

Dengie

Horses should be moved to a well bedded stable and kept warm, hypothermia can be a further complication for ill horses in a cold environment.

Nutrition

- Avoid fasting
- The diet should be rich in structural carbohydrate and low in lipids (contradictory to other muscle related conditions)
- Affected horses often develop Hyperlipaemia.
- Feed small quantities of feed multiple times per day to help avoid peaks and troughs to the glycaemia
- Allow free access to Fibre Feeds – grass, hay, alfalfa
- Avoid feeding excess grain
- B vitamins and antioxidants, such as vitamin E and vitamin C have been shown to be beneficial to help support muscle function. Dengie Performance Vits and Mins and Alfa-A Blanacer both contain a full range of B vitamins and elevated levels of vitamin E so may be a beneficial addition to the diet.
- Colic and choke have been associated with Atypical Myopathy, soaked fibre feeds such as Alfa-Beet may be beneficial

Prevention

Preventative advice for horse owners includes:

- Supplementary feeding in the field to minimise the risk of horses being tempted to ingest seeds
- Fencing off affected areas
- Remove seeds where possible
- Limiting grass turnout
- Being aware that a field without sycamore trees can still contain seeds spread by high winds or flood water
- Where a case is suspected, remove field mates from the pasture, blood test to check if they could also be developing the condition. Nutritive support may be beneficial if you suspect a horse may have ingested sycamore seeds.