

The effects in water consumption in horses who dunk their forage

My name is Kira Lee, I am currently undertaking BSc Equine Science at Hartpury University. I would like to invite you to take part in a research study looking at the effects of water consumption in horses who dunk their forage. The questionnaire should not take more than 10 minutes to complete.

In this study I will be investigating the relationships between what causes horses to dunk their forage. Forage dunking is a common behaviour that many of us horse owners overlook, but there is little scientific evidence to suggest there are any factors that may encourage the behaviour itself. There is no evidence to show that water dunking influences water consumption in our horses, it would be important to evaluate if there is an effect and if there's anything we need to change.

The risks of participation are very limited, there is the ability to access the research questions on multiple devices providing larger screens and text for those who may need to. The benefits of participation are being part of an equine led scientific study, contributing to the further understanding of equine behaviour and welfare.

Please note that all information which is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept securely with the researcher. All information is collected anonymously, so that you cannot be recognized. The results will be presented as my dissertation and an electronic copy will be kept at Hartpury University; additionally I aim to present the research at an appropriate conference/publish the research in an appropriate journal.

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part in this research. By filling out this questionnaire this is indicating your voluntary informed consent to participating in the research and also granting consent for the data obtained from this to be used and analysed over the course of the research study.

1. Please confirm that you are 18 years or older and you consent to your data being used for the purpose of this study *

Yes

No

2. What breed is your horse? *

3. How old is your horse? *

Under 1 year

1 - 4 years

5 to 8 years

9 - 13 years

14 - 19 years

20 + years

4. Which country is your horse located? *

- England/ united kingdom
- Spain
- Netherlands
- Germany
- other

5. How much turnout does your horse get on average? *

- Up to 2 hours
- 3 - 4 hours
- 5 - 6 hours +
- 24/7

6. How does your horse receive its forage? (Please choose one or more options if necessary) *

- Hay and Haylage
- Hay
- Haylage
- Alfalfa
- Straw
- Just grass
- Grass including chosen forage

7. How are they fed their forage? (Please choose one or more options if necessary) *

- Floor
- Net
- Hay Bar
- Hay Manger (Including round bale feeder)
- Other

8. Do you soak or steam your horse's forage? *

- Soak
- Steam
- Occasionally soak
- Occasionally steam
- None of the above

9. How long do you soak forage? *

- 1 - 2 hours
- 3 - 4 hours
- 5 - 6 hours
- 7+ / Overnight

10. Does your horse generally **keep** weight easily? *

- Yes - all year round
- Yes - during summer months
- Yes - during winter months
- No

11. Does your horse struggle to **loose** weight? *

- Yes - all year round
- Yes - during summer months
- Yes - during winter months
- No

12. Has your horse had a history of the following conditions? Please choose one or more options if necessary) *

- Laryngeal Hemiplegia (Roaring)
- Equine Asthma
- Ulcers
- Choke
- Respiratory allergies
- Colic
- None of the above

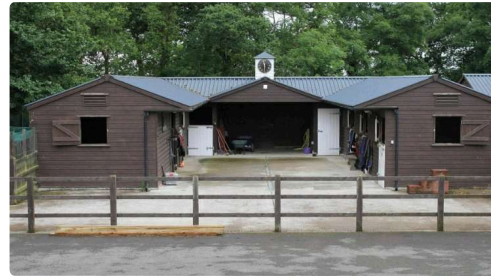
13. Has your horse seen an equine dentist in the last year? *

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

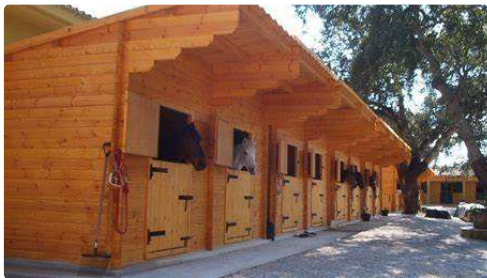
14. How is your horse currently stabled? *



American barn



U shape stable block



Open face



Field shelter only

Other

15. How is water offered to your horse? *

- Water Bucket
- Automatic Drinker
- Both of the above
- Other

16. What bedding is your horse on? *

- Straw
- Shavings
- Dust free shavings
- Wood pellets
- Rubber matting only
- None of the above

17. How many days a week do you ride your horse? *

- Retired/ field companion
- 1 - 2 days
- 3 - 4 days
- 5 - 6 days
- 7 days

18. What discipline does your horse participate in? *

- Show jumping
- Eventing
- Dressage
- Endurance
- Racing
- Mounted games
- Hunting
- Carriage driving
- Leisure rider
- other

19. Does your horse dunk their forage? *

Forage dunking is defined as the horse taking forage in its mouth, dunking it in its water source and proceeding to eat it

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

20. Please identify how much you agree with the following statements. *

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
My horses stable is wet in the morning due to dunking forage?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soaking forage keeps water containers clean	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dry forages (e.g. Hay) make forage dunking worse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Warmer months make forage dunking worse?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Colder months make forage dunking worse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My horse prefers to eat soaked/steamed forage?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My horse often has diarrhoea?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My horse dunks its forage more after exercise?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
When my horse is exercised, it reduces the frequency of dunking forage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Microsoft. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner.