



— EUROPEAN —  
EQUINE HEALTH &  
NUTRITION CONGRESS

# 11th EEHNC Programme

**Thursday, 23rd of March 2023**

**11th EEHNC preliminary programme - registration is not open yet but will be announced on this website**

**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)**

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 and Andrea Ellis.

(Online) Ration Calculation & Formulation Workshop + Case discussion  
**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:

Oude infirmerie

- 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)**

Rector Vermeylen -  
Northern wing (2nd  
floor)

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.

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**

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

13:15 - 14:00  
Updates on equine grass sickness & other pasture & forage related diseases  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**

14:00 - 14:30  
Questions for Chris Proudman  
**Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**

14:30 - 15:00  
Impact of quality and quantity of dietary protein source on equine muscle protein synthesis  
**Caroline Loos (University of Kentucky)**

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

15:30 - 16:00  
Fiber & Forage: Future challenges and perspectives  
**Ingrid Vervuert (University of Leipzig)**

16:00 - 16:15	Questions for Ingrid Vervuert <b>Ingrid Vervuert (University of Leipzig)</b>
16:15 - 17:00	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>
17:00 - 17:15	Announcements
Evening	Congress Dinner

## Friday, 24th of March 2023

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**Tools & Techniques in Equine Nutrition & Health**

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

09:00 - 09:15 Welcome to congress

**Session: "The Omics"**

09:15 - 09:45 How can the omics disciplines help answering questions related to equine nutrition health and performance?  
**Lynn Vanhaecke (Ghent University)**

09:45 - 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 Liverpool)**

10:15 - 10:45 Expert Panel Discussion  
**Chris Proudman (University of Liverpool); Caroline Loos (University of Kentucky); Lynn Vanhaecke (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 (3 selected)

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 - 13:35 Lunch  
**Kapittel zaal**

**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 <b>Kapittel zaal</b>
15:30 - 16:00	Can sensor based digital tools help in monitoring in GIT health? <b>Gunther van Loon (Ghent University); Glenn van Steenkiste (Ghent University)</b>
16:00 - 16:10	Short update on digital tools used in the management of parasite control: Intelligent Fecal Egg Count <b>Deborah van Doorn (&amp; Edwin Claerebout)</b>
16:10 - 16:30	Questions & Discussion
16:30 - 16:45	Research Updates from EEHNC University Partners
16:45 - 17:00	Closing plenary programme

**Saturday, 25th of March 2023**

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Workshop tracks

**Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University (Salisburylaan 1, Merelbeke, Belgium)**

**Dental Track: Principles of basic equine dentistry - for Veterinarians only**

This workshop is only open to (equine) veterinarians and will be provided by Lieven Vlamincx (Workshop leader; Ghent University). Dental disorders are a frequent cause of digestive problems in the horse. Therefore a thorough examination of the teeth of the horse should be included in the clinical examination of a patient with digestive problems, especially with colic. In this workshop, basic techniques of oral examination and dental equilibration will be demonstrated and performed by the participants. In addition, Andrea Ellis will take part in this workshop to provide participants with information related to the theme from a nutritionist perspective.

**Insulin Dysfunction & Laminitis Tracks for Vets & Nutritionists**

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**

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**



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 Prof. Chris Proudman and Dr Wilbert Pellikaan. The plenary sessions allow the audience to address a variety of parasite-related themes from a multidisciplinary perspective.



## Publicity partners



## Partners

