



## Managing the Diet for Healthy Hooves

**Did You Know?** The most important thing about your horse's hooves is his DIET!



Many hoof problems, such as cracks, brittleness, softness, and unsatisfactory growth rates are caused and can be remedied by dietary balancing



Rules to live by: remember that the minimum recommended amount listed in dietary charts is a **bare minimum**. That means it is *a level below which a horse is considered to have a deficit!* Feed at **150% -200%** of the minimum to ensure adequate stores. Many nutrients compete for absorption, so *not everything you feed will necessarily be absorbed!*



Key supplements for hooves include: biotin, keratin, iron, zinc, copper, vitamin E, and magnesium. Deficiencies in any of these can lead to subpar hoof quality.



**Uckele Health and Nutrition and Horse Technology** offer individual supplements and custom mixes



To ensure proper balancing, **have your hay and pasture tested** and **follow NRC recommendations** when supplementing/balancing using this information



Left: Major's hoof in shoes before going barefoot and beginning supplementation

Right: A mere three months later, his hoof has completely transformed