaluate your feeding program.

Winterizing Horse Tack
- Most horse owners are not as actively riding in the winter months, thinking about winterizing your tack can help to prolong your equipment.
- Place all saddles, bridles, general tack, etc. in a dry place for the winter away from the elements.
- Oiling any leather before storing away will help to prolong the longevity of your more valuable pieces of tack.
- One idea would be to store away in some rubber totes and cover with a lid; this will provide you with winter care protection and keep everything all in one place.

Stallion Evaluation and Getting Ready for the Breeding Season
- Have a general physical examination to ensure the stallion is in good health and has adequate conformation to mount a mare.
- Make sure that all stallions have a negative EVA certificate prior to vaccination.
- Examine the external reproductive organs (sheath, penis, and scrotum). Identify any abnormalities such as atrophy, hyperplasia, or degeneration of the scrotum.
## November 2015

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December

**Breed and Activity Memberships**
- Pay your dues for the upcoming year.
- Know the rules for each association you are a member of. It is your responsibility to be up to date for all programs you wish to participate in.
- Apply for any breeder’s incentive programs you are eligible for.
- Check on any year end awards programs and apply as needed.

**Forages**
- Continue grazing of stockpiled cool season grass pastures that are available.
- Begin feeding hay as efficiently as possible.
- Use a suitable hay feeder for your horses.

**Environment**
- Monitor your hay feeding area closely. Move feeders often if you are not using a high traffic area pad.
- Move horses to the sacrifice lot during wet periods or times the grass cover is poor and sod is likely to be damaged or destroyed by traffic.
- Provide adequate fresh clean water from a suitable source.

---

**Mares Under Lights**
Horses are seasonal breeders that only cycle during specific times of the year. Also known as “long-day breeders,” mares come into heat during periods of increased daylight such as late spring and summer. Artificial lighting should increase the overall length of daylight to 14 to 16 hours. In practice, lights are generally turned on at the beginning and end of each night; some research suggests that artificial evening light alone may be sufficient to elicit a reproductive response.
- Begin mares under lights at least 8 to 10 weeks before you wish to breed.
- Make sure the intensity of the light source is strong enough to affect the mare’s reproductive system. A plain 100-W incandescent bulb in a 12 x 12 ft box stall is sufficient. Lights can also be installed in an outdoor paddock, using one light source to affect a larger number of mares.

Horses can be wintered on hay alone, if it is of high enough quality and meets their nutritional needs.
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Calculating Forage Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class and Size of Horse</th>
<th>Forage Intake/Day</th>
<th>Forage Waste/Day</th>
<th>Forage Required/Day</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Total Forage Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intake Factor¹</td>
<td>Preliminary Amount</td>
<td>Waste Factor²</td>
<td>Additional Amount</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idle maintenance</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>18 lb</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>2.7 lb</td>
<td>20.7 lb x 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broodmare</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>22 lb</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>4.4 lb</td>
<td>26.4 lb x 125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ See Table 1.
² See Table 2.

Table 1. Classes of Horses and Intake Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Intake Factor*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young, growing</td>
<td>Weanlings, long yearlings</td>
<td>1.25 - 1.75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In training</td>
<td>Two-year-olds</td>
<td>1.5 - 1.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance</td>
<td>Light, moderate or intensive work</td>
<td>1.5 - 2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broodmares</td>
<td>Early or late gestation or lactation</td>
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<tr>
<td>At maintenance</td>
<td>Easy, average or hard keeper</td>
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</tbody>
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*Actual intakes will vary depending on the quality of the hay being fed. The estimates in this table are based on an average quality, mixed grass/legume hay.

NRC 2007

Table 2. Forage Waste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bale Type and Storage</th>
<th>Waste Factor*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Square bale hay fed on the ground</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roll bale hay fed on the ground</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hay stored outside with no protection (depending on weather and how the hay was baled)</td>
<td>15 - 25%</td>
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</table>

*Waste estimates are based on how horses are fed and how the hay is stored.

Table 3. Hay Inventory

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hay Type</th>
<th>Number of Bales</th>
<th>Weight/Bale</th>
<th>Waste Factor¹</th>
<th>Total Hay Available</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Square bales</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round/large square bales</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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¹ See Table 2.

Table 4. Cost of Feed

<table>
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<th>Feed Type</th>
<th>Amount Needed</th>
<th>Cost/Unit</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hay (tons)</td>
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<td>Concentrate (bag)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral supplement (bag)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salt (bag)</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Equine publications available online

http://www.uky.edu/Ag/AnimalSciences/equine/equineinfo.html.
Kentucky County Extension Offices

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Hancock County ...............(270) 927-6618
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Harlan County .................(606) 573-4464
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Leslie County .................(606) 672-2154
Letcher County ...............(606) 633-2362
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Nicholas County ..........(859) 289-2312
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Owen County .................(502) 484-5703
Owsley County ...............(606) 593-5109
Pendleton County ..........(859) 654-3395
Perry County .................(606) 436-2044
Pike County .................(606) 432-2534
Powell County ...............(606) 663-6405
Pulaski County .............(606) 679-6361
Roberson County ............(606) 724-5796
Rockcastle County ..........(606) 256-2403
Rowan County ...............(606) 784-5457
Russell County ...............(270) 866-4477
Scott County .................(502) 863-0984
Shelby County ...............(502) 633-4593
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Taylor County ...............(270) 465-4511
Todd County .................(270) 265-5659
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