

Legends Used in Feed Comparison Charts

FEED TYPE

- Highly Fortified Feed!** Fed at 2 lbs or less to provide NRC requirements for selected nutrients
- Supplemental Feed** Fed at 2 lbs or more, along with hay, to provide NRC requirements
- Complete Feed** May be fed as total diet, contains high levels of fiber
- High Fat** Fat analysis > 6% (above 12% is **Very High Fat**)
- Forage** May replace some or all of hay, includes chop, haylage, hay pellets, cubes
Some may include added minerals, check labels!

ANALYSIS

- If Left Blank** Unknown and not listed in ingredients. This does NOT mean that it is not present!
- Yes* or *** Listed in ingredients, amounts not indicated - will cause #VALUE! to show in the Nutrients Provided column

- POUNDS FED PER DAY** Amount for maintenance based on manufacturer's guidelines
(I'll usually indicate the amount specified for a 1,000 lb horse)

- COST** Pricing found online or locally in AZ
Cost per day based on pounds fed

- REVISIONS** Updates are made as new information becomes available.
If you have run an analysis on any of the listed feeds, please send a copy of the results to DesertEquineBalance@gmail.com

- IMPORTANT** If relying on a manufactured feed to provide mineral and vitamin requirements, feed **at least** the amounts recommended by the manufacturer.

- GUIDELINE** I generally look for the following for a 1000 lb horse in maintenance:
The amount fed in one day provides a minimum of
Copper - at least 125 mg
Zinc - approximately 3 times the copper
Iron - preferably none added but not more than 4 times the copper
Vitamin E - should be supplemented to 2,000 IU total if not on pasture

I rarely use anything "*formulated for grass*" as many grass hays already have adequate calcium and using a product "*formulated for grass*" will further unbalance the calcium to phosphorus ratio.
If calcium and phosphorus are added, look for a ratio between 1:1 and 2:1.

