

Quick answer: Höveler Western Sport is a high-energy, low-grain muesli for medium to intensively trained western horses — 14% crude protein, 12.19 MJ/kg digestible energy, and a 28% alfalfa base in a 44 lb bag for \$37.99. Straight oats are a single ingredient: energy, yes, but not much else. Last checked: September 2026.

Oats are the most traditional horse feed there is, and there is nothing wrong with them as far as they go. The question is how far they go. A horse in real work needs more than one ingredient can give. Here are seven places where a formulated muesli and a scoop of oats part ways.

1. One bag versus one grain

Western Sport lists 20-plus ingredients, led by 28% alfalfa, with barley flakes, corn flakes, linseed cake, and inactivated brewer's yeast among them. Oats are oats. A formulated muesli spreads the job across more than one source.

Who this is for: owners who want the ration to do several jobs at once instead of just one.

2. A stated calcium-to-phosphorus balance

Western Sport carries 1.44% calcium against 0.50% phosphorus. Feeding straight oats long-term hands the mineral balance over to whatever else the horse eats. When the numbers are printed on the analysis, you can plan the whole ration around them.

The benefit: mineral figures you can actually work with.

3. Amino acids are accounted for

Lysine sits at 0.58%, methionine plus cysteine at 0.46%, and threonine at 0.53%. These are the limiting amino acids for building muscle. A single grain does not put those figures on its label, because they were never part of [performance horse feed](#) the design.

Who this is for: horses whose training program expects visible topline and muscle development.

[performance feed mix](#)

4. Vitamins are in the bag, not bolted on

Each kg delivers Vitamin E at 260 mg, Vitamin A at 18,216 I.E., and Vitamin D3 at 3,299 I.E., plus the B complex. Oats contribute a few nutrients of their own, but a working horse's vitamin program usually becomes a second purchase. Here it is measured ahead of time into every meal.

The benefit: one feed covers the vitamin base for a horse in training.

5. Selenium from two sources, at stated levels

Western Sport provides 0.25 mg selenium from sodium selenite plus 0.25 mg from selenium yeast CNCMI-3399 per kg. That is a deliberate, stated pairing. With straight oats, selenium — along with every other micronutrient — is left for you to work out.

Who this is for: owners who read supplement labels and would rather the feed already did it.

6. Energy with a number attached

Digestible energy is 12.19 MJ/kg and convertible energy 11.21 MJ/kg. Oats are honestly energy-dense as well — but Western Sport pairs its energy with 16.7% crude fiber and 6.10% crude fat, so the fuel is not starch alone. The formula is also oat-free, which suits oat-sensitive horses.

The benefit: high energy (12.19 MJ/kg) without leaning on a single grain.

7. A feeding rate that changes with the job

The page specifies 0.55 lb (250 g) per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight for light work and 0.88 lb (400 g) for medium work. With oats, most owners go by feel. A printed rate per work level is what turns feeding from a routine into a plan.

Who this is for: anyone who has ever doubted what the scoop was telling them.

How to feed it

Daily amounts per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight:

Work level	Daily rate per 220 lb (100 kg)
Light work	0.55 lb (250 g)
Medium work	0.88 lb (400 g)
Heavy work	Not listed

— the page says to tune to your horse's condition and training intensity, with adequate forage always provided

No heavy-work rate is listed on the page. Adjust to your horse's condition and training intensity, and always provide adequate forage. Key specs at a glance: 14.0% crude protein, 6.10% crude fat, 16.7% crude fiber, 18.30% starch, 12.19 MJ/kg digestible energy, 28% alfalfa. The Feeding Calculator helps you work out the ration.

Frequently asked questions

Do I need to feed supplements alongside Western Sport?

The formula already includes a vitamin and mineral package — Vitamin E at 260 mg per kg, biotin at 1,185 µg, and selenium from two sources at 0.25 mg each per kg. Individual horses may still need additions for specific reasons, so ask your veterinarian. The built-in base handles the everyday requirements of a horse in work.

Is Western Sport better than oats for muscle?

Muscle development needs digestible protein and limiting amino acids: Western Sport supplies 14.0% crude protein, 107 g/kg digestible crude protein, and lysine at 0.58%, from a 28% alfalfa base. Straight oats do not state those figures. The formulated option is built for the job.

Can an oat-sensitive horse eat Western Sport?

Yes. The formula is oat-free by design, which is one of its stated standouts and fits oat-sensitive horses. The energy comes from fiber, oils, and the other grains in the mix instead.

How does the price compare per bag?

The Western Sport 44 lb bag is \$37.99. Comparing prices across feeds only says something when the analyses are comparable, so set the 14% protein and 12.19 MJ/kg energy against what you would pay to add them separately.

Where is it made?

Höveler has made horse feed since 1905 — over 120 years of expertise — and this formula is made in Germany, sold in the US through bifid's Florida-based operation.