

SINCE



1929

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AUGUSTA COOPERATIVE FARM BUREAU, INC.
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STAUNTON, VA 24401

BEDDING MATERIALS

Choosing bedding that's right for your horses depends on several factors. Here's what to keep in mind.

Stall bedding materials range from woodchips to manufactured pellets to traditional straw, as well as many other regional options. Choosing one that's right for your horses depends on several factors. When selecting a bedding, consider whether it's:

- **Safe for horses** Your bedding should contain no toxins or foreign objects such as metal or glass. Avoid toxic hardwood shavings such as black walnut and locust; standing on and ingesting them, respectively, can be fatal for horses. Some horses are allergic to the tannins in cedar shavings.
- **Absorbent** Bedding's primary purpose (particularly when used with stall mats) is to absorb urine and moisture. The more absorbent a bedding, the lower the ammonia levels in your barn. A very absorbent bedding will allow you to reduce the amount of bedding you use and, therefore, save money. You can test a potential bedding product's absorbency by placing similar amounts of different beddings in separate paper cups and adding equal amounts of water. See how much water each product soaks up. Pelleted bedding tends to be the most absorbent.
- **Easy to compost** If you plan to use the final product on your property, you'll want to consider how well it composts. Even if you plan to give it away, what's in your stall waste might either deter or encourage folks from using it. The smaller the pieces of bedding are, the quicker they will break down and compost. Researchers have shown pelleted bedding breaks down and composts faster than shavings. Shredded newspaper or other paper products might compost even quicker.
- **Availability** Is the bedding supplier's product readily available in your area?
- **Easy to store** How will you store it—bagged, loose, baled? Do you need dedicated storage space and, if so, how much and where? Inside or outside? Do you need to build a space to specific dimensions to accommodate delivery? Many beddings come bagged. With the simple addition of a tarp or other similar material, you can store them outside as a space-saving bonus.
- **Low-dust** Breathing in dust or other fine particles is unhealthy for both horses and humans. If you, a family member, or your horse has a respiratory issue, this should be a major consideration when you're making a selection.
- **Chore-efficient** Is bedding stalls with and picking manure from the material easy? Even if you pay others to clean your stalls, the time it takes for performing this task can affect your bottom line.
- **Cost** Evaluate whether the product is cost-effective.

Augusta Co-op Solutions

E-Z Equine, Pine Bedding Pellets, 40 lbs.

A natural pine pellet bedding material for stalls and other animal bedding areas. Outperforms other bedding material and is so absorbent that it allows you to spot clean stalls for most of the life of the bedding. Made from 100% biodegradable pine with no additives, binders and chemicals in it. Each pellet can absorb up to four times its weight in liquid.

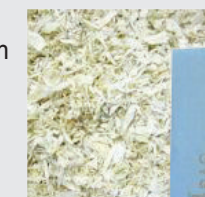


Royal, Wood Shavings, Compressed Bale, Black Bale

Sold by the bale. Makes clean up of stall messes easier. Also provides a fluffy surface for more comfort. These soft wood shavings are low in fine fibers and dust. Shavings have been screened. 3.25 cu. ft (92 liters) compressed bale expands to 7.3 cu. ft (207 liters). Heat sealed water resistant plastic bag.

Guardian, Gold Standard Small-Flake Shavings

This is a high quality premium small flake bedding. Gold Standard Small Flake Pine Shavings are specifically textured to be slightly larger than our Swift Pick mini flake but still easy to pick, and highly absorbent. The pine wood fiber is multi-screened and aspirated to remove airborne dusts and capture a specific size small flake. This is a smaller than traditional flake horse bedding that is very low dust, but still so easy to pick, you will not waste bedding. This means you will use less and dispose of less bedding.



AGRONOMY & EQUINE EDITOR
February 2020

1929



SINCE

AUGUSTACOOP.COM / AUGUSTACOOPFB
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ELITE



AUGUSTA CO-OP ELITE HORSE FEEDS OFFER QUALITY INGREDIENTS AND ADDED NUTRIENTS TO SUPPORT HEALTHY DIGESTION AND PERFORMANCE. THEY ARE SPECIFICALLY FORMULATED BY EQUINE NUTRITIONISTS TO PROVIDE A NUTRITIONALLY BALANCED DIET FOR ANY LIFE STAGE.

