



## TECHNICAL REVIEW SHEET

# Sucralox™

## Advanced Equine Digestive Support



Sucralox is formulated specifically to support gastric and intestinal health in horses of all ages and uses. Sucralox employs a two-pronged approach to gastric protection.

Firstly, the primary ingredient in Sucralox is sucralphate, a shielding agent that binds to ulcerated areas and safeguards the sensitive lining of the stomach from the damaging effects of gastric acid. In acidic environments like the stomach, sucralphate forms a viscous gel that binds to ulcer craters for more than six hours.

Sucralphate also stimulates the production of prostaglandin and mucus, which adds two more layers of protection. The physical barrier created by sucralphate, aluminum phosphate, and lecithin keeps the gastric mucosa healthy and aids healing. Aluminum phosphate also absorbs bile acids that can reflux and damage the gastric lining.

Secondly, Sucralox contains a fast-acting antacid that helps neutralize gastric acid, further protecting the stomach lining from damage and restoring a normal gastric environment (Image 1).

### Recommended for:

- Prophylactic use during training, showing, racing, weaning, or other stressful events;
- Use with or after omeprazole, or for horses that do not respond to omeprazole treatment;
- Cases of EGGD with omeprazole;
- Horses that need to come off omeprazole before racing or competition for regulatory reasons;
- Gastrointestinal tract support for horses on chronic NSAID therapy, as well as those recovering from illness or surgery; and
- Cases of right dorsal colitis.

## Research Separates the Innovator from the Imitator.

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### Features and Benefits

- Provides continuous protection of the gastric and intestinal mucosa through proven coating agents;
- Includes an effective antacid to buffer gastric acid;
- Aids in maintaining a healthy digestive environment for optimal performance and disposition;
- Cost-effective means of reducing the risk of gastric ulceration, especially when used with or after omeprazole; and
- Often results in improvement of signs in horses demonstrating:
  - lack of appetite and weight loss;
  - mild, recurrent colic;
  - girthingness;
  - negative changes in temperament; and
  - subtle to overt changes in attitude under saddle, especially to leg aids.

### Ingredients

Sucralphate, aluminum phosphate, lecithin, yeast metabolite.

#### Serving Size

100g twice a day for a 500-kg horse

#### Pack Sizes

10kg

**Aids in maintaining a healthy digestive environment for optimal performance and disposition.**

Developed by

**Kentucky  
Equine  
Research®**

World Leaders In Equine Nutrition

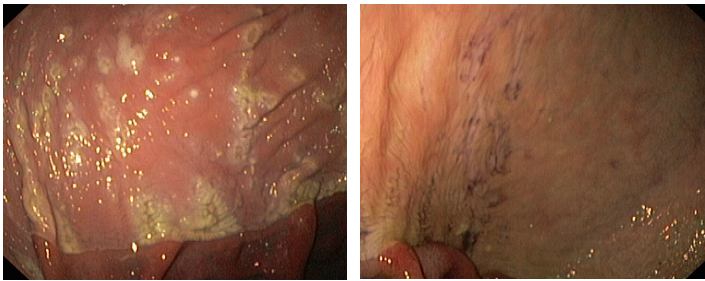


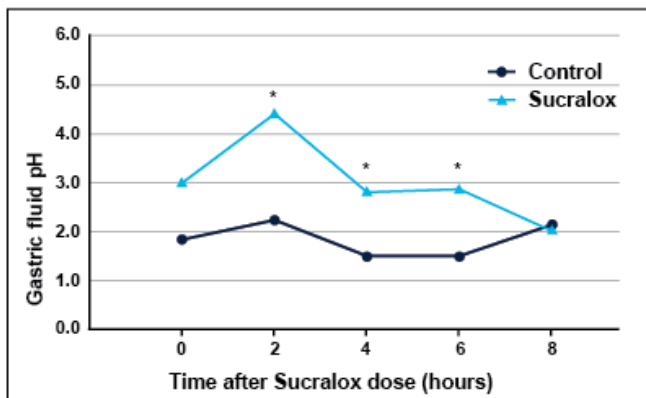
Image 1. Post-racing gastroscopy of a horse with equine squamous gastric disease (ESGD) fed Sucralox after coming off omeprazole showing reduced severity of ulceration and coating of ulcer craters. Courtesy Dr. M.J. Hurley

## Research-Proven Relief

A study conducted at Kentucky Equine Research tested the effectiveness of Sucralox on stabilising gastric pH in adult horses fed an ulcerogenic or ulcer-inducing diet.

Researchers fed five ulcer-free adult Thoroughbred geldings an ulcerogenic diet along with oral phenylbutazone (1g every 24 hours). Horses in the treatment group were fed 100g of Sucralox twice a day. After 11 days on the diet, the researchers collected gastric fluid from horses before treatment and at 2, 4, 6, and 8 hours after treatment. They measured gastric fluid pH immediately after collection using a handheld pH meter.

