

- SPECIAL EDITION ★ Summer 2026 -

BENCHMARK NEWS



GREETINGS Benchmarkers

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2026.

Our thoughts are with horse owners who have been affected by the recent Victorian bush fires and Queensland floods. Australia's climate can be harsh and unforgiving, and while extreme weather has long been part of our history, sadly these events seem to be occurring with increasing frequency.

We were pleased to lend our support to the dedicated team at **Elite Equine Nutrition in Lilydale**, who are coordinating deliveries of feed, hay, and medical supplies for horses impacted by the fires in Victoria.

We have donated a tonne of Perfect Mash® to assist the relief efforts. While our contribution alone will not be anywhere near enough, when combined with other generous donations of feed and hay, it helps make a meaningful difference for affected horses and their owners.

Take care,

Colin Price

Managing Director

M 0478612901

EXCITING NEWS:



We are making Perfect Mash® even BETTER!

From February, we will be introducing an enhanced Perfect Mash® formulation to make this amazing feed even better.

While your horses will still enjoy all the benefits of the original, low starch, super fibre-based formulation, we will be adding cracked lupins and canola meal to increase the protein and amino acids levels of the feed.

This will be a real plus for ridden horses or ponies, with essential amino acids, (the building blocks of protein), playing an important role in keeping muscles healthy and strong. Whether your horse is a competitor, a show pony, or just enjoying retirement, this will ensure they get exactly what they need to thrive. This addition will make the product an even better conditioner, will simplify feeding practice and reduce feed room costs.

Outstanding Results Across All Horse Types and Disciplines

We take great pride in the exceptional results attributed to Perfect Mash® for horses of every type and discipline. Its popularity within the equestrian community is well established, but it's worth highlighting that Perfect Mash® is also widely used by harness trainers as a base for their race feed rations.

Perfect Mash® contributes valuable energy to a horse's diet through the production of Volatile Fatty Acids, the horse's natural, fat based energy supply. It also offsets the starch burden of grain-based feeds, reducing the overall starch content in rations and of course it provides direct support for gut health. These nutritional benefits have translated into overwhelmingly positive results, not only for horse health but also in race performance and victories.

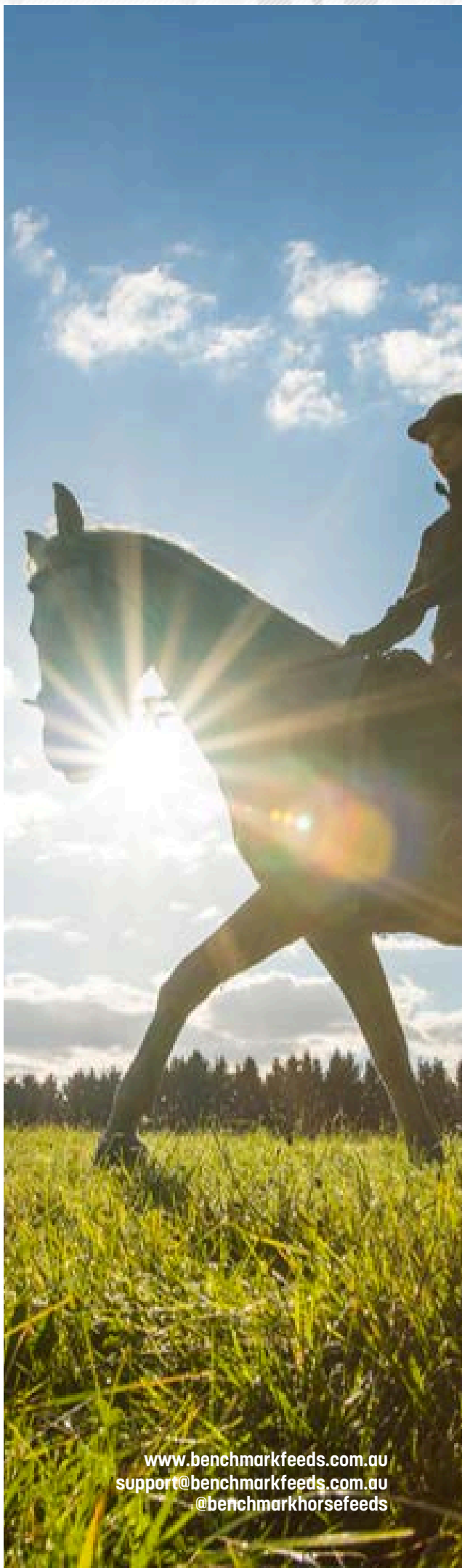
Whether it's being fed to a competitive harness racer, a Welsh pony in the show ring, or a cherished retiree, the fundamental nutrition principles remain consistent. Perfect Mash's® versatility and proven benefits make it an ideal choice across a wide range of equine disciplines.