KEY INGREDIENTS AND BENEFITS OF AUGUSTA CO-OP ELITE FEED

- Desirable amino acid profiles to support muscle development
- Pre and pro biotics for healthy digestion
- Vitamin and mineral fortification supports bone strength and immune function
- Balanced fatty acid profiles and high quality ingredients for healthy appearance and performance
- Contains yeast culture, organic selenium and chelated minerals
- Manufactured in an ionophore free facility

There's a full line of Augusta Co-op Elite Horse Feeds designed to meet the needs of your horse at different levels of competition and stages of their development.

ELITE SENIOR Formulated for older horses, with an active lifestyle, especially those that may be losing weight due to poor nutrient absorption. A high protein, high fat, calorie-dense textured feed that is high in fermentable fiber to promote proper gut function. Fully fortified with essential minerals and vitamins in a soft pellet with added butyr.

ELITE ORIGINAL Formulated for hard keepers or performance horses. A textured, high fat, reduced carbohydrate feed. A favorite for those horses needing a low level of starch (oat energy) or additional fat. Contains natural grains and a soft pellet with balanced vitamins and minerals.

ELITE PLEASURE Formulated for mature horses that enjoy an average amount of pleasure riding, light work or showing. Our most popular premium textured sweet feed with high palatability. Provides 100% of the required vitamins and minerals when fed as directed. Improves hair coat, skin and hooves.

ELITE COMPLETE Formulated for a mature horse requiring a more moderate calorie intake. A pelleted feed with added fiber to complement your hay and pasture horses or horses with limited access to quality forage.

FOR BEST FEEDING RESULTS

Feeding rates will vary with size, age, temperament, health status, forage quality, climate and activity level. Feed at regular times - at least twice daily - with three daily feedings preferred. Let horses feed in a natural position from troughs with large bottoms, placed at normal head height or below. Do not feed free-choice. Prevent rapid eating of any feed stuff.

Always feed a minimum of 1.0 to 1.2 lbs. per 100 lbs. of body weight of good quality hay or the equivalent in pasture.

Reduce and/or delay feeding a horse which is hot, excited, showing pain, has a fever or diarrhea. Consult your veterinarian if any problems arise.

Any feed changes should be made gradually over 7 to 10 days. Changes in the rate of feeding should not exceed 1.0 lb. per day of each horse.

Provide plenty of fresh, clean water at all times. Provide your horse access to salt. Maintain an effective control program for internal parasites. Examine your horse's teeth annually and consult with your veterinarian on a regular basis.

Store in a dry, well ventilated area protected from rodents or insects. Do not feed moldy or insect infested feed to animals as it may cause illness, performance loss or death.

Use only as directed.

GUARANTEE

If for any reason you are not satisfied with the quality of this product, please return it to Augusta Co-op for replacement or refund. For more information on this or other Augusta Co-op Horse Feeds, visit AugustaCoop.com or call (540) 885-1265.

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Nutrition & Technology You Can Trust

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with high quality feed ingredients to support overall horse health

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with consistency and accuracy in every bag

AUGUSTA CO-OP

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BLUE RIDGE EQUINE CLINIC & AUGUSTA CO-OP

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO EQUINE HEALTH

Julia Hecking, DVM, CVA · Tabby Moore, DVM · Marissa Bennett, DVM
Hillary Morris (Equine Specialist) · Troy Grimm (Agronomy Division Manager)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020 • 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Vendor/Cocktail Hour
6:00 PM - Dinner Served
6:15 PM - Seminar Begins

VA HORSE CENTER FOUNDATION
487 Maury River Road · Lexington, VA 24450

Dinner provided
RSVP REQUIRED BY MARCH 1 to
<http://equineanddinespring2020.rsvpify.com>
Hilliary Morris - HMorris@AugustaCoop.com
or Blue Ridge Equine Clinic - (540) 460-5702
valley-brec@blueridgeequine.com



