

## Brooks Senior Question & Answer

**Q/ *do older horses require a specialized diet compared to younger horses in the prime of life?***

A/ Theories and opinions on this question differ somewhat. A study at Michigan State University recently concluded that healthy horses from 19-28 years of age may not need a higher level of nutrition than healthy horses between 5 and 12 years of age. The key however was that the senior horses in the study were healthy. Researchers still suggest dental issues, intestinal scarring and other age-related realities may reduce digestive efficiency. According to Amy Gill, PhD. An equine nutritionist from Kentucky, “in general, a healthy older horse that doesn’t have metabolic problems has nutrient requirements a little higher than a mature horse in its prime.”

**Q/ *What then is different about Brooks Senior compared to the other high-quality feeds in the Brooks line?***

A/ In formulating “Senior” we incorporated every nutritional feature that we felt would add to the health and well-being of generally healthy older horses. For example, the protein level (14%) is a bit higher compared to Performance feeds which are generally 12% protein. The NSC (sugar/starch) is reduced to around 20% with compensating calories from super fibres including beet pulp. Digestible fats have been added to the formula and the quality of the fat is enhanced by the addition of rice bran and particularly by flax which has the benefits associated with Omega 3 fatty acids.

**Q/ *What are some of the less obvious features?***

A/ “Senior” also has both prebiotics and probiotics to ensure a healthy lower gut as well as organic minerals and “natural” source Vitamin E.

**Q/ *Why isn’t the NSC lower, say at 10%?***

A/ Most healthy horses do very well on concentrates in the 20% NSC range. The NSC in “Senior” comes primarily from extruded grain which is more digestible and less likely to cause any issues related to NSC. Our experience is that some of the Ultra-low NSC feeds on the market are very low in calorie density and are little better than hay. Where an ultra-low NSC feed is appropriate Brooks has a feed called Fibrelite for that purpose.

**Q/ *Is Brooks Senior the right feed for every aged horse?***

A/ No. Every horse needs to be evaluated based on its own issues including bodyweight, metabolic status, disease status, dental, hoof and haircoat health and the level of activity. Some horses may need nothing more than a balancer pellet while others might need a high-density feed like Fibre O Plus. Seek the advice of a Brooks Nutrition Advisor or use the interactive feature on [www.brooksfeeds.com](http://www.brooksfeeds.com) if your horse has any age or disease related problems.

**Q/ *How much Brooks Senior should I feed, and does it need to be supplemented.***

A/ The amount varies according to the horse’s condition and activity level. Like all complete feeds a minimum amount of about ½ pound per 100 pounds of bodyweight is recommended to ensure a complete balance of minerals and vitamins. When less than that is fed a balancer pellet like Enhancer or All Phase 20 should be added at 4 ounces daily for each pound of Senior fed less than the recommended amount. Further supplementation of

Flax Appeal or Equi-Jewel is a consideration when weight maintenance is a challenge.

“Find a fat source that has a high omega-3 fatty acid, like a flax oil blend,” Gill says. “This helps with immune response and is also a pro-anti-inflammatory,” meaning prostaglandins (hormones that regulate cellular activities) produced in the body will tend to be the anti-inflammatory type. Omega-6 fatty acids (found in grains) tend to be pro-inflammatory.



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# Brooks Senior

**Complete Nutrition  
 For Senior Equines**  
 Textured

## Features and Benefits

- ✓ **Enhanced protein level, added fat and balanced nutrition with reduced NSC. Supports senior horses and contributes to more active, healthier and longer lives.**
- ✓ **High quality, digestible fibre sources including beet pulp, soy hulls and alfalfa meal help to ensure a healthy functioning digestive system while adding safe calories for effective maintenance of seniors.**
- ✓ **Stabilized flax meal is a rich source of Omega 3 fatty acids to enrich the hair coat, contribute to healthy hooves, support the immune system and provide anti-inflammatory support. Rice bran is a good source of digestible fibre and fat.**
- ✓ **A proprietary form of *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae* a prebiotic and a probiotic containing *Saccharomyces Boulardi* supports a robust population of hindgut microflora for hind gut health.**
- ✓ **Chelated minerals and total vitamin fortification including B Vitamins like biotin, complement what is lacking in forages. At recommended feeding rates no supplementation is necessary. Senior horses are better able to utilize minerals in a chelated form.**
- ✓ **Brooks exclusive **Oxiguard** system of natural source Vitamin E and organic selenium synergistically act as effective antioxidants to minimize muscle soreness and fatigue.**

Brooks Senior is formulated with carefully selected ingredients to ensure maximum palatability, consistency and quality!

