



# RDA Horsecare Lesson – Food



## HOW DO HORSES EAT?

**HORSES HAVE A VERY DIFFERENT STOMACH TO HUMANS, AND BECAUSE THEY ARE DIFFERENT TO US, THEY ARE VERY INTERESTING!**

### **HORSES ARE KNOWN AS ‘HERBIVORES’**

HORSES ARE KNOWN AS HERBIVORES, WHICH MEANS THEY ONLY EAT PLANTS, THEIR STRONG LIPS ARE VERY GOOD AT PICKING UP FOOD AND THEIR VERY LARGE FLAT TEETH ARE DESIGNED TO GRIND AND CHEW UP GRASS, HAY AND OTHER FOOD TO MAKE IT EASIER TO DIGEST, AND BECAUSE THEY DON'T EAT MEAT THEY DON'T HAVE SHARP TEETH USED FOR CUTTING THE WAY THAT WE DO.

### **HORSES CANNOT BE SICK!**

IF WE EAT OR DRINK SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T AGREE WITH US, OUR BODY WILL MAKE US SICK IN ORDER TO GET RID OF WHAT IS MAKING US FEEL ILL, BUT A HORSES STOMACH CANNOT DO THIS.

WE HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT WE FEED THEM, OR THEY MAY BECOME ILL.

SOME GRASSES, WEEDS AND OTHER THINGS THAT THEY MAY PICK UP IN THE FIELD ARE BAD FOR THEM, SO WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY DON'T EAT ANYTHING NASTY SUCH AS MOWN GRASS CUTTINGS OR RAGWEED, WHICH IS VERY POISONOUS TO HORSES.

### **HORSES DON'T BREATHE LIKE US!**

Q/ WHEN WE BREATHE, WHAT CAN WE USE?

HORSES CANNOT BREATHE THROUGH THEIR MOUTHS LIKE US! THEY ONLY USE THEIR NOSES FOR BREATHING, AND THEIR MOUTH FOR EATING.

### **HOW MUCH DOES A HORSE DRINK?**

THE AVERAGE HORSE DRINKS AROUND 25 GALLONS OF WATER A DAY!

THAT'S THE SAME AS 400 GLASSES OF WATER!

### **HOW MUCH DOES A HORSE EAT?**

HORSES EAT AROUND 10 KILOS OF FOOD A DAY, ABOUT 25 TIMES MORE THAN YOU DO!

WHICH OF THESE DO HORSES LIKE TO EAT?





