



Horse Master

**A firm green pasture
for your horse**

 **BARENBRUG**



Horse Master

A beautiful green pasture with firm sod and enough grass to graze your horse daily is precisely what every horse keeper wishes for. Unfortunately, many horses graze on bare pastures or pastures with grass intended for cows. This can lead to various health problems. That is why Barenbrug has developed Horse Master.

Horse Master is a balanced grass seed mixture. A Horse Master pasture has a firm sod, fast regrowth, and the crop is rich in structure but low in fructan.



Advantages of Horse Master

Enough grass for grazing

Having enough grass and a firm sod are important for daily grazing. This gives you a good supply of grass for your horse and prevents injuries during sprints on a bare meadow.

The grasses in Horse Master are unique due to their low growing points. This leads to the grass regrowing and spreading quickly after grazing. The resulting firm sod produces grass abundantly. With Horse Master you can safely let your horse enjoy daily grazing.

Prevent sand colic

Your horse grazes with its teeth very close to the roots. This results in the animal easily pulling out grasses that are not firmly anchored to the ground, causing bare spots. These bare spots can cause your horse to ingest too much sandy soil while grazing, and thus a risk of sand colic. Horse Master's sturdy sod prevents your horse ingesting too much sand.

The most palatable grass for your horse

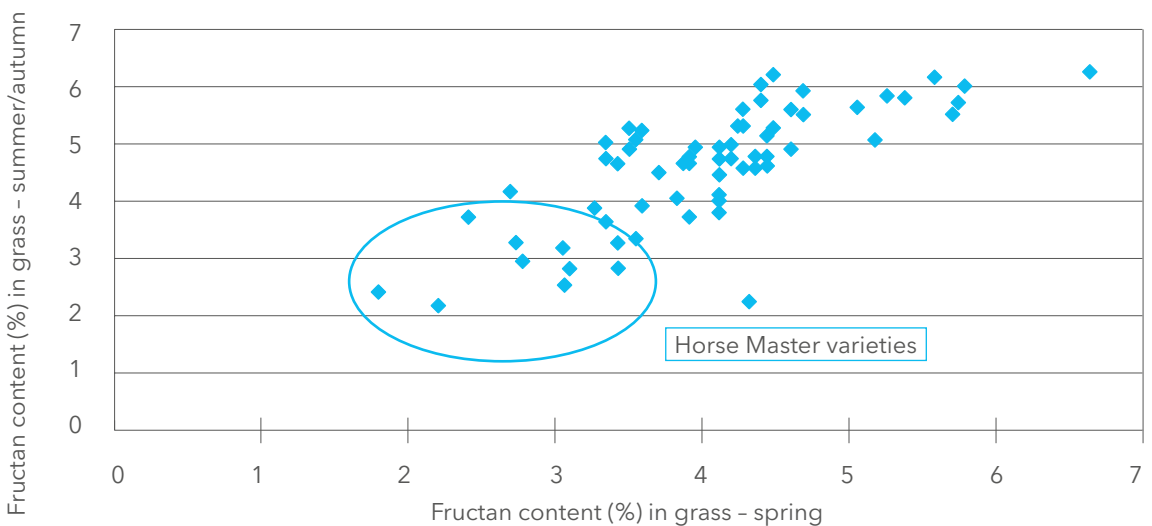
The palatability and quality of the horse pasture is determined by the grasses sown on it. Horse Master is composed of tasty and high-quality grasses such as Perennial ryegrass, Timothy, Kentucky bluegrass and Chewing fescue. Weed grasses, such as Rough-stalked meadow-grass, Annual bluegrass and couch grass, however, grow everywhere and have a negative effect on the quality of the meadow and the palatability of the grass. Horse Master's firm sod prevents weeds and unwanted grasses becoming established.

Low risk of laminitis due to low fructan content

Grasses produce fructan in the spring when there are many hours of sunshine combined with cold nights. Fructan is a carbohydrate (a type of sugar) that is poorly processed by horse intestines. Horses that consume too much fructan have an increased risk of laminitis.

The grass varieties in Horse Master are selected for a low fructan content, they contain at least 50 % less fructan than standard grasses.