EVENTS / CALENDAR

AGRONOMY CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Friday, February 7
11 AM – 2 PM
Verona Greener Valley Supply
963 Laurel Hill Rd, Verona, VA 24482
Additional information:
RSVP to Staci Alger at (540) 885-1265 x 243 or SAlger@AugustaCoop.com

AUGUSTA CO-OP VENDOR DAY

Wednesday, February 19
3 PM – 8 PM
Weyers Cave Community Center
682 Weyers Cave Rd.
Book your 2020 items at drastically reduced rates at our annual vendor day! Door prizes, food, educational seminars and much more!
www.AugustaCoop.com
or (540) 885-1265

AUGUSTA CO-OP / BLUE RIDGE 'EQUINE & DINE' EDUCATION DINNER

Wednesday, March 18 5:00 PM - 8 PM
5:00 PM – 6 PM – Vendor/Cocktail hour
6:00 PM – Dinner Served
6:15 PM – Seminar Begins
VA Horse Center Foundation
487 Maury River Road,
Lexington, VA 24450
*Dinner provided
*RSVP REQUIRED to Hillary Morris -
HMorris@AugustaCoop.com or
<http://equineanddinespring2020.rsvpify.com>

SMALL ENGINE OPEN HOUSE

Friday, April 3 & Saturday, April 4
8 AM – 5 PM
Staunton Small Engine Shop
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Huge deals on all Husqvarna, STIHL and Oregon equipment. Vendors on site!
www.AugustaCoop.com
or (540) 885-1265

STAUNTON 'SPRING FLING' / CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, April 4 10 AM - 2 PM
Staunton Augusta True Value
1205B Richmond Road, Staunton, VA
Kids activities (learn about growing plants), door prizes, spring sale items and much more!
www.AugustaCoop.com
or (540) 885-1265

WEYERS CAVE 'SPRING FLING' / CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, April 18 10 AM - 2 PM
Weyers Cave Augusta True Value
18 Depot Lane, Weyers Cave, VA
Kids activities (learn about growing plants), door prizes, spring sale items and much more!
www.AugustaCoop.com
or (540) 885-1265



AUGUSTA True Value.

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KEY CONCEPTS FOR MANAGING DONKEY FEET

Researchers looked at donkeys' unique hoof care needs. Here's what they recommend.

Behavior: Donkeys Are Different Than Horses

Donkey behavior makes treating hoof disorders more challenging for those not familiar with their stress responses. For example, donkeys have a more marked "freeze and fight" response than their flighty horse counterparts. A fearful donkey often turns his head or steps sideways. This can result in the donkey squashing the examiner or farrier against a solid object, potentially causing harm and resulting in the donkey inappropriately being labeled as aggressive.

"If a donkey's subtle signs of fear are ignored or unrecognized, they can become explosive and exhibit various defensive reactions such as striking or kicking," Thiemann explained.

Having a bonded companion close by whenever possible can help assuage a donkey's fear during handling. The study authors say this can help expedite the exam and treatment processes.

Donkey Foot Anatomy and Trimming

In terms of anatomy, Thiemann said, "Compared to horses, donkeys have a dorsal hoof wall that is slightly more upright, with a well-developed frog. The sole is thicker than in horses, and the wall thickness remains constant from toe to heel. Their foot is narrow and conical and can absorb excessive moisture. These 'wet feet' make the hooves of donkeys prone to infection, which predisposes them to white line disease, thrush, and deformation."

Thiemann and Poore offered several recommendations for trimming donkey feet effectively, including:

- Trimming the foot as close to the floor as possible to avoid joint pain;
- Not abducting the limb and unbalancing the donkey;
- Trimming the sole first (it does not flake away naturally); and
- Assessing lateromedial balance for even weight distribution, which can be wonky in donkeys with narrow chests.

The authors provided the specific example of trimming overlong hooves.

"The hooves of donkeys are often neglected and, therefore, have excessive growth," Thiemann said. "Without being trimmed, the toe turns up and the foot takes on a 'Turkish slipper' appearance."