Here are the **key points** to note if you feed **Perfect Mash®** to your horses.

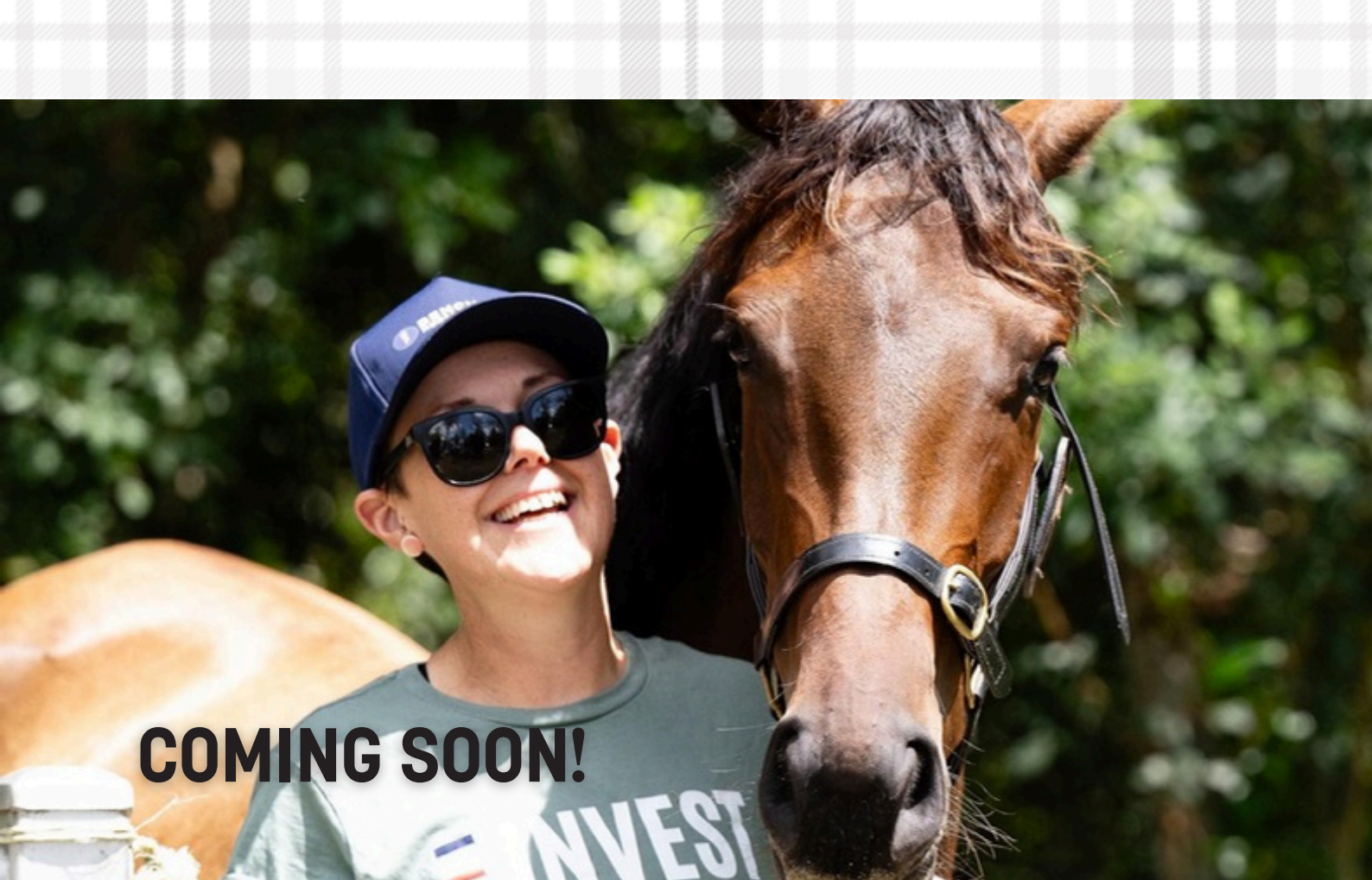
- With the inclusion of cracked lupins and canola meal, the protein level in Perfect Mash® increases from 10.2% to 15.2%
- Perfect Mash® will no longer need to be supplemented with additional protein sources, saving time and money.
- The feeding rate remains the same.
- Perfect Mash® can still be fed as a mash or dry.
- The starch and sugar levels remain extremely low.
- Perfect Mash® remains an ideal option for horses with EMS, laminitis or Cushings Syndrome.
- Bags with the new formulation will be clearly labelled on the front of each bag with a QR code. When scanned, this will direct you to the Perfect Mash® product page on our website with up-to-date nutritional information and ingredients.
- We expect the new formulation to be in retail stores during February.
- For those of you who require a feed with a protein level of around 10%, we suggest you use Benchmark Super Fibre Mash®. This product remains unchanged.

We are confident that you will love the change. For many of you it will simplify feeding and mean that there is one less product to buy.

The full nutritional analysis is available by clicking this link: <https://www.benchmarkfeeds.com.au/our-products/benchmark-perfect-mash>



www.benchmarkfeeds.com.au
support@benchmarkfeeds.com.au
[@benchmarkhorsefeeds](https://www.instagram.com/benchmarkhorsefeeds)



COMING SOON!

REQUEST A STABLE VISIT

A priority for the Benchmark Team in 2026 is to meet with as many horse owners as possible and provide no obligation advice and support. We can meet you at your property or wherever you keep your horses, whatever works for you.

You may like to get a group of horsey friends together at your property or agistment to make it worthwhile for everyone.

We also love talking to Pony Clubs or Adult Riding groups.

There is no charge for this service, in fact if you facilitate a group meeting we will have a small gift for you to say thankyou.

We have an amazing team of Territory Managers throughout Australia who can help you work through the best feed management plans for your horses, without any pressure or obligation of course. They are all experienced, hands-on horse people who love what they do.

The first step is simple, just complete the form on our website and submit it online. We will contact you promptly to have an initial discussion and arrange a visit.

Of course, with the vast distances involved in this great country, there may be some areas that we just can't get to, or at least not quickly. In this situation, we may arrange a virtual visit.

We will let you know when this goes live - its only days away!

www.benchmarkfeeds.com.au

DCAB FOR HORSES

DCAB stands for Dietary Cation-Anion Balance.

DCAB is a nutritional calculation measuring the balance of positive (Sodium & Potassium) and negative (Chloride & Sulphur) electrolytes in the horse to manage its acid base (pH) level. This is the tightly regulated alkalinity/acid balance of the horse's body. When thinking about this, most owners generally only think about electrolytes. But did you know that feed/diet actually plays a more significant role in this very important balance.

High fibre feeds are generally high DCAB (alkaline) while grains are generally low DCAB (acidic). This can have a significant effect on the performance horse.

When undergoing strenuous exercise, horses produce lactic acid and other metabolic by products. This lowers blood pH, causes muscle fatigue and reduces performance.

A high DCAB increases the horse's ability to buffer acid while in hard work, much like bicarbonate does. Having a high DCAB allows the horse to keep its own natural bicarbonate production at a higher (but legal) rate. There have been trials done where this has been measured via blood and urine samples and horses with high DCAB have shown quicker and faster recovery of heart rate as well as delayed fatigue after standard exercise test.

High DCAB diets can support/influence the horse's ability to maintain an alkaline environment (without the need of adding alkalising agents) which can help manage the acid and delay muscle fatigue increasing overall performance.

This finding is relevant in sports such as eventing, endurance, polocrosse or harness racing where the horse's ability to perform in the final stages can influence ultimate success.

Further studies are being conducted on the effects of tying up, bone health and hind gut acidosis.

Perfect Mash®, Super Fibre Mash®, Balancer Mash® and Racing Fibre Mash® are all high fibre and grain free. They make an excellent addition to any feed regime where owners are wanting to increase fibre intake. They have a favourable DCAB profile when part of a balanced feeding ration.

For a completely free diet analysis, please contact support@benchmarkfeeds.com.au

@benchmarkhorsefeeds
www.benchmarkfeeds.com.au



Photo Credit: PacePix

FEEL GOOD DOGGO®

GOOD HEALTH COMES FROM WITHIN

A Feel Good Doggo® Update

We are having a lot of fun rolling out the Feel Good Doggo® range of meal toppers. It is all fresh territory for a horse feed business launching a dog range, but we are learning fast and interestingly both markets have much in common.

While a visit to any pet shop can be overwhelming, with the vast array of dog treats and supplements on offer, there is nothing that sits in the same space as Feel Good Doggo®.

As a fibre based, probiotic rich, vegetarian meal topper Feel Good Doggo® sits apart from the rest. While this can be a positive, it can also be a negative, as store owners struggle to give it a category and dog owners have to look at a new type of supplement.

Overall, the response has been fantastic with dog owners enjoying the benefits that the range can offer. Digestive problems are as common in dogs as in horses.

**If you would like to check out the range visit -
feelgooddoggo.com**



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JOIN OUR BENCHMARK HORSE COMMUNITY on Facebook!

Our Benchmark group is for like-minded horse enthusiasts to share stories and ask each other for feedback and information about their Benchmark experience.

We also love getting your before and after photos and just pics and updates in general!



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