

PENNWOODS PENNFAQS

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EQUINE NUTRITION: A RAPIDLY CHANGING INDUSTRY...

When discussing equine nutrition or the nutrition of any other animal, including humans, the guidelines are always set by the National Research Council (the NRC). This body determines what we need for sound nutrition, and the manner in which their information has changed over time is quite interesting. According to the NRC, in 1949, a 1100 pound pregnant mare in the late stages of pregnancy required 16.5 gm/day of calcium. In 1973, that same mare was determined to require 24 gm/day of calcium. By 1989, **that same mare** required 37 gm/day of calcium. Looking at this information, you question if that mare in 1989 really needed more than two times the daily calcium intake of a similar mare in 1949? In fact, what happened was the NRC's research improved, and they updated their guidelines to more accurately reflect the needs of a pregnant mare.

As you can see, equine nutritional information has come a long way over the past fifty years. We know a lot more now than we did then, but the journey of research still has a long way to go. New facts and methods are always being discovered, and we promise that Pennwoods will continue to lead the way. As a family-owned, family-operated company, we have the ability to quickly adapt to the newest research, bringing your horses the best there is to offer!

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