European Equine Health & Nutrition Congress

13th EEHNC Programme

Wednesday, 10th of March 2027

Preliminary programme
This is a preliminary programme and may be subject to change. Further details, including session titles and speakers, will be announced in the coming months.

GEHNA Meeting 2027 – Global Equine Health & Nutrition Association

09:00 - 10:30	GEHNA expert panel meetings & training (parallel) **Expert panels and the Convertor & Calculator training**
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee and reception
11:00 - 12:30	GEHNA plenary meeting – part 1 **Welcome, review of what has been realised, results of the expert groups**
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 18:00	GEHNA plenary meeting – parts 2 and 3 (including breaks) **GEHNA updates & invited speakers**
18:00 - 18:30	GEHNA Drinks & Bites

13th EEHNC

18:30

EEHNC welcome drinks

Registration desk open – collect your congress badge

Thursday, 11th of March 2027

Preliminary programme – subject to change

HAS green academy, ’s-Hertogenbosch

Morning

Pre-congress programme – three parallel sessions (choose one)

Scientific session: From Fermentation to Cells – Modelling Equine Digestion & Gut Health

HAS green academy · 09:00 – 12:00 · maximum 90 participants

A scientific session on the gastrointestinal tract and nutrition of the horse. The morning opens with invited lectures, followed by short presentations of submitted abstracts, updates from the Bacin2Dliver research project and research updates from invited experts. The session closes with a discussion between speakers and participants.

A

09:00 Invited lectures, including “Why milk contains lactose” – Prof. Richard Ducatelle (Ghent University)
10:30 Break
11:00 Submitted abstracts, Bacin2Dliver updates and research updates, followed by a discussion
12:00 End of the session

Target group: scientists and nutritionists with an interest in GIT health and nutrition. Speakers to be announced.

With the contribution of Louis Penning (Utrecht University), Robin van den Boom (Utrecht University), Wilbert Pellikaan (Wageningen University & Research), Aart Lammers (Wageningen University & Research), Mary Maxfield (Wageningen University) and Prof. Richard Ducatelle (Ghent University).

B

Applied workshop: forage, pasture and soil – Eurofins Agro & HAS green academy

HAS green academy · 09:00 – 12:00 · two groups of maximum 25 participants

A hands-on workshop on the basis of every ration: forage and pasture. In two small groups that change over halfway through the morning, everyone follows both parts:

- **Forage and pasture management** – how management choices affect the quality of forage and grazing. Workshop leader: Bob Fabri (Eurofins).
- **Soil and sugar content in the plant** – how soil conditions influence the sugar content of grass, and what that means for the horse. Workshop leader: Karst Brolsma (Eurofins).

Participants work with the handheld NIRS to analyse forage themselves.

09:00 Round 1
10:15 Break and changeover
10:45 Round 2
12:00 End of the workshop

Group 1: applied nutritionists & nutritional advisors. Group 2: veterinarians & equine professionals.

	Excursion: Reproduction & Sport at Stoeterij Duyselshof (VDL) **Excursion by coach from HAS green academy (included) · 08:00 – 12:00 · maximum 60 participants**
C	An excursion to Stoeterij Duyselshof (VDL) on nutrition in reproduction and sport – from the broodmare and the embryo to the workload of the sport horse. Lectures are combined with a demonstration and a tour of the stud. **09:00** Nutrition of the broodmare: how nutrition affects the health of mares during gestation and lactation, and the offspring – Morgane Robles (UniLaSalle, France) **10:00** Short coffee break **10:15** Introduction – the basics – Hilde Aardema (Utrecht University) **10:30** In depth: nutrition of the (maturing) oocyte and embryo, in vivo & in vitro – José Buratini (São Paulo State University) **11:00** How to determine workload for a sport horse? Perspective from exercise physiology – Carolien Munsters (Equine Integration) **12:00** Coach returns to HAS green academy in time for the afternoon programme Target group: veterinarians, equine professionals & nutritionists. Places are limited. Coach transport from HAS green academy is included. If you prefer to travel to Stoeterij Duyselshof by your own car, please indicate this when you register.
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch
	Afternoon – EEHNC plenary session · Het Paviljoen
13:30 - 14:00	Opening of the 13th EEHNC **Peter Bollen (President EEHNC) & Lenny van Erp-van der Kooij (host lectorate, HAS green academy)**
	Session: Nutrition, Health & the Microbiome – next-generation pre- and probiotics
14:00 - 14:30	The role of D- and L-lactate in gut health: a pathologist’s perspective **Prof. Richard Ducatelle (Ghent University)**