To begin, remove the frog and sole overgrowth before reducing the heels. Be careful not to remove the sole

callous near the hoof wall in the toe region and to avoid overtrimming, which can cause bruising and bleeding. Next, remove toe overgrowth, stopping when thumb pressure on the sole reveals a slight give. Rasp the dorsal hoof wall, then remove the degenerate hoof wall and white line.

Diet and Hoof Health

As with horses, diet plays an important role in donkey hoof health. Ensure the donkey's diet contains sufficient micronutrients (vitamins and minerals), sufficient energy to maintain appropriate condition, adequate levels of sulfur-containing proteins, and is low in nonstructural carbohydrates (starch and sugars).

The article, "Hoof Disorders and Farriery in the Donkey," was published in the December 2019 edition of *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice*. The abstract is available free online.



Hoof Disease in Donkeys

Key hoof conditions diagnosed in donkeys include:

- White line disease;
- Abscesses; and
- Laminitis, both endocrine and sepsis-related.

"The hooves of donkeys are often neglected and, therefore, have excessive growth," Thiemann said. "Without being trimmed, the toe turns up and the foot takes on a 'Turkish slipper' appearance."

The Horse

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CPNEXCLUSIVE1



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NEW Carb Conscious™ Horse Treats are perfect for horses on a low-starch and low-sugar diet.

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February 5 through 29, 2020. Limit 2 per customer. Not valid with any other offer.

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Love is All Around
Celebrate Valentine's Day with Augusta Co-op!
From four-legged to two-legged loved ones – you have so many things to love and appreciate this Valentine's Day.

Enter our 'Love Your Pet' promotion* on Facebook!
Post a photo of your pet between February 1-14, 2020 and include the hashtag #AugustaCoop to be entered to win one of many amazing prizes. Grand prize is 6 free bags of Exclusive Dog or Cat Food!

*See store for details.
Winner will be notified 2-17-20.




A WORD FROM THE VETERINARIAN

Springtime is coming soon bringing warmer weather and greener grass. Unfortunately, flourishing pastures can increase the risk of your horse developing laminitis. Laminitis, also known as founder, refers to inflammation of the laminae in the horse's hooves. In the spring and summer, laminitis is most commonly caused by eating growing grass with an increased sugar content. Laminitis should be considered an emergency and treated promptly. If left untreated, it will result in harmful and sometimes fatal consequences.

Laminitis is commonly seen in the front feet, but can affect all four hooves. Typical clinical signs include reluctance or inability to walk, camped out front legs, heat in the hooves, and laying down more frequently.

To prevent an episode of laminitis, limit your horse's access to grass this spring and summer. Allowing your horse to graze for approximately 2 hours in the morning when there is less sugar in the grass is usually a safe place to start. Discuss with your veterinarian if more or less grazing time is suitable and if a grazing muzzle is required for your particular horse.



While waiting for your veterinarian to arrive:

- Cold hose or ice the affected limbs.
- Place the horse in a heavily-bedded stall to reduce all movement.
- Only feed hay that has been soaked in water to reduce the sugar content.
- No grain or treats!

Blue Ridge Equine Clinic
55 Mint Spring Circle • Staunton, Virginia 24401
(540) 460-5702 (O)

Julia Hecking, DVM, CVA • Tabby Moore, DVM
Marissa Bennett, DVM

Wednesday, February 19 • 3 PM - 8 PM
Weyers Cave Community Center
682 Weyers Cave Rd • Weyers Cave, VA

Vendor Day

The largest farming brands on site in one location! Book your 2020 items at drastically reduced rates at our annual vendor day.
Door prizes, food, educational seminars and much more!








2020 AUGUSTA CO-OP VENDOR DAY SEMINAR SERIES LINEUP

6:30 PM – 'Economics' seminar
Hear from FSA, NRCS and lending institutions on what is to come in 2020. Learn about new government programs and much more!

Visit AugustaCoop.com for more details

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FEBRUARY 19-29, 2020 (must place order at Vendor Day Night (February 19) or with Hillary Morris HMorris@AugustaCoop.com prior to February 29. Limit 4 free bags per customer.