

Knowing your Horse Bronze. Feeding handout (session 5). Cut out the rules and explanations. Match each rule with the correct explanation

1. Fresh clean water should be available at all times

2. Feed little and often

3. Feed plenty of fibre

4. Feed each horse as an individual

5. Always weigh feed

6. Feed good quality feed

7. Make any changes to feed or forage gradually

8. Do not work the horse directly after a bucket feed

9. Keep to a routine

The horse's stomach is small (about the size of a rugby ball) and therefore cannot cope with large amounts of bucket feed at once

Each horse is unique and therefore when deciding what to feed your horse you should take into account his: bodyweight, temperament, age and workload

To make sure your horse receives the same amount of feed in each meal

The horse's digestive system is designed to work most efficiently when fibre is moving through it almost continually

Horses thrive on routine; it helps to keep them happy and relaxed

To keep the horse hydrated

It takes time for the feed to be emptied out of the stomach and when the horse exercises the blood supply is diverted to other parts of the body. This can cause colic

To allow your horse's digestive system to adapt to the new feed and reduce the risk of colic

Feeding dusty, poor quality or mouldy feed can cause illness