

FEEDING BENEFITS of Mid Valley Milling PELLETED HAY

- ❑ 100% *all-natural* quality sun-cured Eastern Washington hay
- ❑ *No* binders are used (low-heat steam process only)
- ❑ *8 flavors available* –
 - Orchardgrass
 - Timothy
 - Orchardgrass/Timothy blend
 - Orchardgrass/Alfalfa blend
 - Timothy/Alfalfa blend
 - 12% minimum protein Alfalfa
 - 16% minimum protein Alfalfa
 - Low Non-Structural Carbohydrate Pelleted Hay and Balanced Mineral Program
- ❑ Contains *no* grain
- ❑ Contains *no* preservatives, no fillers, no by-products of any kind, nothing artificial
- ❑ Pelleted hay works extremely well as a forage replacer for senior horses with poor dentition or inability to chew hay or graze pasture, allowing avoidance of the high carbohydrate load of senior feeds. Feeds high in carbohydrates when fed to sensitive horses can, among other issues, be triggers for laminitis, insulin resistance, Cushings disease, In addition to our regular line of pelleted hays, we also manufacture a low non-structural carbohydrate pelleted hay and balancing mineral program professionally formulated to conform to the specifications of the Equine Cushings and Insulin Resistance Group.
- ❑ Pelleted hay can be used as the entire diet or as a supplement to long-stemmed hay, such as local hay which may be inexpensive but can have less nutrition than hay grown in Eastern Washington. Feed the local hay as “busy-food” and supplement with the Mid Valley Milling hay pellets to boost the nutrient intake.
- ❑ During this time of escalating hay prices and inconsistent quality of hay, feeding pelleted hay can be a significant cost savings as there is no waste, there is greater consistency, fewer pounds are fed due to the efficient feed conversion of pelleted feed.
- ❑ Pelleted hay affords excellent body condition as there is greater utilization of the feed. Additionally, the introduction of water to the hay pellets increases the caloric potential as providing plenty of water allows easier digestion of fiber. The fiber content of the pelleted hay is the same as baled hay.
- ❑ Feed conversion efficiency makes pelleted hay very *cost effective* to feed.
- ❑ Easy to handle, transport and store- pelleted hay requires only one quarter of the storage space requirement of long-stemmed hay – one ton of pellets can be stored on one 3’ x 4’ pallet.
- ❑ Pelleted hay has a shelf life in excess of 12 months and is not affected by storage mold like the exposed areas of baled hay can be.

- ❑ Horses with poor dentition or chewing problems will benefit from pelleted hay - feeding pellets wet will ***increase caloric potential*** as providing plenty of water with fiber makes it easier to digest.
- ❑ ***Less ground waste***, therefore more cost effective and less labor intensive cleaning stalls – fewer dollars spent on manure and waste removal and disposal
- ❑ Can be taken into national forestlands and parks as it complies with the pelleted feed exemption ruling under 36 CFR 261.50 (e) para 3 in the US Forest Service Internet Service Manual.

For more information contact:

Linda Sterett Fogarty

Mid Valley Milling/Western Washington Division

Phone/fax 425-822-9011

E-mail: Info@MidValleyMillingHayPellets.com

Frequently Asked Questions about Feeding Mid Valley Milling Pelleted Hay

My horse is a senior citizen with no teeth. I don't want to feed senior feed with high carb levels. Would your pelleted hay products be a good feed in this situation?

A resounding YES response to that question. It is our opinion that our pelleted hay is THE perfect feed for senior horses. If your senior horse is suffering from poor dentition and quids baled hay and/or pasture, he needs a forage replacer. Mid Valley Milling pelleted hay products is the perfect solution to this problem as they deliver nutrient dense feed via the pelleted format and it is 100% pure hay. This pelleted format is very easy for him to digest as the hay has been ground prior to being pressed into the pellet form via a low-heat steam process which leaves the naturally occurring nutrients intact. In essence, a portion of the digestive process (the chewing into small digestible pieces) has been done for him. This gives a jump start to the digestive process so there is more time for extraction of the nutrients, allowing for an increased feed conversion as compared to baled hay.

How much should I feed?

Recommended feed amounts are between 1 and 2% of **ideal** body weight. If your horse is underweight, calculate feed amounts on the desired/ideal body weight, not the current weight.

Will my horse like the flavor?

If he likes hay, he will love these pellets. There are 8 different flavors to choose from. Many horses view the pellets as a treat because they rattle in the bucket – only **you** will know that there is no “guilt” involved in feeding the Mid Valley Milling hay pellets.

Will my horse do well nutritionally on a pelleted hay diet?

The pelleted format provides high density nutrients that are easier for your horse to digest than even baled hay. The introduction of water to the hay pellets increases the caloric potential as providing plenty of water allows easier digestion of fiber. The fiber content is the same as in baled hay.

My horse has heaves or has other respiratory issues. Is it safe to feed pelleted hay to my horse?

Yes. In fact it is healthier to feed your horse pelleted hay versus baled hay where dust may become airborne. With the addition of water to the pellets, it is safest of all.

How should I feed pelleted hay?

Feed by weight, not volume.

Can I feed 100% of my horse's diet in pelleted hay?

Yes, you can feed your horse a diet of 100% pelleted hay. Often customers begin by feeding a portion of the diet in pellets and a portion in baled hay, then over time they increase the portion of the diet being fed in pelleted hay.

Can I feed my horse a portion of his diet in pelleted hay and still feed some baled hay?

Yes, many of our customers feed one feeding in hay and another in pelleted hay. Other customers feed both at each meal as they like offering the variety of textures.

Consistent good quality hay is hard to come by this year and it is expensive. Could I stretch my baled hay supply by feeding a portion of the diet in pelleted hay, thereby stretching my baled hay supply?

Definitely! In fact, many customers will purchase a lesser quality “local” hay for “busy food” and feed the Mid Valley Milling pelleted hay to meet the majority of the nutritional needs of their horse.

I am concerned about colic or choke? Is there a higher incidence of these issues when being fed

Mid Valley Milling is proud to use ONLY hay in the manufacture of our pelleted hay products. There are NO binders, artificial ingredients, or fillers used EVER in the production of our pelleted hays. Because there is no binder used, the pellets begin to break down immediately upon coming into contact with saliva in the horse's mouth. We have received *no* reports of colic or choke from our users and we have none to report from many years of use on our own horses. However, if you are concerned about your horse's eating habits as he tends to bolt his food, spread a thin layer of pellets in the bottom of a large pan and consider placing rocks in the pan to make him work harder and take more time.

Will my horse eat his food too fast, become bored and begin to eat fence posts or his stall?

User feedback and personal experience indicates that it take most horses just as long to eat pelleted hay as to eat baled hay. We highly recommend all horses have access to an exercise area so as not to become bored with stall living. If your horse is primarily stalled and becomes bored easily, consider stall toys (some are available that dribble pelleted hay), taking the horse out for daily hand walks if they can't be ridden, install a feeder that dispenses measured incremental feedings several times a day, or divide the diet between pelleted hay and baled hay. Chewing may be related to a mineral deficiency so the use of our Low NSC Feed and Balancing Minerals may be a good feed option or a consult with a veterinary nutritionist.

For more information contact:

Linda Sterett Fogarty

Mid Valley Milling/Western Washington Division

Phone/fax 425-822-9011

E-mail: Info@MidValleyMillingHayPellets.com