

## ULCER RELIEF<sup>TM</sup>

PROMOTES THE HEALING OF GASTRIC ULCERS & REDUCE THE DEGREE OF GASTRIC ULCERATION IN FOALS & HORSES IN TRAINING.

**PRESENTATION:** White to pale yellow crystalline powder.

ACTIVE CONSTITUENTS: 1000 mg/g RANITIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE (equivalent to 896 mg/g ranitidine)

**PROPERTIES:** ULCER RELIEF<sup>TM</sup> contains ranitidine hydrochloride, a histamine H2-receptor antagonist widely used for the treatment and prevention of ulcers in the stomach.

Ulcers are distressing and painful to horses and can result in reduced feed intake, weight loss, poor appearance, inconsistent training, decreased performance and irritability. The upper part of a horse's stomach is lined with the squamous mucosa, a membrane that is very sensitive to acid, and is exposed to the digestive acids that a horse continuously secretes. When horses have access to pasture and an adequate quantity of forage, the feed will absorb the majority of these secretions, resulting in protection of the sensitive squamous mucosa. In addition horse's saliva, which is produced in response to feeding, contains acid-neutralising bicarbonates and mucins that provide further protection. However, when a horse cannot graze continuously and a high-calorie grain is provided instead, the acidity in the stomach can build between meals to levels that may induce ulcers. Further, horses in training spend a significant part of their day moving at fast gaits, which also stimulates secretion of gastric acidity. For these reasons it is racing, performance and horses in constant work that have the highest prevalence and severity of ulcers. Foals can also be at risk due to their very thin immature stomach lining and natural physiological stress.

Ranitidine reduces gastric acid output by competitively inhibiting the histamine H2 receptors of parietal cells. This reduces the production of excess acid, and increases the gastric motility resulting in faster emptying of the stomach. Hence, healing of ulcerated areas is promoted, helping return horses to peak health.

**CONTRAINDICATION:** ULCER RELIEF<sup>TM</sup> should be used cautiously, and at reduced doses in horses with diminished renal function, and in horses with a history of hypersensitivity to ranitidine. Adverse effects appear to be very rare in horses at the recommended dosages.

**PRECAUTION:** If treatment is withdrawn and horses remain in work, ulcers may reoccur.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:** Enclosed scoop holds 1.5 g.

**ULCER RELIEF**<sup>TM</sup> can be given dry with feed or can be dissolved in water and given orally by syringe.

**Adult Horses:** 0.6 g per 100 kg bodyweight (equivalent to 3 g for a 500 kg horse = 2 scoops), administered three times daily for an initial treatment of 3 weeks for horses in work.

Foals: 0.4 to 0.6 g per 100 kg bodyweight every eight hours (three times a day), or as directed by a veterinarian.

MEAT WITHHOLDING PERIOD: NOT TO BE USED in horses that may be slaughtered for human consumption.

POISONS SCHEDULE: S4.

**REGULATORY STATUS:** AUSTRALIAN PESTICIDES & VETERINARY MEDICINES AUTHORITY.

**PACK SIZE:** 190 g (adult horse = 21 daily doses)

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