

Hesteflex Joint Care

Hesteflex is a nutritional supplement aimed at maintaining healthy joint cartilage AND aiding the bodies natural anti-inflammatory system. It contains 5 key ingredients which together are proven to alleviate joint problems with the addition of vitamins to support the production of collagen. Osteoarthritis (OA) or Degenerative Joint Disease (DJD) is the most common cause of lameness in the horse and the consequences of this disease can be life threatening in severe cases. Hesteflex combines the benefit of our Equimove joint supplement and Bozmerix to provide a great approach to horses with early disease who would also benefit from a supplement to help their comfort levels.

Normal locomotion results in a loading force being applied to the joints. Cartilage is the substance which coats the end of bones and absorbs shock on an ongoing basis. The body is capable of replenishing damaged cartilage but certain ingredients are required to replenish the cartilage matrix. The first 4 of the ingredients below, that are included in Hesteflex, are naturally occurring in the body and support and accelerate the healing process in cartilage. There are zero fillers meaning the product only contains vital ingredients.

We will discuss each ingredient in turn.

Key ingredients in Hesteflex:

1. Chondroitin Sulphate
2. Glucosamine Hydrochloride (HCL)
3. Methsulphonylmethane (MSM)
4. Vitamin E and Vitamin C
5. Boswellia Serrata

What is the role of these ingredients?

1. Chondroitin Sulphate:

- Cartilage has a high content of glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) which combine with proteoglycans (PG's) and attract water molecules into cartilage to make it an effective cushion for the joint. This allows cartilage to be compressed under pressure and revert back to its original anatomy. Chondroitin Sulphate is the most abundant GAG in joint cartilage.
- Chondroitin Sulphate also inhibits the activity of enzymes which breakdown cartilage tissue.

MACCLESFIELD VETERINARY HOSPITAL
38 Cumberland Street
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK10 1BZ
Tel: 01625 501500
Fax: 01625 612240

CONGLETON BRANCH
18 Moody Street
Congleton
Cheshire CW12 4AP
Tel: 01260 273222

WILMSLOW BRANCH
Thorndale Surgery
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5DD
Tel: 01625 524422

FARM CENTRE
The Barn - Holly Tree Farm
Holmes Chapel Road
Lower Withington
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK11 9DT
Tel: 01477 571000

WHALEY BRIDGE
Block B
Ringstones Industrial Estate
Whaley Bridge
High Peak
Derbyshire SK23 7PD
Tel: 01663 732564

EQUINE CENTRE
Somerford Park
Holmes Chapel Road
Somerford
Cheshire CW12 4SW
Tel: 01260 280800

- In joints with OA/DJD the rate of cartilage breakdown exceeds the production of new cartilage so Chondroitin Sulphate plays a vital role in reverting this imbalance.
- An effective dose is between 1,250 and 5,000 mg/day, when fed at maintenance Hesteflex provides 2,100mg/ day.

2. Glucosamine HCL

- Glucosamine naturally occurs in the body and is the building block for all the needed lubricants and shock absorbers in the body (including GAGs)
- Healthy cartilage can only make a limited amount of glucosamine, and damaged cartilage makes even less- this limits the bodies own ability to produce the building blocks needed to maintain healthy joints.
- Several studies have shown addition of Glucosamine in the diet stimulates cartilage regeneration.
- An effective dose for a 500kg horse is said to be between 6,000 to 10,000 mg/day. Hesteflex, when fed at maintenance provides 1,000mg/day.

It is widely accepted that combining Chondroitin Sulphate and Glucosamine HCL has superior results.

3. MSM

- MSM is an easily absorbable sulphur which is found in almost every cell of every animal and plant.
- Sulphur is used in the production of collagen and certain amino acids which are also needed for collagen production. Collagen gives cartilage its tensile strength so collagen health is vital for cartilage health.
- MSM can also help sustain cell flow, allowing nutrients in and harmful substances out. This pathway is vital as cartilage is doesn't have its own blood supply so relies on the delivery of nutrients to allow for repair and rejuvenation. Equally, encouraging the dissipation of inflammatory cells in an injured joint speeds up healing and helps re-establish a healthy environment quicker.
- Unfortunately, effective dose research is lacking, but it has been suggested by one study into hock OA that 20,000mg was needed to have a beneficial anti-inflammatory effect. Currently, no joint supplement offers these levels but when combined with other joint essential ingredients it is likely lower levels of MSM still have a role to play.