Fructan content in hay and grass silage



Managing your pasture

Good management is essential for maintaining healthy and firm pasture. This ensures a good supply of grass and reduces the risk that your horse will suffer from injuries or become ill. Grass at a height of 15 cm is the ideal length for grazing. We highly recommend offering the grass to your horse at this stage. You need a pasture system (3-5 plots) to keep the grass supply up to standard. Once the grass is grazed, you move your horse to another plot. Then you can maintain and fertilize the grazed one. Clearing manure daily, preventing overgrazing, regularly grazing horses and allowing a pasture to grow out and mowing it are all important for maintaining fresh and tasty pasture.

Overseeding or new seeding - when should you choose what?

The choice between overseeding or reseeding depends on the status of the meadow. It is best to opt for new seeding when the structure of the soil is poor or the proportion of bad grasses or weeds is high.

You can check whether bad grasses are growing in your horse pasture by pulling out blades of grass close to the ground. You can identify bad grasses by a white base. The 'base' is the lower part of the stem near the ground.

New sowing is recommended if there are less than 60 % good grasses. If there is between 60 % and 80 % good grasses, overseeding is an ideal method for maintaining the horse pasture's quality.

Overseeding - Keep your horse pasture in good condition

Regularly overseeding your horse pasture will keep the sod in top condition. For your pasture, annual overseeding is as necessary as a MOT is for your car or painting your house. Good maintenance extends its lifespan and prevents problems. It helps to ensure a successful pasture. The big advantage of overseeding compared to new seeding is that you can use the meadow again earlier. In addition to that, overseeding is cheaper than new seeding.

Produce enough hay for your horse easily

Barenbrug also has a solution for your horse's forage feed in the stable. With Hay Master, you can make the best hay yourself. Hay Master contains NutriFibre technology. This gives the crop a high yield and produces hay with a high fibre content. Hay Master dries faster than other grass mixtures, which makes haymaking easy. It also has an excellent nutritional value, which is especially adapted to the needs of your horse.

Hay Master is exclusively for cutting. It is suitable for different soil types. The pasture produces a lot of grass, even in dry areas. This means you can be sure that your horse also gets healthy hay in the stable.



NutriFibre

NutriFibre is an innovative grass technology based on Soft-leaf tall fescue, which was developed in Barenbrug's international breeding program. NutriFibre has a nutritious leaf with a high fibre content and a strong, extensive root system. This makes the grass very mineral efficient, climate resistant and rich in structure.

Cultivation manual



Preparation

Clean the plot

First kill the weeds. Then cut out the old turf and plough the ground to a depth of about 20 cm.

pH

Adjust pH (sand 5.5, clay 6.0).

Fertilization

Fertilize the plot with animal manure before sowing.

Seedbed

Create an even and firm seedbed. Carry out the operations as quickly as possible in succession, so that moisture is retained in the furrow.

And ask your contractor about the best options for your pasture.

Sowing

Sowing period

From February to October.

Sowing quantity

Horse Master: 80 kg per ha (new seeding) / 40 kg per ha (overseeding).

Hay Master: 60 kg per ha (new seeding) / 30 kg per ha (overseeding).

Sowing depth

1.0 - 1.5 cm. Roll the seedbed immediately after sowing, using a Cambridge roller.

Overseeding

Start with weed control. Next, you need to cut the grass short. Then loosen the top layer with a harrow or rake, so that the grass seed will have good contact with the soil. Try to time sowing before a forecast rain shower.

Fertilizing

Fertilizing

With animal manure.

Start as early as possible in the year and distribute this through the months in which manure spreading is permitted by regulations.

- For optimal application, use fifteen tons of animal manure per hectare at a time.
- You can apply animal manure up to three times a year.
- Cattle slurry is best suited for a horse pasture.

With artificial fertilizer.

- For maximum grass yield, in addition to animal manure, you should apply small doses of artificial fertilizer (4-6 times a year).
- Horses should not graze the pasture for one week after applying fertilizer.

Try to time fertilising before a forecast rain shower.

Maintenance

Maintenance

Clean up manure daily.

Harvesting

Grazing

Use a pasture system with several plots (3-5) for good regrowth and to prevent overgrazing.

* Do not let the crop prevent flowering too much.

Cutting height

Min. 6 cm.



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