

EQUISTRO®



Description:

The sunflower seed is the fruit of the sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*). Black Oil Sunflower Seed is often abbreviated BOSS. They are bird feed, the same black sunflower seeds that lots of people buy in bags to feed the birds during the winter. Only the black oil sunflower seeds can be used in horse feed. NOT the striped seeds. The striped seeds are the ones that humans usually eat, and they have thicker, tougher hulls that cannot be broken down by the horse's digestive system, so it may be too risky to give it to them. BOSS do not need to be processed, a horse can eat a handful of the whole seeds.



Properties:

BOSS supply complementary energy and moderate protein for hard-working horses. They contain up to 26% oil, and so are higher in energy than cereal grains. BOSS have two visible positive effects on horses: great shiny coats and weight gain. When fed in small amounts, they will give your horse a nice shiny coat (and improve hooves, according to some owners) without the weight gain. However, they can also be fed at higher levels to add some calories to your horse's diet and assist with weight gain. They are preferred by many owners over oil due to the fact that they provide fat along with other nutrients. In addition to linoleic acid (an essential omega-6 fatty acid), sunflower seeds are also an excellent source of dietary fiber, some amino acids (especially tryptophan), Vitamin E, B Vitamins (especially vitamin B1 or thiamine, vitamin B5 or pantothenic acid and folate), and minerals such as copper, potassium, iron, phosphorus, and zinc.

Possible uses:

BOSS can be used in case of poor hair and coat, and with a horse hard to keep weight on. Omega-6 fatty acids are slightly more inflammatory than omega-3's which have anti-inflammatory properties. Due to their high amount of omega-6 fatty acids, and almost non-existent omega-3 fatty acids, some horse owners worry that BOSS will promote inflammation in their horses. When fed at levels no higher than 1 kg per day, they should not cause a problem for your average horse. But BOSS usage in horse's feed is still something new, and very little scientific research is available.

SUNFLOWER SEEDS



Vétoquinol
Signe de Passion

