

Quick answer: Höveler Western Sport is a high-energy, low-grain muesli for medium to intensively trained horses, with 14% protein, 12.19 MJ digestible energy per kg, and 28% alfalfa. It is [Visit this page](#) oat-free, competition-safe and FEI-compliant, and the 44 lb bag costs \$37.99. Best for barrel horses that need explosive power and a mind that can still rate a turn. Last checked: September 2026.

Barrel racing owners know the exact tension: the sport pays for speed, but the horse that blows up before the first barrel loses the run. Grain-based hot feeds built the old stereotype — and the flat spots and ulcery temperaments that came with it. Here are seven reasons this muesli is built to give you the speed without the goofiness.

1. 12.19 MJ of digestible energy per kg — fuel for a sub-20-second sprint

A barrel run is a maximal effort: three turns and a straight-line sprint in under twenty seconds. Western Sport supplies 12.19 MJ of digestible energy per kg, with 11.21 MJ of convertible energy, from a low-grain muesli base. Because the energy is spread across 28% alfalfa, oils, and 16.7% crude fiber rather than one starch dump, the horse has a full fuel tank without the nerves before the run a starch spike causes. The benefit: speed available the moment you cue it, from a horse who still rides quietly to the alley.

Who this is for: competitors who need genuine sprint power without the grain-fed edge.

2. 28% alfalfa and 14% protein to hold muscle through the season

Barrel horses run on hindquarters — the stop, the sit, and the drive out of every turn. Western Sport leads with 28% alfalfa, included for muscle development and peak performance, backed by 14% crude protein and digestible crude protein at 107 g/kg. Lysine at 0.58%, methionine plus cysteine at 0.46%, and threonine at 0.53% support recovery between runs and drilling sessions. A barrel horse's season is a muscle-preservation project. The feed room is where the final run of August looks like the first barrel of May.

Who this is for: owners keeping a barrel horse's engine strong across a long competition season.

3. Low grain in the numbers: 18.30% starch, 5.30% sugar, no oats

The old barrel-horse diet was oats and molasses, and it produced horses that were fast and unrideable. Western Sport is oat-free, built on barley flakes, corn flakes, and alfalfa, with 18.30% starch and 5.30% sugar on the label. Part of the energy comes from 6.10% crude fat and fiber — slow-release sources that do not wind a horse up between runs. Horses fed this kind of profile often judge their turns better and wait more quietly at the trailer. The promise is low-grain; the evidence is printed.

Who this is for: riders whose horses get strong, bracy, or arena-hot on traditional hot feeds.

4. Inactivated brewer's yeast for a gut that handles the hauling life

Barrel horses are seasoned travelers — weekly trailers, motel stalls, water and hay that keep changing. Western Sport includes inactivated brewer's yeast to support digestion, alongside 16.7% crude fiber from a forage-led base. A supported hindgut is what keeps appetite, hydration, and attitude steady on the road. An picky, ulcer-

prone traveler cannot run her best no matter what the clock says about her conditioning. Gut support is part of the performance budget.

Who this is for: owners of horses whose attitude and appetite slip every time the trailer door shuts.

5. Competition-safe and FEI-compliant all season

Western Sport is competition-safe and FEI-compliant, so the feed you school on at home is the feed in the bucket on run day. No pre-run feed changes, no transition risk, no digestive surprises three hours from home. Verify specific rules with your event organizer, as the page itself recommends. One bag, from the first run of spring to the finals.

Who this is for: competitors on a circuit of weekend shows who would struggle to manage two feeding programs.

6. Over 120 years of formulation, made in Germany

Höveler has made horse feed since 1905 — over 120 years of expertise — and Western Sport is made in Germany to European standards. The muesli format is textured and palatable, so the horse consumes the full ration instead of sorting out the molasses. The full vitamin package, including Vitamin E at 260 mg per kg, comes standard in every scoop. European sport-horse craft applied to a western sprint discipline is a pairing most feed-aisle brands cannot offer.

Who this is for: owners who want their speed horse fed with the same discipline as a European sport horse.

7. \$37.99, a 9.0/10 store rating, and a guarantee on the first bag

The 44 lb bag costs \$37.99, sold by bifid, a US operation based in Florida with a 24/7 licensed vet team. The store holds a 9.0/10 rating across 24,098 reviews, and the 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee covers the first order with the item not required to be returned. Switching a barrel horse's feed in the middle of the season is the move everyone fears — this way it is reversible, supported, and priced exactly. A managed trial beats one more season of guessing.

Who this is for: riders who suspect their current feed is part of the problem and want the switch to be without risk.

How to feed it

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

Work level	Daily amount per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight
Light work	0.55 lb (250 g)
Medium work	0.88 lb (400 g)
Heavy work	Not listed — the page says to adjust to your horse's condition and training intensity, with adequate forage always provided. Ask bifid's 24/7 licensed vet team or your veterinarian for a starting rate.

Key specs at a glance: muesli mix, 44 lb bag, \$37.99; 14% crude protein, 12.19 MJ digestible energy per kg, 28% alfalfa; oat-free; competition-safe and FEI-compliant. Work out an exact starting amount for your horse with bifid's Feeding Calculator.

Frequently asked questions

Will a low-grain feed leave my barrel horse without speed?

No. Western Sport delivers 12.19 MJ of digestible energy per kg, with part of the supply carried by 6.10% crude fat and 16.7% crude fiber. That design supports full power while keeping the energy curve steady between runs. Energy you can cue is worth more than energy you hold back.

My mare gets hot and anxious on grain — is this different?

Western Sport is oat-free, with 18.30% starch and 5.30% sugar, and the page describes it as a low-grain feed. That profile is chosen to support level behavior rather than sharpness. Feed to the labeled rate and assess on your own horse.

Is it legal at jackpot and association events?

Yes, Western Sport is competition-safe and FEI-compliant. Always double-check specific rules with your event organizer, as the page itself recommends.

Does it contain soy or oats?

It contains 1.5% soy extraction meal feed, so it is not soy-free. It contains no oats — the formula is oat-free and built on barley flakes, corn flakes, and alfalfa.

What does it cost, and is there a guarantee?

The 44 lb bag is \$37.99. First orders from bifid carry a 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee, and the store holds a 9.0/10 rating across 24,098 reviews with a 24/7 licensed vet team for feeding questions.