

Should we Feed Round Bales to the Teaching Horses?

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Experience

Cared for the Equine Teaching Herd for the Virginia – Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine

Learned the aspects of managing a herd of animals

Learned the daily care skills for equine teaching herd

Learned what hard work really means!

Function

- Complete hands-on checks on all 28 horses
- Complete any treatments needed
- Inform and make decisions based on our hand-on check analysis
- Clean all the buildings and facilities
- Take care of the grounds
- Consult Veterinarians on feed and treatments
- Write in records

Project

Complete a research paper on the benefits of feeding round bales vs square bales to the Equine Teaching Herd

Why Feed Round Bales Instead of Square Bales?

- Feeding round bales requires less work than feeding square bales
- They are less expensive than compared to square bales because one bale can feed for a longer period



What are the Benefits for the ACE team?

- Spending less time feeding hay = spending more time doing health checks during morning rounds
- We would not have to change the current hay storage building

What are the Different Types of Hay Feeders?



Covered Cradle



Hayhut



Waste Less

Wait for next budget plan
Not large enough tractor

Problems	Solutions
<p>Moisture Cannot exceed 15-20% moisture leading to mold growth</p>	<p>Hay Barn The hay barn protects the bales from all sides The rocks underneath allow adequate air circulation</p>
<p>Protection in the Fields -Bales are very exposed to the elements in the fields</p>	<p>Hay Feeders with Roofs</p>
<p>Hay Wastage Lots of wastage can be caused by hay bales being placed on the ground with no barrier</p>	<p>Hay Feeders</p>
<p>Mud Round bales cause more foot traffic in one location, which creates a greater likelihood of mud</p>	<p>Another Coworkers Capstone</p>
<p>Botulism Caused by dead animals in the hay</p>	<p>Vaccination Type B has been proven beneficial Does not have any cross-protection</p>