



— EUROPEAN —  
EQUINE HEALTH &  
NUTRITION CONGRESS

# 11th EEHNC Programme

**Thursday, 23rd of March 2023**

**Workshops (morning); Location: Het Pand 09:15 - 12:00**

Research meetings & updates on in vitro models: IVGPT & Organoids  
(Abstract submission / selected posters)

**Meriel Moore-Colyer (Royal Agricultural University); Wilbert Pellikaan (Wageningen University & Research); Andrea Ellis (Unequi); Bart van der Hee (Wageningen University & Research)**

Sacristie

This research meeting is open for researchers and (PhD-)students working with *in-vitro* models in relation to equine nutrition and health. This meeting is a follow-up to the research meeting that was held at the 9th EEHNC (Utrecht University). The conceptual idea is that researchers and PhD students can present their work and discuss technical aspects especially related to in-vitro models such as in-vitro gas production systems, organoid technology, and/or other models that simulate equine stomach and hindgut environments. However, additional topics may be discussed. This meeting is hosted by Wilbert Pellikaan, Meriel Moore-Colyer, Andrea Ellis and Bart van der Hee.

Ration Calculation & Formulation Workshop + Case discussion - Sponsored by Orffa

**Emanuela Valle (University of Torino); Equine Nutrition Service UGent**

One of the most common questions that horse owners may ask is “What should I feed my horse and how much?” Feeding a proper amount of a well-balanced diet is crucial to promote the welfare, performance and health of horses. In this workshop, Emanuela Valle (Workshop leader) will discuss the general principles of ration formulation for horses and the use of the ration program (FRASC) in her clinical counselling service at the Department of Veterinary Science (University of Turin). The workshop will address the following questions:

Vermeeylen

- Why should I use a ration calculator to formulate a diet?
- How to use a ration calculator in a simple way: understand which data I need from the horse/pony-reading a label from a horse feed-selecting the forage
- Understand the requirements using the horse feed pyramid
- Make it work in the stable

She will address ration formulation for healthy horses but will there will also be case discussions to specifically address ration formulation for horses with common issues like colic or horses that have difficulty maintaining the right body condition. Representatives of the Equine Nutrition Service (UGENT) and FRASC experts may also take part in this workshop and contribute to the discussions.

Updates on claims and legislations

**Michaela Herzog; Regine Schreiner (Feed and additives GmbH); Ruth Bishop (Premier Nutrition)**

Jan Gillis

This interactive workshop consists of two parts. In the first part, Michaela Herzog and Regine Schreiner (Feed and additives GmbH) will provide a presentation entitled “Horse feed and supplements: Update on Claims and labelling”. Topics like dietetic feed, scientific substantiation of claims, PARNUT-Dossier and Feed additive authorization for horses will be discussed. In the second part of this workshop, a short update regarding Feed legislation and future perspectives will be given addressing topics like feed additive legislation REFIT and product claims. Themes like welfare and sustainability will also be discussed in the plenary discussion following this presentation. Ruth Bishop (Premier Nutrition) also contributes to this workshop.

Poisonous plants: Clinical perspectives

**Dominique Votion (workshop leader, University of Liège); Gilbert Gault (INRAe/VetAgro Sup); Ingrid Vervuert (University of Leipzig); and others**

Priorzaal  
This workshop is provided by Dominique Votion (workshop leader) and Gilbert Gault. This workshop will deal with themes associated with the contamination of forage and pastures with toxic plants and aims to provide practical information/training that is important for equine practitioners. The workshop will also address the recognition of some toxic elements/plants that can intoxicate horses in practice. This workshop will also be attended by Ingrid Vervuert who has been involved in recent studies regarding the intake of toxic plants. Other experts related to poisonous plants may also be present. This results in a unique gathering of know-how regarding this topic and an opportunity for equine veterinarians to discuss practical questions with many experts!

