

## Practice News

A sad farewell to both **Sinead Gleeson** and **Lisa Grimes**, Sinead is off to New York State in July to do an internship in Surgery and Racehorse Medicine. Lisa is off travelling and stopping off in Australia to work at a veterinary practice.

**New Discounted Zone scheme available for our new equine diagnostic unit**

## Opening Hours

Monday to Friday:  
8.30am – 6.00pm

Saturday:  
9.00am – 12.00pm

All other hours an equine vet will be available to answer any incoming calls or equine emergencies.

**Don't forget we can keep you up to date by email so please ensure we have your correct email address.**

## Also in this issue:

- *Need a Hay Replacer?*

## New Service – Equine Mobile Diagnostic Unit

### Discounted Zone Scheme available



## MOBILE DIAGNOSTICS

Towcester Veterinary Centre are proud to announce the arrival of our brand new Equine mobile diagnostic unit. Due to the increasing demand for work to be carried out at the yard and the ever expanding area covered by the practice, we feel this will benefit both clients and vets.

The mobile unit is fitted with the latest diagnostic equipment:

**Digital radiography** The *Sound Eklon* system allows us to take and process radiographs on the yard. Images are displayed on the viewer instantly. This means vets will be able to view and interpret high quality images of your horse more efficiently.



**Endoscopy** The unit is equipped with both respiratory endoscope and gastroscope. This means we can undertake investigations into airway problems and evaluate the stomach for problems such as gastric ulceration on the yard.

**Ultrasonography** Our *Ge Logiq* machine provides exceptional quality digital images. This detail allows identification of the most subtle lesions. The system is also battery powered meaning scanning can be truly done anywhere.



**ECG/Cardiac ultrasound** Our battery operated ECG is small and unobtrusive. This makes it ideal for assessing heart rhythm in the resting and exercising patient. The ability to examine horses on the yard means the excitement of travelling won't affect our results.

**Battery operated motorised dental equipment** The *Le Claire* is quiet and efficient. It is well tolerated by most horses and often we can perform basic work without the need for sedation.

**Discounted zone scheme** In addition to the very popular free zone visit scheme we are now offering a separate van zone visit on a different day in each area. A vet will, therefore, be in your zone twice a week.

The idea of the van zone visit is to allow clients to take advantage of the state of the art mobile facilities but still get great value for money with the subsidised visit of only £20.

This service will be organised in a similar way to the current scheme where bookings are made in advance and times are given the day before.

# Need a Hay Replacer?

## Try Dengie's Hi-Fi Range as a partial or total hay replacer

### Forage: What's the alternative?

Poor availability, poor forage quality, fussy feeders, increased stable time and veterans with poor teeth are just some of the reasons that you may look to partially or totally replace your horse or pony's forage ration this autumn.

Dengie are the largest growers and producers of high temperature dried alfalfa in the UK. This drying process produces consistently clean forage from bale to bale. It is important to remember that not all feeds are suitable to use as a partial or total forage replacement, but in the Dengie Hi-Fi range of feeds alfalfa has been diluted with other fibre sources such as straw or grass making them suitable to feed in larger quantities. Below is a quick guide to the Dengie products that can be used to partially or totally replace forage and how to feed them.

### Making forage go further

If some hay or haylage is available but short supply means it needs topping up with other fibre sources to extend supply, then the Dengie Alfa-A range products and Dengie Alfa-Beet may be offered as a partial forage replacement.

A horse may be fed up to 3kg of a Dengie Alfa-A range product as a partial hay replacement per day. The Alfa-A products contain much higher levels of energy and protein than the Hi-Fi range and so will make a significant contribution to a horse's nutrient requirements. This may mean that the amount of additional concentrates fed can be reduced which has the benefit of keeping costs manageable.

Dengie Alfa-Beet combines alfalfa and unmolassed sugar beet in a convenient 15 minute hot soak or 2 hour cold soak. Alfa-Beet is particularly useful for older horses and ponies that struggle to chew and those that are fussy feeders as well as aiding hydration.

### How do I feed a Dengie hay replacer?

To feed a Dengie forage replacer simply replace forage on a weight for weight basis. For example, if a horse is fed 5kg of hay in the stable you would replace it with 5kg of one of the Dengie forage

replacer products most suited to the horse. As a guide 1 section of hay from a 20kg bale would weigh approximately 2kg. To replace this 2 Measuring Buckets of one of the Hi-Fi range products or approximately 5-7 large round scoops would be needed.

Unlike hay the Dengie hay replacer products cannot be fed in a hay or haylage net. We would recommend leaving the desired quantity in a large bucket in the corner of the stable for the horse to munch on as required. If initially the horse eats this too quickly then we would suggest using a large football or some very large smooth pebbles on top of the feed to help slow the rate of consumption.

We often get calls on the Dengie Feedline asking if the Dengie forage replacement products have to be soaked prior to feeding. The answer to this is no apart from Alfa-Beet which must be fed soaked. However, if a horse prefers the Hi-Fi products dampened down then they are fine to feed this way as well.



For further information about feeding Dengie hay replacers please contact the Dengie Feedline **0845 345 5115**.



#### Hi-Fi Senior - Not Just for Veterans!

- Formulated to be soft and easy to chew
- High temperature dried - providing clean forage for performance horses or individuals with RAO
- Very palatable - ideal for fussy horses and ponies



#### Hi-Fi Original - Consistent Nutrition from Bale to Bale!

- Combines alfalfa and top quality straw with a light molasses coating
- Calorie level comparable to top quality hay
- Suitable for horses and ponies at rest or in light work
- Now with added apple for an even tastier option - try **Hi-Fi Original with Apple**



#### Hi-Fi Lite - The Low Sugar Forage Replacer!

- Approved by The Laminitis Trust
- Combines alfalfa and top quality cereal straw with a low sugar coating
- Low in sugar - half the level found in average hay



#### Hi-Fi Good Do-er - The Lowest Calorie Hay Replacer!

- The lowest calorie product in the Dengie range
- Ideal for horses and ponies that hold their weight particularly well or are overweight
- With added vitamins & minerals to provide a complete feed