



My old horse has difficulty eating, what should I do?

Now that your horse is getting older it is advisable to first get an equine dentist or vet to check your horse's teeth. Ideally older horses should have their teeth checked twice a year or at any time that you notice a problem such as weight loss or difficulty chewing. Problems can occur if your horse's teeth become worn down resulting in the inability to chew food properly or if sharp edges develop, causing pain on chewing. Loose teeth are also a problem and will probably have to be removed or your horse may even have no teeth at all.

If this is the case do not panic, your horse's diet will have to be changed but it is unlikely it should make any difference to his health or general well being.

Improvements in diet, management and veterinary care mean that many horses and ponies are living much longer. Proper nutrition is essential for a healthy older horse and there are many feeds on the market designed for veterans when their digestive systems become less efficient and their nutritional needs rise.

The Soft 'n' Soak range encompasses three feeds designed with the older horse in mind. All on a high palatable fibre base to encourage better digestion and designed to be fed soaked to form a natural, healthy soft textured mash that is extremely palatable for horses that have difficulty eating. The range extends from a simple forage replacer which is an extremely versatile cereal free mash designed for horses requiring a high fibre, low starch and sugar diet for horses that can no longer chew long stem fibres efficiently to a conditioning mash. The conditioning mash is still on the fibre base but has the addition of a high level of oils and milk powders to improve condition, as well as added glucose to aid in a fast recovery after illness or stress and is fully balanced with vitamins and minerals to meet the horse's full nutritional needs.