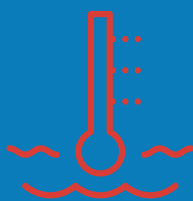




HEAT STRESS IN EQUINES

Heat stress can occur anytime between spring and fall in Alberta, whenever temperatures and/or humidity are high.

WHAT IS HEAT STRESS?



Heat stress occurs when the heat an animal is exposed to is greater than their body's ability to regulate. High temperatures and humidity play a large role in increasing body temperature. Inappropriate blanketing can lead to heat stress. Heat stress can cause equines to eat less, lose weight, produce less milk, and can negatively affect reproductive performance. Severe heat stress may result in illness and death.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?



Weakness or disorientation



Muscle tremors



Elevated heart rate



Elevated rectal temperature
($>40^{\circ}\text{C}$)



Shallow or rapid breathing/panting,
with flared nostrils

WHAT CAN I DO?



Provide shade



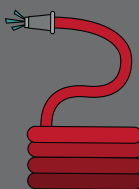
Provide clean water*



Replace electrolytes lost



Ride at cooler times



Cool off**



Adapt to hot weather

*Minimum daily water required by horses is 5L for every 100kg (220lbs). Varies with environmental humidity and temperature, metabolic demand, health, and diet.
**Remove any sweat and water with a sweat scraper while hosing to cool the equine down. Do not let warm water remain on the animal.

LEARN MORE!



NATIONAL FARM ANIMAL CARE COUNCIL
CONSEIL NATIONAL POUR LES SOINS AUX ANIMAUX D'ÉLEVAGE

The Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines
2.1.2 Shade and Outdoor Shelter – Pages 13 & 14



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