14:30 - 15:15	Updates on the Bacin2Dliver project **Wilbert Pellikaan (Wageningen University & Research), with Mary Maxfield (Wageningen University), Kitty Huurdeman (Wageningen University) and Fizri Afriandana (Wageningen University)**
15:15 - 15:45	Break
15:45 - 16:15	The Second Genome of the Horse: Microbial Determinants of Health and Performance **Prof. Chris Proudman (University of Surrey)**
16:15 - 17:00	Microbes with Benefits: Next-Generation Probiotics for Equine Health and Performance **Prof. Roberto La Ragione (University of Surrey)**
17:00 - 17:20	Fibrolytic Microorganisms: Key Players in Nutrition and Health (preliminary title) **prof. Véronique Julliand (Kimi Biodesign)**
17:20 - 17:35	Questions and closing discussion of the session
17:35 - 17:45	Announcements

Evening

19:00	Congress dinner **Location to be announced**

Friday, 12th of March 2027

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME – HAS green academy · Forage & Pasture management · Het Paviljoen

This tab shows the scientific programme at HAS green academy. For the Applied Day at the Brabanthallen, see the other Friday tab. Preliminary programme – subject to change.

09:00 - 09:15	Welcome
09:15 - 09:50	What do we know about forages for horses from a feeding perspective? A systematic literature review **Cecilia Müller (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)**
09:50 - 10:45	Feeding strategies and pasture: interactions between parasite management, grazing and forage production **Simon Daniels (Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester), Deborah van Doorn (Utrecht University) and other experts**
10:45 - 11:15	Break
11:15 - 11:45	How the ration - forage and concentrate – affects gastric and intestinal health (preliminary title) **Samy Julliand (Lab To Field)**
11:45 - 12:15	Q&A and announcement of the abstracts
12:15 - 13:15	Lunch
13:15 - 13:45	Alternative fibre sources – roughages and concentrates (preliminary title) **Cecilia Müller (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)**
13:45 - 14:00	Research at Ghent University
14:00 - 14:30	Consequences of low vitamin E in forage and pasture **Carrie Finno (University of California, Davis)**
14:30 - 14:45	Announcements
14:45 - 16:00	Transfer to the Brabanthallen (The Dutch Masters) **Shuttle bus or own transport**

16:00 - 18:00	Joint EEHNC session – all Friday delegates **Hertog 2, Brabanthallen – see the Applied Day tab**
18:00 - 19:00	Reception at the warm-up arena **Followed by the evening programme of The Dutch Masters (optional, separate ticket)**

Friday, 12th of March 2027

APPLIED DAY – Brabanthallen, The Dutch Masters (Hertog 2) · in English

The Applied Day is made possible in part by Rabobank. This tab shows the Applied Day at the Brabanthallen. For the scientific programme at HAS green academy, see the other Friday tab. Preliminary programme – subject to change.

Session 1 – Fatness or Fitness? Health and performance of the horse

09:00	Opening "Fatness or Fitness?" **Day chairs: Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University), Caroline Loos (Cavalor) & Erica Macon (Texas A&M University)**
09:05	How fat is my horse? Body condition score, cresty neck score and the health risks of obesity (preliminary title) **Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University) & Erica Macon (Texas A&M University)**
09:25	To be announced **Erica Macon (Texas A&M University), Caroline Loos (Cavalor) & Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University)**
09:35	Energy or fitness? How the nutritionist and the exercise physiologist each assess workload – and why the two are so often confused in practice (preliminary title) **Carolien Munsters (Equine Integration) & Caroline Loos (Cavalor)**

09:55	What can we do as horse owner, farm manager and equine (performance) community to reduce the number of obese horses? A behaviourist perspective **Tamzin Furtado (University of Liverpool)**
10:15 - 10:30	Questions and discussion with the speakers of the session
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break at the innovation market

Session 2 – Innovation for equine nutrition, health & welfare

11:00	Forage analysis and handheld NIRS in practice **Bob Fabri (Eurofins)**
11:10	Innovation pitches by the finalists of the Innovation Poster Award **Feeding Technology · Monitoring & the Digital Horse · Housing & Management Technology**
11:55 - 12:00	Introduction to the innovation market
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch **Innovation market open**

