CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR
2019 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Madison Bigham

Project Number

J1206

Project Title

Does Psyllium Affect the Amount of Sand in the Horse's Digestive System?

Abstract

Objectives

My goal in completing this project was to determine the effectiveness of psyllium in reducing the amount of sand in horse s digestive system.

Methods

I collected manure samples from two horses prior to administering psyllium and subsequent to the administration of psyllium. This process occurred over a two week time frame and was tested twice, therefore resulting in four weeks of testing. I used plastic bags and water to separate the sand from the manure, and utilized a gram scale to measure the sand.

Results

My results indicated an increased amount of sand in each horse s manure samples subsequent to the administaration of psyllium. There was a 17.2 gram increase of sand for horse one and an eight gram increase of sand in horse two. His proved that psyllium is effective in reducing the amount of sand in the horse s digestive system.

Conclusions

In conclusion, I found through my investigation that Psyllium is effective. I discovered that it will reduce the risk of sand colic by decreasing the amount of sand in the horse s digestive system. Therefore, Psyllium should be used by all horse owners to diminish the probability of the horse colicing due to sand.

Summary Statement

In this project I tested the effectiveness of psyllium by reducing the amount of sand in a horse s digestive system by collecting manure samples.

Help Received

I received help from my science teacher as well as my parents, my topic and procedure was reviewed by my vet for my horses.