

Bighead and osteoporosis occurs in horses on pasture or stabled, and at any age.

It can happen on grain, bran and pasture diets — especially buffel, pangola, setaria, kikuyu, green panic and signal grass. These grasses contain oxalates that bind to the calcium in the grass, hard feed and supplements — making the diet calcium deficient and unbalancing the calcium:phosphorus ratio.

Calcium is essential for life itself (regulating heartbeat, nerve function, muscle contraction and blood clotting) and blood levels are tightly regulated by parathyroid hormone (PTH). PTH is released when diets are low in calcium — causing calcium to move out of the bones and into the blood, and leading to demineralisation of bones and osteoporosis.

CLINICAL SIGNS

Mild cases are difficult to detect, manifesting as vague shifting lameness, shortened stride, soreness at ligament and tendon insertions, joint pain and swelling. In more severe forms, ligament and tendon injuries increase and there may be a watery nasal discharge, poor coat, difficulty chewing, dental pain and swelling of the jaws, maxilla, mandible and nasal bones.

MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION

The dietary calcium deficiency must be corrected. Chelation protects calcium from oxalate attack, is over 95% absorbed into the blood stream and, in the presence of oxalates, is more bioavailable than inorganic forms (lime and dicalcium phosphate). Dr Jennifer Stewart's Bone Formula[®] Forte and Calsorb[®] Forte contain chelated calcium PLUS essential bone trace minerals that are deficient in Australian soils, pastures, hays and grains.

Formulated for the prevention, management and treatment of calcium and mineral deficiencies in horses' diets.



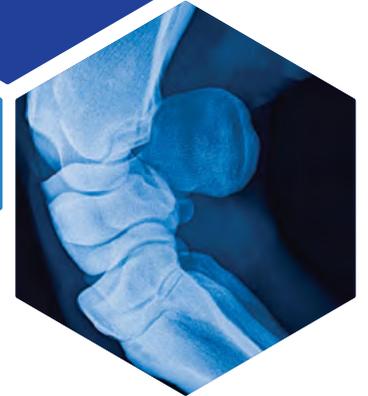
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CALCIUM
Protected from
oxalates

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Recommended by Veterinarians

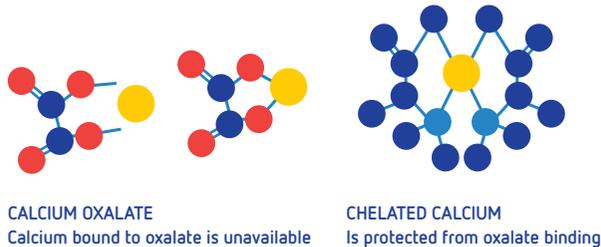
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The need to provide mineral supplements for horses is well recognised. The challenge is to provide minerals which are both highly absorbable and bioavailable. The solution is mineral chelation.

INTRODUCING CHELATED CALCIUM FROM DR JENNIFER STEWART

In many grasses, calcium is bound to oxalates. Calcium-oxalate is insoluble in the gut and the calcium is unavailable. Other minerals are also bound to oxalates but are soluble in the gut — releasing the oxalates, which then bind to calcium in hard feed and supplements — making them unavailable. The calcium in the grass, hard feed and supplements cannot be absorbed and pass out in the manure.

To address the problems of calcium-deficient feeds and diets, **Dr Jennifer Stewart's Bone Formula® Forte** and **Calsorb® Forte** are formulated with organic chelated calcium which is protected from oxalate binding.



“ I have known Dr Stewart for two decades. I have the highest level of respect for her knowledge, integrity and desire to help horses. Her products are of the highest quality. **Dr Oliver Liyou BVSc (Hons1) MACVSc (Eq Dent)**

WHY USE CHELATED CALCIUM?

To address the problems of calcium-deficient feeds and diets, **Dr Jennifer Stewart's Bone Formula® Forte** and **Calsorb® Forte** are formulated with organic chelated calcium which is protected from oxalate binding.

- The benefits include:**
- Chelation protects calcium from oxalates and mineral interactions;
 - Chelation presents calcium to the absorption sites in the intestine;
 - Chelated calcium is embedded and protected in a ring-like structure;
 - In the presence of oxalates, organic chelated calcium is more bioavailable than inorganic forms.

The chelated calcium in **Dr Jennifer Stewart's Bone Formula® Forte** and **Calsorb® Forte** is manufactured under the pharmaceutical industry's most stringent quality controls so you can be sure they're free of contaminants or impurities that impede accurate prediction of bioavailability.

WHY NOT JUST FEED MORE ORDINARY CALCIUM (LIME, DCP ETC)?

Depending on oxalate levels and the amount of osteoporosis, you may have to feed up to ½kg of lime a day — and there is a limit to how much calcium the body can absorb.

Plus, this amount of lime will reduce absorption of other minerals. Considering the dangers of osteoporosis, the use of scientifically sound formulations that are bioavailable, is essential. Horses with correct calcium and phosphorus intakes exhibit better growth, joint cartilage health, bone mineral density, tendon strength and soundness.

This principle holds true for adult horses and is essential for young horses, brood mares and working horses — who need a steady, reliable source of minerals for tissue maintenance and resilient immunity.

NUTRIENT INTAKE AS % MINIMUM RDI*

*400kg horse in medium work on pasture + 2kg lucerne + 2kg grassy hay diet + 50g of **Dr Jennifer Stewart's Bone Formula® Forte** Or 100g of **Calsorb® Forte**