## Guaranteed Analysis

<b>Crude Protein (min.)</b>	<b>14 %</b>
<b>Crude Fibre (max.)</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Crude Fat (min.)</b>	<b>8.0 %</b>
<b>Calcium (act.)</b>	<b>.90 %</b>
<b>Phosphorus (act.)</b>	<b>.55 %</b>
<b>Sodium (act.)</b>	<b>.40 %</b>
<b>Vitamin A (min.)</b>	<b>12000 IU/kg.</b>
<b>Vitamin D (min.)</b>	<b>1200 IU/kg.</b>
<b>Vitamin E (min.)</b>	<b>300 IU/kg.</b>
<b>Copper (min.)</b>	<b>50 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Manganese (min.)</b>	<b>125 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Zinc (min.)</b>	<b>170 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Iron (min.)</b>	<b>150 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Iodine (min.)</b>	<b>.5 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Cobalt (min.) * none added</b>	<b>.5 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Selenium (min. added)</b>	<b>.5 mg/kg.</b>
<b>NSC (reduced)</b>	
<b>Included Nutritional Enhancements</b>	
<b>Biotin</b>	<b>.35 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Thiamine</b>	<b>12.5 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Riboflavin</b>	<b>14 mg/kg.</b>
<b>Omega 3 fatty acids</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>Omega 6 fatty acids</b>	<b>3.9 %</b>
<b>Lysine</b>	<b>.9%</b>
<b><i>Saccharomyces boulardii</i></b>	
<b><i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i></b>	

### Ingredients

Soya Hulls, Wheat Shorts, Alfalfa Meal, Extruded corn, Beet pulp, Stabilized flax meal, Rice bran, Soybean meal, Soya Oil, Molasses, Salt, Prebiotic *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae*, *Saccharomyces boulardii* probiotic, Limestone, Dical biophos, Natural source Vitamin E, Zinc Sulfate, Manganese Sulfate, Bioplex Equine formula, Copper Sulfate, Choline Chloride, Iron Sulfate, Folic acid premix, Mineral oil, Selenium premix, Sel-Plex 2000 Altech, Niacin, Vitamin B12, Vitamin A, Calcium d-Pantothenate, Riboflavin, Vitamin K, Biotin, Thiamine Mononitrate, Vitamin D3, Biofix(mold inhibitor), Pyridoxine HCL, Endox dry (anti-oxidant), Calcium Iodate.

**Guaranteed Quality**

**Ultimate Performance**

**Industry Leading Research**

Contact your retailer or call 905-985-7992

[www.brooksfeeds.com](http://www.brooksfeeds.com)

# Brooks Senior Description

Brooks Senior is formulated with enhanced levels of protein, highly digestible sources of fibre and a controlled starch and sugar (NSC) level. Brooks Senior is generously fortified with minerals and vitamins including chelated (organic) minerals which have improved absorption in a less efficient digestive system. Added fat in the form of flax, rice bran and soy oil raise the calorie density while beet pulp, soy hulls and alfalfa meal ensure a solid fibre intake for a healthy lower gut. The addition of a prebiotic and a probiotic ensure maximum utilization of nutrients to meet the needs of most aged horses.

Brooks Senior supplies total nutrition in a palatable textured format that horses take to readily and stay on while outperforming similar competitive products. Brooks Senior can be moistened for older horses with poor teeth or horses prone to choke.

## Feeding Suggestions

Feed horses according to level and type of activity and to maintain ideal body condition

Mature Weight	900 lbs. (400 kg.)	1100 lbs. (500 kg.)	1300 lbs. (600 kg.)
Idle horses	1.75 - 2.75 kg.	2.25 - 3.50 kg.	2.75 - 3.75 kg.
	3.85 - 6.00 lbs.	5.00 - 7.75 lbs.	6.00 - 8.25 lbs.
Light work	2.25 - 3.25 kg.	3.00 - 4.50 kg.	3.60 - 5.50 kg.
	5.00 - 7.25 lbs.	6.50 - 10.0 lbs.	8.00 - 12.00 lbs.

**Note:** Many senior horses have specific issues which require that individual feeding programs targeted to their condition be followed. For example, senior horses with Equine Metabolic Syndrome, Cushings, or Insulin Resistance should be appraised by a Brooks Nutrition Advisor.

Warmblood and Draft type horses may require different amounts from light horse breeds. Contact a Brooks Feed representative or submit a request on our interactive web site.

Amount of feed required is dependent on the body condition, the metabolism and the type of activity the horse is used for. Add  $\frac{1}{4}$  pound (115 grams) **Brooks Enhancer** or **All Phase 20** for each pound of **Brooks Senior** fed daily below the recommended amount. For specific feeding suggestions consult a Brooks Feed representative or submit a request online using our interactive feeding guide. Provide fresh clean water and free choice salt at all times with ideally at least 1.5 % of the horse's bodyweight in hay or equivalent pasture. Store in a cool dry location. Amount fed varies according to the quality of hay or pasture. Hay analysis is recommended to ensure a balanced ration.

A list of ingredients is available by contacting the manufacturer.



905-985-7992

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*Your guide to better nutritional management!*