

Frequently asked questions new Pavo Vital

What is a balancer?

A balancer is a complete mixture of vitamins, minerals and trace elements that literally gives balance to your horses' food. A balancer contains no extra energy or protein and it is nothing more than a necessary supplement for horses and ponies that does not contain any concentrate feed. The advantage of Pavo Vital is that when giving your horse 100 grams (for ponies 50 grams) a day, you give your horse a full dose of vitamins, minerals and trace elements in correct proportions.

When should I give a balancer?

- **If your horse/pony is in the field 24/7 or only gets roughage.**
When feeding only roughage, no matter how high quality it is, it does not contain a sufficient amount of vitamins, minerals and trace elements to cover a horse's needs. If you use Pavo Vital, then you can be certain that your horse receives a daily dose of vitamins and minerals in the correct ratio.
- **If you give your horse less than 1,5kg or no concentrate feed every day**
If you give your horse between 1,5 to 2 kilograms of concentrate food per day, then normally you cover your horse's vitamin and mineral needs. However, if you give less, then a supplement of vitamins and minerals is necessary. Be aware: With a pony weighing 300 kilograms the limit is between 0,75 to 1 kg concentrate feed per day.

How can I tell if my horse is getting too little vitamins and minerals?

A balancer replenishes your horse's shortage of vitamins and minerals. The problem is, when your horse is suffering from a shortage, it is often not visible. Even with a blood test, a shortage is hard to see because a blood test only gives a snapshot for many nutrients and therefore does not give the full picture in regard to bodily reserves that are often found in the organs (liver, hair, bone). If there is a shortage in vitamins and minerals, the body will first spare on the areas that are not per se necessary to survive, such as the quality of the coat and hooves. Some indications of a shortage can be when your horse or pony struggles with brittle hooves, their coat becomes dull, they struggle with moulting or they are getting stiff muscles.

What are trace elements?

Besides vitamins and minerals, trace elements are very important for your horse. Trace elements are substances that the body needs very little of but are necessary for bodies to be able to perform and function. The most important trace elements for horses are iron, copper, zinc, cobalt, manganese, selenium and iodine. The biggest problem with trace elements that horses generally do not like the taste.

What should I look out for in a balancer?

- **Iron and vitamin A** are important values to keep an eye out for. Through research into roughage, it has become apparent that roughage contains an abundant amount of these

values and therefore they do not need to be supplied. Too much iron makes it difficult for other trace elements, such as copper and zinc, to be absorbed. Too much vitamin A can even be toxic. More is not always better!

- **Biotin** is important to promote the quality of the hooves and the addition of vitamin E and selenium support the immune system of the horse.
- Furthermore, how tasty vitamins, minerals and trace elements are can be a problem. If your horse or pony no longer falls for the trick of mixing it in with muesli or slobber, then it is advisable to look for a balancer with the trace element **Intellibond®**. This is a new generation trace element mixture that ensures that the substances are only released in the stomach instead of the mouth. Consequently, the horse does not taste it!

What makes Pavo Vital special?

- **Newest generation of trace element Intellibond®**
Pavo Vital is unique due to the addition of the newest generation of trace elements called Intellibond®. This special mixture ensures that the natural bad taste of copper and zinc is only released in the stomach instead of the mouth. Thus, the horse does not taste them and the difficult trace elements are eaten and absorbed well. Together with the addition of natural raw materials, such as timothy grass and lucerne, this results in a tasty pellet.
- **Composed according to the latest research data**
Additionally, all the vitamins and minerals in Pavo Vital are scientifically balanced. You do not need different pots anymore to make the perfect combination and this prevents the risk of overdosing. According to the guidelines, a daily supplement of Pavo Vital is sufficient to optimally support your horses'/ pony's bodily functions.

How does Pavo Vital differ from Pavo VitalComplete?

Pavo Vital is the new version of Pavo VitalComplete. We have been monitoring roughage in the Netherlands for more than ten years. As a result, with the new Pavo Vital we have created a new composition that completely fits the new research data. What does this mean?

- Pavo Vital is free of cereals and molasses
- Pavo Vital contains very low sugar and starch values
- Pavo Vital contains 100% natural raw materials such as timothy grass and lucerne
- Pavo Vital contains the well absorbed Intellibond® trace elements. What is special about Intellibond® is that the (naturally) bad taste of copper and zinc is only released in the stomach instead of the mouth. Therefore, the horse is not influenced by the taste and the horse will happily eat it.
- Pavo Vital contains extra biotin to support the quality of the hooves.
- Pavo Vital contains more selenium to support healthy muscles.
- Pavo Vital contains a mixture of synthetic vitamin E and natural vitamin E equivalents.
The advantage of using this mixture is that the total amount of anti-oxidants absorbed

in the bloodstream is larger compared to when only synthetic Vitamin E would be used (so this is a cumulative effect). This way the immune system of your horse gets extra support from both normal vitamin E as well as natural Vitamin E equivalents.

- Pavo Vital contains less vitamin A because this is already in ample supply in roughage and a surplus can be disadvantageous for the health of the horse.
- Pavo Vital contains less iron because there is already enough iron in roughage and an extra supplement is not necessary.

What horses are suited to take Pavo Vital?

- **Horses who receive less than 1,5kg of concentrate feed per day**

A lack of vitamins and minerals is lurking when a horse gets less than 1,5kg of concentrate feed per day. Be aware: With a pony weighing 300kg, the limit is between 0,75 – 1 kg concentrate feed per day.

- **Horses with a low-sugar diet**

Thanks to Pavo Vital containing very little sugar and starch, it is suitable for horses who need a low-sugar diet.

- **Horses that need to lose weight**

If overweight horses need to lose weight, then it is often advised to no longer give concentrate feed. Supplementing with a balancer is then suitable.

Is Pavo Vital suitable for horses with a low-sugar diet?

Pavo Vital contains very little sugar and starch and therefore extremely suitable for horses that need a low-sugar diet.

Can I feed Pavo Vital if my horse needs to lose weight?

Yes, definitely! Pavo Vital does not actually contain any extra energy or protein and it is nothing more than a necessary supplement of vitamins, minerals and trace elements. Your horse or pony will therefore not become fat from it. Due to overweight horses often receiving less concentrate feed, a balancer product is exactly what is needed.