

Case Study # 1

Equine Pregnancy

Test Subject: 13 year old mare that had foaled the previous year, but to maintain the pregnancy, she needed a daily dose of oral synthetic progesterone.

NOTE: If the progesterone level is low in early pregnancy, the uterus may be unable to withstand estrogen effects. Contractions then dislodge the embryo and prevent implementation, which results in fetal death/spontaneous abortion.

Condition: Weight fairly good upon arrival from Texas to Minnesota. However, the mare showed signs of nutrient imbalances: lackluster coat, chipped hooves, touch sensitive, cranky, behavior problems, etc.

Case Management & Outcome: The mare was immediately started on HS-35 in late May 2010.

NOTE: HS-35 is designed to assist all of the horse's biological systems, including reproduction by increasing uterine health. It is recommended that mares be on the diet at least 90 - 100 days prior to breeding. Due to the circumstance of this mare changing ownership and the time frame, she was only on HS-35 a couple weeks prior to her first breeding.

- Despite regular heat cycles, live cover, AI, extensive veterinary tests and care... the mare was unable to conceive during June, July and August. Blood tests revealed low progesterone levels. The attending vet recommended oral progesterone. Even though late in the year, it was decided to continue on with the study and cover the mare again WITHOUT the use of oral progesterone. Her last breeding date was September 30th. A follow up ultrasound at 21 days was unable to distinguish the presence of a fetus.
- In November, 4 oz. of Chia was also added to the mare's diet daily. In January it was noted that the mare appeared to be in a much more "rounded frame". A blood test at 120 days after her last breeding date showed a significant mean concentration (pg/mL) of Total Estrogens, which indicated pregnancy!

NOTE: A Total Estrogen test is valid after 110 days of pregnancy and the level reflects the viability of the fetal placement unit. At 120 - 130 days an average pg/mL is 469; this mare's test was at 1,000.

- The mare was fed HS-35 and Chia instead of oral doses of progesterone throughout her pregnancy.

Case Opinion: It is of the opinion that had the mare not been on Chia, she would have been unable to maintain her pregnancy, since she hadn't been able to prior to this trial without oral progesterone.

While this study is strictly an anecdotal account, the combination of Chia and HS-35 holds great promise for mares unable to maintain pregnancies.