☐ **MACCLESFIELD VETERINARY HOSPITAL**
38 Cumberland Street
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK10 1BZ
Tel: 01625 501500
Fax: 01625 612240

☐ **CONGLETON BRANCH**
18 Moody Street
Congleton
Cheshire CW12 4AP
Tel: 01260 273222

☐ **WILMSLOW BRANCH**
Thorndale Surgery
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5DD
Tel: 01625 524422

☐ **FARM CENTRE**
The Barn - Holly Tree Farm
Holmes Chapel Road
Lower Withington
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK11 9DT
Tel: 01477 571000

☐ **WHALEY BRIDGE**
Block B
Ringstones Industrial Estate
Whaley Bridge
High Peak
Derbyshire SK23 7PD
Tel: 01663 732564

☐ **EQUINE CENTRE**
Somersford Park
Holmes Chapel Road
Somersford
Cheshire CW12 4SW
Tel: 01260 280800

4. Vitamin E and Vitamin C

- Hesteflex contains naturally occurring Vitamin E which is an antioxidant helping to control inflammation and boost the immune system. Being a natural not synthetic vitamin E it is absorbed much better into the horses system.
- Vitamin C helps support the production of collagen, the most abundant protein in the body and a key component of cartilage, bone, tendons and ligaments.

5. Boswellia Serrata

- Boswellia serrata is a relatively new addition to joint supplements. It is a large tree grown in parts of India, North Africa and the Middle East.
- Studies have shown Boswellia has an antioxidant effect which helps prevent cell damage caused by free radicals and use in several cases supports its benefit in terms of pain relief.

Feeding Guidance:

Hesteflex is a palatable oral powder. It is added to hard feed once daily. There is a 14 day loading feed rate then the maintenance rate can be adjusted for the level of exercise. The produce comes with a palatability guarantee. It is available in a 60 sachet box and a more cost effective 1.7kg pouch.

How does Hesteflex compare to other joint supplements?

Generally speaking, products you can buy off the shelf in your local equestrian store have lower amounts of the vital ingredients and are often bulked up with ingredients which have no direct effect on joint health. Hesteflex is kept simple and pure through the use of 5 ingredients, 4 of which are naturally found in horses. By feeding a veterinary grade supplement you are able to guarantee all ingredients are fully researched and traceable.

There are a few considerations when choosing a joint supplement:

Firstly, it is important to know what the therapeutic feed rate for each ingredient is. Feeding sub-therapeutic levels negates any potential positive effect and is also a waste of money. Secondly, studies have shown a worrying trend for some supplements to have greater than 30% difference between the amount of ingredient listed on the tub and the amount actually

☐ **MACCLESFIELD
VETERINARY
HOSPITAL**
38 Cumberland Street
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK10 1BZ
Tel: 01625 501500
Fax: 01625 612240

☐ **CONGLETON
BRANCH**
18 Moody Street
Congleton
Cheshire CW12 4AP
Tel: 01260 273222

☐ **WILMSLOW BRANCH**
Thorndale Surgery
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5DD
Tel: 01625 524422

☐ **FARM CENTRE**
The Barn - Holly Tree Farm
Holmes Chapel Road
Lower Withington
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK11 9DT
Tel: 01477 571000

☐ **WHALEY BRIDGE**
Block B
Ringstones Industrial Estate
Whaley Bridge
High Peak
Derbyshire SK23 7PD
Tel: 01663 732564

☐ **EQUINE CENTRE**
Somersford Park
Holmes Chapel Road
Somersford
Cheshire CW12 4SW
Tel: 01260 280800

CLINICAL DIRECTORS:

P B Andrew BVSc Cert AVP MRCVS

C J Phillips MA Vet MB CertAVP (ESO) MRCVS

M D Tabachnik BSc BVMS Cert EP PG Cert (VBM) MRCVS

B C Taylor BVMS MRCVS

H E Worth BVMS DBR MRCVS



contained in the product. Thirdly, the ingredients need to be high quality to ensure maximum bio-availability (so the body can absorb and use it!). Choosing a product which can prove its ingredients traceability, prove the research behind their use and guarantee results makes spending money on a joint supplement worthwhile. Thankfully, Hesteflex can!

Website: www.wmvets.co.uk
Email: info@wmvets.co.uk

As a general rule, the more expensive supplements contain larger volumes of the essential ingredients and larger tubs generally work out better value for money.

MACCLESFIELD VETERINARY HOSPITAL
38 Cumberland Street
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK10 1BZ
Tel: 01625 501500
Fax: 01625 612240

CONGLETON BRANCH
18 Moody Street
Congleton
Cheshire CW12 4AP
Tel: 01260 273222

WILMSLOW BRANCH
Thorndale Surgery
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5DD
Tel: 01625 524422

FARM CENTRE
The Barn - Holly Tree Farm
Holmes Chapel Road
Lower Withington
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK11 9DT
Tel: 01477 571000

WHALEY BRIDGE
Block B
Ringstones Industrial Estate
Whaley Bridge
High Peak
Derbyshire SK23 7PD
Tel: 01663 732564

EQUINE CENTRE
Somersford Park
Holmes Chapel Road
Somersford
Cheshire CW12 4SW
Tel: 01260 280800

Wright & Morten Veterinary Surgeons is a trading name of Independent Vetcare Ltd
Registered in England No. 07746795 VAT No. 115-1416-58

Registered Office: The Chocolate Factory, Keynsham, BS31 2AU Tel: 01225 481520

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for credit-related regulated activities under reference number FRN738010