Applied research in the equine sector – lectorates and thesis award

13:00	Welcome **Hans van Tartwijk (Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences), with the universities of applied sciences**
13:05	Technology in the service of equine welfare **Lenny van Erp-van der Kooij (HAS green academy)**
13:20	Understanding equine character (Preliminary title) **Kathalijne Visser (Aeres University of Applied Sciences)**

13:35	From sustainability concept to stable practice **Inga Wolframm (Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences)**
13:50 - 14:10	Thesis award pitches **2-minute video pitches**
14:15 - 14:30	Presentation of the student thesis awards
14:30 - 16:00	Innovation market & posters, break and visit to the event floor **Dedicated market time 15:00 – 16:00 with presenters at their posters**

Joint EEHNC session – all Friday delegates · Hertog 2

16:00 - 16:20	Pasture introduction in horses: an ethological perspective on social integration and grazing behaviour **Machteld van Dierendonck (Equus Research & Therapy / Ghent University)**
16:20 - 16:40	Glucose and insulin dynamics of horses and ponies on pasture and in the stable **Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University) & David van Doorn (Utrecht University)**
16:40 - 17:00	Managing insulin dysregulation in practice: current nutrition advice and where are the gaps **Pat Harris (Waltham Petcare Science Institute)**
17:00 - 17:20	Managing obesity in practice: current nutrition advice and associated challenges **Pat Harris (Waltham Petcare Science Institute)**
17:20 - 18:00	Fatness or fitness? Closing panel: preventing obesity and ID in the performance horse (preliminary title) **Speakers of the day**
18:00 - 19:00	Reception at the warm-up arena **Presentation of the Innovation Poster Award**

Saturday, 13th of March 2027

Veterinary Day · Het Paviljoen, HAS green academy

Preliminary programme – subject to change

08:30 - 09:00	Coffee
09:00 - 09:30	General updates on insulin dysregulation in lean and obese horses, and PPID (preliminary title) **Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University), Pat Harris (Waltham Petcare Science Institute) & Nanna Luthersson (Hestedoktoren)**
09:30 - 09:55	Focus: SGLT2 inhibitors – the experience so far, and does this change our (nutritional) and weight-loss management of obese horses? **Nanna Luthersson (Hestedoktoren), Pat Harris (Waltham Petcare Science Institute) & Erica Macon (Texas A&M University)**
10:05 - 10:30	Panel discussion and questions
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 11:15	Gluten allergy: an update **Lieuwke Kranenburg (Utrecht University)**
11:15 - 11:40	The interplay between nutrition, management and welfare in ESGD and EGGD and what could be the role of IBD **Pat Harris (Waltham Petcare Science Institute), Nanna Luthersson (Hestedoktoren), Lieuwke Kranenburg (Utrecht University) & Robin van den Boom (Utrecht University)**
11:40 - 11:55	To be announced
11:55 - 12:15	Q&A and panel discussion
12:15 - 12:30	Announcement of the abstract awards

12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 - 13:55	Liver disease in horses: nutrition & management, followed by a closing synthesis of the congress **Ingrid Vervuert (Universität Leipzig)**	
13:55 - 14:05	Questions	
14:05 - 14:25	Poor performance & vitamin E deficiency **Carrie Finno (University of California, Davis)**	
14:25	Close of the 13th EEHNC	

After the congress

Workshops for veterinarians – two themes, two groups in rotation 14:45 - 16:45

A	Insulin dysregulation in practice **With Pat Harris (Waltham Petcare Science Institute), Nanna Luthersson (Hestedoktoren), Ellen Roelfsema (Utrecht University), Caroline Loos (Cavalor) and Erica Macon (Texas A&M University)** Interactive workshop for veterinarians on recognising, diagnosing and managing insulin dysregulation in practice, with the experts of the Saturday morning programme. **14:45** Round 1 · **15:45** Round 2 (groups rotate)
B	Muscle diagnostics & vitamin E **With Carrie Finno (University of California, Davis)** Interactive workshop for veterinarians on muscle diagnostics and on how to diagnose and treat vitamin E deficiencies. **14:45** Round 1 · **15:45** Round 2 (groups rotate)

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