12:00-13:00  
Lunch  
**Kapittel zaal**

12:00 - 13:00  
Sponsored session not part of the formal EEHNC programme: Cavalor "Nutrition for you" - exclusive lunch hosted by Cavalor for vets only, on invitation only.  
**Location: Bibliotheek**

**Start congress - Session: Fiber first! Part II; Location: Het Pand - Rafter**

13:15 - 13:50  
Updates on equine grass sickness & other pasture & forage related diseases  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**

13:50 - 14:15  
Questions for Chris Proudman  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**

14:15 - 14:35  
Impact of quality and quantity of dietary protein source on equine muscle protein synthesis  
**Caroline Loos (University of Kentucky)**

14:35 - 14:45  
Questions for Caroline Loos  
**Caroline Loos (University of Kentucky)**

14:45 - 15:15	Break <b>Kapittel zaal</b>
15:15 - 15:45	Fiber & Forage: Future challenges and perspectives - Sponsored by Eurofins <b>Ingrid Vervuert (University of Leipzig)</b>
15:45 - 16:00	Questions for Ingrid Vervuert <b>Ingrid Vervuert (University of Leipzig)</b>
16:00 - 16:45	Expert Panel Round Table discussion "Fiber First" led by Pat Harris <b>Dominique Votion (University of Liège); Chris Proudman (University of Surrey); Caroline Loos (University of Kentucky); Emanuela Valle (University of Torino); and other workshop lecturers</b>
16:45 - 17:00	Announcements
Evening	Congress Dinner

## Friday, 24th of March 2023

### Tools & Techniques in Equine Nutrition & Health

**Refter, Het Pand, Convention Centre, Ghent University - Belgium**

09:00 - 09:05      Welcome to congress

### Session: "The Omics"

09:05 - 09:35      Using omics and microbiome analysis in health and disease  
**Roosmarijn Luiken & Mathijs Theelen (Utrecht University)**

09:35 - 10:15 Results of a big cohort study of foals from birth to 3 years old; microbiome, immune status and health outcomes  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**

10:15 - 10:25 Questions for Chris Proudman  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**

10:25 - 10:45 Expert Panel Discussion  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey); Caroline Loos (University of Kentucky); Roosmarijn Luiken & Mathijs Theelen (Utrecht University); Richard Ducatelle (Ghent University) and others**

10:45 - 11:15 Break  
**Kapittel zaal**

**Session: Free Communications & Assessing The Horse's Nutritional Status**

11:15 - 11:45 Free communications: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Fermentation Postbiotic Influences Microbiome Stability and Robustness in Young, Stressed Horses  
**Khafipour et al.**

11:15 - 11:45 Free communications: Digestibility of different diets and their relationship with SCFA metabolism in horses.  
**Brandi et al.**

11:15 - 11:45 Free communications: The bioavailability of an oral dietary supplement containing hydrolysed collagen in horses.  
**Kranenburg et al.**

11:45 - 12:15 Blood, hair and urine analysis; are these right tools to assess the horse nutritional status?  
**Ingrid Vervuert (University of Leipzig)**

12:15 - 12:30 Questions & Voting

12:30 - 13:45 Lunch  
**Kapittel zaal**

13:30 - 13:45 Poster authors present at their posters for questions

**Session: The Internet Connected Horse**

13:45 - 14:10 Introduction from the internet connected ruminant nutritionist: What can ICT bring to the table for nutrition and health?  
**Miel Hostens (Utrecht University)**

14:10 - 14:30 Equine Ration Calculators and launch of a conversion tool for estimating the energy content of feedstuffs  
**Andrea Ellis (Unequi)**

14:30 - 14:50 Plenary & Round table discussion: Ration calculation tools; Where is it going and what developments and techniques are relevant for vets and nutritionist?

14:50 - 15:00 Free communications award

15:00 - 15:30 Break  
**Kapittel zaal**

15:30 - 16:00 Can sensor based digital tools help in monitoring in GIT health?  
**Gunther van Loon (Ghent University); Glenn van Steenkiste (Ghent University)**

16:00 - 16:10 Short update on digital tools used in the management of parasite control: Intelligent Fecal Egg Count  
**Deborah van Doorn (& Edwin Claerebout)**

16:10 - 16:30 Questions & Discussion

16:30 - 16:45 Research Updates from EEHNC University Partners: Updates on equine organoids  
**Louis Penning (Utrecht University); Jurgen van Baal (Wageningen University & Research); Bart van der Hee (Wageningen University & Research); Robin van den Boom (Utrecht University); and others**

