**Back To Nature With Fresh Grazing Herbs**

*Sow Your Seeds* is one simple way we can give something back to our equine friends. When they are stabled, or on the road campaigning and competing for us, they have no choice but to await our daily feedings with little chance of getting the herbs and grasses they long for. Now you can add fresh herbs to your horse’s daily diet with *Sow Your Seeds* herb mixtures. You can plant a grazing patch in your home pasture, at the racetrack, or at horse shows and events. Or even harvest fresh herbs to take on the road.

These mixtures contain easy-to-grow perennials and self-sowing annuals nutritionally balanced for a healthy equine diet. Each blend consists of a variety of herbs selected for their horse appeal, nutritional value, and easy growing habit. Once established, these plants should return year after year.

*Sow Your Seeds* is offered as a supplement, not a replacement, for your current hay and feeding program. These grazing herbs are a nutritional “bonus” to the forage and roughage that hay provides. If you have always thrown out hay during the day, we recommend that you continue to do so. Horses are creatures of habit and may not understand or adapt to the lack of haying. They may perceive haying as a treat or as welcome contact with you. You may find that you can cut down on the amount of hay you throw, but do throw something.

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**PASTURE BLEND**

This herbal mix contains the following seed varieties listed in order of predominance by weight: Melilot (*Melilotus officinalis*), Fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*), Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*), Lemon Balm (*Melissa officinalis*), Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), Queen-Anne’s Lace (*Daucus carota*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinalis*), Chamomile (*Chamaemelum nobile*). Minimum seed purity, 98%; maximum inert, 2%; noxious weeds, 0%; minimum seed germination, 80%. Contains designated amount of seed mix and ground corncobs to assist in even distribution of the seeds.

*Origin: USA*

**SOIL PREPARATION**

Choose a planting area in full sun. Remove any unwanted plants and cultivate soil to depth of 6”. Mix compost into the soil until well blended. Rake soil smooth and water to encourage any pre-existing seeds to sprout. If there are any undesirable seedlings, let them grow 2” tall, then pull or hoe them out and rake the soil smooth. Now you are ready to plant your new seeds.

**PLANTING DIRECTIONS**

Sow seeds in the early spring after all danger of frost has passed or in early summer, or late fall where winters are mild. Mix seeds well and scatter evenly over the designated area. Lightly rake seeds into soil or cover seeds with soil no deeper than ¼”. Tamp soil gently with hand or foot to ensure good soil contact. Gently water, keeping soil moist for 15 days to encourage germination. Water as needed through out the season.

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Equilite, Inc. 437 Kulp Road, Pottstown, PA 19465 800-942-LITE, Fax: 610-326-6481, www.equilite.com
**Born to Free Graze**

As herbivores, horses are born to freely graze a variety of forage, herbs and grasses. If left unto themselves in the wild they will cover an average of twenty miles a day grazing the land. Through domestication, horses are limited in their grazing and dependent upon us to provide them with access to green pastures and diverse vegetation. With Sow Your Seeds equine grazing herbs, your horses are one step closer to nature. They will have the freedom to harvest and eat the herbs they love and need, whenever and wherever you plant them.

We at Equilite know how challenging it is to take superior care of our equine friends, and we understand that you are a busy horse owner, not a master gardener. That is why we have made it as simple as possible for you to provide your horse with the kinds of nutritious herbs they were born to graze. You need only spend a few minutes sowing our seed mixture in your pasture then let Mother Nature take her course!

Equilite has brought back by popular demand its Sow Your Seeds Pasture Blend to provide your horses with the herbs they crave. You will notice that your horse may eat certain herb plants when they are young and tender, and others at a later phase of their growth cycle. Amazingly, horses instinctively know which plants are best to eat, and when is best to eat them.

**A Pasture Management Primer**

An important concept that is often overlooked in day-to-day horse operations is that pasture management is surprisingly easy to understand and implement. We suggest you develop some knowledge of your land and the nutrients it can provide your horses by taking a soil and water sample to your County Cooperative Extension, university or other research-testing lab. For a nominal charge, they will analyze your soil and report the levels of nutrients present, including phosphorus, calcium, selenium and potassium, as well as the pH of the soil.

Experts recommend that you do a soil test every three to four years on your grazing pastures, and every two years on fields managed for hay production. The results of this soil analysis will help you pinpoint necessary supplements to your horses diet. It will also give you insight into ways to amend your soil and thereby improve the nutritional content of your grasses and herbs. Remember, once you understand the limitations of your soil, you can tailor a feeding program to your pastures.

In addition to a professional soil analysis, you can practice good pasture management by:

- avoiding undergrazing or overgrazing
- spreading out manure piles to aid natural fertilization and allow the sun to dry out manure to decrease chances of parasite infection
- removing toxic plants and invasive weeds

**Some Planting Tips That Make Good Horse Sense**

We recommend that you plant seeds in well-cultivated soil in strategically located sites throughout your pasture. Plant the seeds in 2-4 strips or patches throughout the field so that your horses will not be fighting for the herbs. Plantings in different areas encourage horses to rove the entire field and not just congregate in one section. This technique reinforces their basic instinct to roam and graze, while also avoiding overgrazing of any one area. Light grazing of herb patches encourages new growth and allows the plants to return each spring. See seed label for specific planting instructions.

**Grazing Herbs for Horses**

An easy way to provide horses with the nutritionally balanced fresh herbs they were born to free graze.

**SOW YOUR SEEDS PASTURE BLEND:**

For planting in the main parts of your field, these herbs are hardy and can withstand foot traffic.

**UNTREATED SEEDS**

- Seed Net Weight 8 oz. Covers 540 Square Feet
- Seed Net Weight 2.5 lbs Covers 2700 Square Feet