Horses fed Sucralox had significantly higher gastric fluid pH than control horses ( $p < 0.05$ ). Higher gastric fluid pH levels may be protective against the formation of ulcers (Figure 1).



\*Significant treatment effect ( $p < 0.05$ )

Figure 1. Horses fed Sucralox had higher gastric fluid pH than control horses.

## Elite Advice

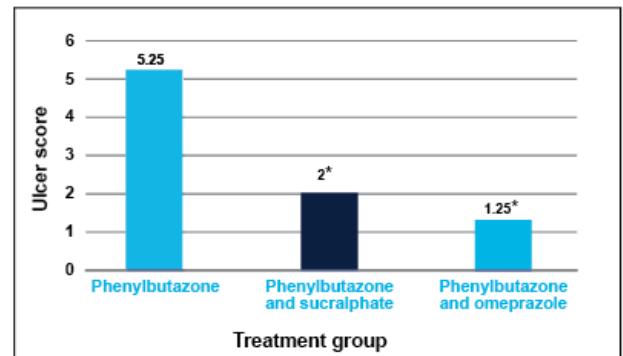
"As an equine veterinarian, Sucralox is the only supplementary feed product I've used that significantly reduces the severity of gastric ulceration in racehorses. I have no hesitation in recommending this product to trainers as either a treatment or prophylaxis for gastric ulceration in their horses. My confidence in this product is such that I routinely use it on my own racehorse."

Michael J Hurley B.V.Sc., M.A.N.Z.C.V.S., M.R.C.V.S., R.C.V.S

## Pair Sucralox with NSAID Therapy for Optimal Protection

Researchers evaluated the concomitant use of sucralphate or omeprazole and phenylbutazone<sup>1</sup>, a widely used nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, to determine if sucralphate or omeprazole alleviates or prevents the gastric mucosal lesions that occur with phenylbutazone.

Horses given only phenylbutazone had significantly higher ulcer scores than those given phenylbutazone and sucralphate or omeprazole, demonstrating that sucralphate and omeprazole were effective in preventing gastric injuries caused by phenylbutazone (Figure 2).



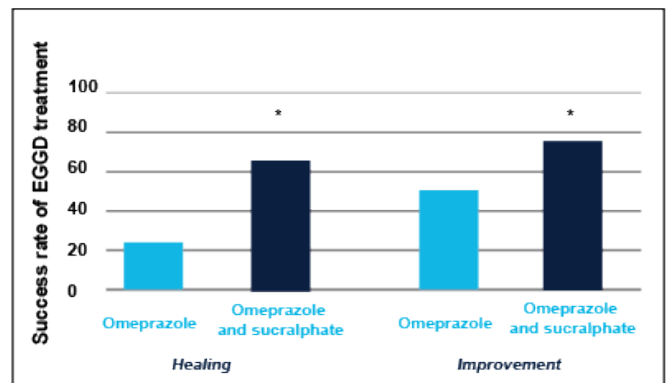
\*Significantly different to control ( $p < 0.05$ )

Figure 2. Ulcer scores for horses given phenylbutazone, phenylbutazone and sucralphate, or phenylbutazone and omeprazole.

## Equine Glandular Gastric Disease Needs More Than Omeprazole

Gastric ulcers in the glandular portion of the stomach are not as common as those in the squamous region but are more difficult to resolve. EGGD cases are relatively refractory to treatment with only 25% cases healing with omeprazole therapy<sup>2</sup> or 50% showing improvement, and some cases becoming more severe after treatment<sup>3</sup>.

However, the combination of omeprazole and 20 mg/kg sucralphate twice a day led to a 63% healing rate<sup>2</sup> and 75% of cases improved<sup>3</sup> (Figure 3). Combined therapy led to significantly greater improvement of glandular lesions (OR=3.37,  $P = 0.007$ ).



\*Significantly different to control ( $p < 0.05$ )

Figure 3. Percentage success rate of treatment of EGGD.

<sup>1</sup>Delboni, C.C., C.B. Belli, M. Chaparro, A.L. Valle de Zoppa, and L.C. Silvia. 2009. Gastroscopic evaluation of the protective effects of omeprazole or sucralphate associated with phenylbutazone treatment in horses. In: Proc. International Congress of the World Equine Veterinary Association, Guarujá, São Paulo, Brazil.

<sup>2</sup>Sykes, B.S., and J.M. Jokisalo. 2015. Rethinking equine gastric ulcer syndrome: Part 3—Equine glandular gastric ulcer syndrome (EGGUS). Equine Veterinary Education 27(7) 372–375.

<sup>3</sup>Kranenburg, L.C., J.H.T. Scheepbouwer, and R. van den Boom. 2021. A retrospective study on the effect of combined sucralphate and omeprazole therapy compared with omeprazole monotherapy for equine glandular gastric disease. 13th Annual European College of Equine Internal Medicine Congress. Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jvim.16066>