## Saturday, 25th of March 2023

**Workshop tracks are held at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University (Salisburylaan 1, Merelbeke, Belgium) - this is outside of the city centre!**

**Timeslots indicated are approximative, transport to and from Ghent City Centre will be arranged. Take this into account for your travel plans.**

**Insulin Dysfunction & Laminitis Tracks for Vets & Nutritionists - Location: Auditorium B 09:30 - 13:00**

In the first part of this workshop track, delegates are updated about recent research in the field of nutrition and clinical management of horses with Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS)/Insulin dysregulation. This general part of the track will be presented by Myriam Hesta, Marie-Céline Hottat from the Equine Nutrition Service (Ghent University) and Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University). After this general introduction, the group will split up according to the profile indicated upon registration (veterinarian or nutritionist). This will allow a more targeted communication in the second part of this track in which one group will visit the department of surgery and anesthesiology to become updated in a clinical lecture about orthopaedic management of laminitis while the other group will stay at the start location of this workshop for case discussions related to the feeding management of horses with EMS/insulin dysfunction. Questions like “How to practically formulate rations for horses with EMS, laminitis or insulin dysregulation” and “how can we provide safe pasture access for horses” can be addressed. During this workshop, the groups will switch locations. In this way, both groups are provided with an update from a nutritional, internal medicine and orthopaedics perspective regarding EMS/ID.

**Gastro & Respiratory Tracks for Vets & Nutritionists - Location: Auditorium A (van Erck) - Demonstratietheater veterinaire anatomie (Ducatelle) - Internal medicine Horse (Van Loon) 09:30 - 15:30**

This track consists of three workshops/demonstrations and the track allows registration for a maximum of 3 groups of 15-20 delegates that will join all stations in the track in a predefined order. Delegates will be allocated to a group according to their profile (Veterinarian/Nutritionist). Gunther van Loon (Ghent university) and/or members of this team will demonstrate the use of diagnostic imaging to assess GIT health. The possibilities and limitations of ultrasonography as a diagnostic tool in equine digestive disorders will be discussed. At the “pathology station”, Richard Ducatelle (Ghent University) will discuss the topic “Colic, Fiber and the Microbiome”. Delegates will be first introduced to the workshop theme by a short presentation and subsequently discuss the relationship between colic, fiber and the microbiome in relation to the gastrointestinal tract of some selected (colic) cases that will be displayed. Emmanuelle Van Erck – Westergren ( Equine Sports Medicine Practice) will address the relationship between feeding and respiratory health in the workshop that “will focus on the question “How to store your forage and organize your ventilation / stable management to optimize equine respiratory health (Air, dust, ventilation equine specific expert of stables)?

### **Equine Parasites Track focussed on Vets - Location: Auditorium D 09:30 - 15:45**

This extensive workshop track consists of short lectures and small and plenary group discussions. The workshop is focused on exchanging knowledge between (equine) veterinarians. A limited number of seats is available for nutritional or other experts working in this field. This track continues discussions and themes that are discussed during the 10th EEHNC. Participants will be offered the possibility to rewatch the 10th EEHNC lectures regarding this topic. The first part of this new track includes a lecture “What is new and going on in Western & Northern Europe?” by Prof. Edwin Claerebout (UGENT) and Dr Deborah van Doorn (UU). After that, delegates can opt to participate in small group discussions that will discuss for example topics like strongylids, roundworms (Parascaris), Cestodes (H) & trematodes (liver fluke) or endo- and or ectoparasites like Gasterophilus, ticks and Culicoides. Alternative strategies for anthelmintic control may also be a topic for non-veterinarians that would like to join this workshop. The EEHNC organization will make an inventory a few weeks before the congress about the preferred themes for the ‘small group discussions’. Small group discussions will be followed by plenary discussions during the day. After Lunch, Prof. Aránzazu Meana will provide us with an update on parasite issues related to Southern Europe. After a plenary discussion, Dr Adolfo Paz Silva will put forward the latest news on nutritional strategies & ingredients for parasite control & management. The track ends with a plenary session involving previously mentioned speakers and other experts like Dr Wilbert Pellikaan. The plenary sessions allow the audience to address a variety of parasite-related themes from a multidisciplinary perspective.

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