

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Equi-Boost Plus made of and what are the active components?

Equi-Boost Plus is a combination of two functional oils; castor oil and cashew nut shell liquid (not the nut itself). The active components are ricinoleic acid, cardol, and cardanol. Ricinoleic acid comes from castor oil, with cardol and cardanol coming from cashew nut shell liquid. Vermiculite (silica) is used as a carrier.

What are the targeted microbial challenges that Equi-Boost Plus will help to alleviate?

The natural antimicrobial activity in Equi-Boost Plus has two modes of action (disrupting both monovalent and divalent cations) to disturb and destroy the cell walls of grampositive bacteria and protozoa. Having two modes of action not only makes the product more effective, but also significantly reduces the chances of resistance developing. Equi-Boost Plus is able to target strains of *Eimeria*, the protozoa that causes coccidiosis, as well as *Clostridium*, which causes necrotic enteritis.

How do I know that the results are going to be consistent?

The levels of ricinoleic acid, cardol and cardanol get tested in the raw materials, during manufacturing, and of course in the final product. Using NIRS (near infrared spectroscopy) the levels of these three active components can even be tested after it has been mixed in feed.

What kind of certifications are associated with the product and its manufacturing?

The ingredients of Equi-Boost Plus are all FDA approved. Equi-Boost Plus has received the FAMI-QS Certification, a more stringent and feed additive/premix specific version of GMP.

How is Equi-Boost Plus different than other phytogenics (essential oils)?

Phytogenics, or essential oils, can be easily confused with Equi-Boost Plus due to the name and that both are plant based. However, phytogenics are made from herbs and spices with some of the most common being: thyme, rosemary, cinnamon, chili, and oregano. The active components of these ingredients are usually not standardized, which results in inconsistent and unreliable performance. The functional oils in Equi-Boost Plus

are able to pass through the stomach and target the intestinal tract, where the microbial challenge is, whereas some phytogenics get broken down in the stomach.

Are there any risks of toxicity?

There has been no evidence or indications of toxicity or risk with over-dosing with Equi-Boost Plus. The castor bean plant is occasionally associated with the toxin ricin, however ricin is hydrophilic (water affinity) whereas castor oil is lipophilic (oil affinity). The process used to get castor oil eliminates ricin from contaminating the oil. Castor oil is also a common ingredient for many cosmetic products, as well as used as a laxative on its own.

Will I see any laxative effects? What will I notice in feces quality?

Quite the contrary, there will be a positive effect on feces quality. Equi-Boost Plus has a dosage of castor oil that can maintain its biological activity, without having a laxative effect. Between the decrease in microbial challenge and improved nutrient absorption, the feces will be drier and less odorous. Improvement in feces is commonly the first observed sign of activity after supplementing Equi-Boost Plus.

Can I include Equi-Boost Plus with other feed ingredients?

Feed ingredients like acidifiers, pre/pro/syn-biotics, or enzymes can be included at the same time with no counter-indications. If there is a need for antibiotic treatment, the animal's response to will be improved with Equi-Boost Plus due to improved overall health and immune response.

How stable are the active components of Equi-Boost Plus? How should it be stored and what is the shelf life?

The activity of Equi-Boost Plus can handle a 3-year shelf life from date of manufacturing. The product should be kept out of direct sunlight and avoid getting wet (high humidity has no effect). The active ingredients can also handle high temperatures and are unaffected by extrusion, even for dog food (at ~ 150 C). Equi-Boost Plus can undergo any processing for feed (pelleting, crumbles, extrusion, etc.) without losing activity or disrupting feed quality.

What is the recommended dosage of Equi-Boost Plus for horses?

There has been research on the application of Equi-Boost Plus in horses, with a recommended dosage of 10g per day per horse, to be added to their feed as a supplement.

When should Equi-Boost Plus be included in the diet?

Equi-Boost Plus should be supplemented to the feed ration of horses at the earliest stage possible. Including the product in the early stages of life will increase the probability of a healthy and well performing animal throughout its lifespan. The longer Equi-Boost Plus is included in the diet, the better performance the animal will have.

When added to parent feed rations, the resulting offspring will be healthier and off to a better start.

What other countries are using this product?

The ingredients of Equi-Boost Plus were developed in Brazil about 10 years ago but have been recently registered and now sold in: Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, South Africa, Colombia, Mexico and Spain. Several other countries are in the registration process with many more intended to begin registration.

What are some of the benefits that I should expect to see after 21 days of daily supplementation with Equi-Boost Plus?

- Assists with joint pains related to inflammation.
- Supports an increase in blood oxygen levels resulting in improved fitness, endurance and performance.
- Supports improved recovery times from exercise, including reduced stiffness.
- Supports intestinal health resulting in a regular digestive system and greater absorption of nutrients in food.
- Supports a healthy coat.
- Supports fertility and increases sperm production in studs.
- Supports a stronger immune system.
- Supports balanced PH levels.
- Strong antioxidant compounds.
- An increased state of calmness.