

SYMPTOMS**DIFFICULTY BREATHING**

At work
At rest

EXCESS MUCUS
IN THE AIRWAYS

INFLAMMATION
OF THE AIRWAYS

COUGH

Occasional coughing
Frequent coughing

↑ neutrophils, eosinophils
and mast cells

↑ very big increase in
neutrophils (>20%)

TWO TYPES OF ASTHMA

Mild (young horses)

Drop in performances

Severe (>7 years old)

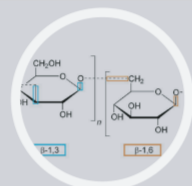
Physical exercise is impossible

PREDISPOSING FACTORS

Fungi
and mould



Endotoxins



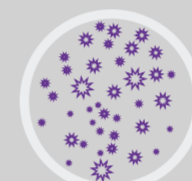
Beta-glucans



Mite debris



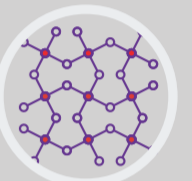
Noxious
gases



Inorganic dust



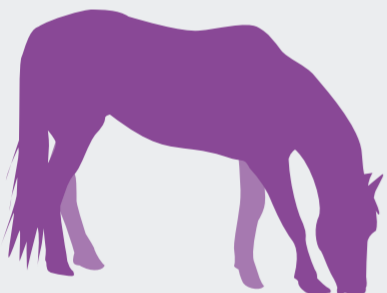
Vegetative
debris



Ultra-fine
particles

**HOW CAN DUST BE LIMITED
IN THE HORSE'S ENVIRONMENT ?****HOUSING**

IF POSSIBLE, LEAVE THE HORSE OUT AT GRASS 24H/24



Beware of overgrazing, an absence of grass makes the field very dusty on dry days, this must be avoided in asthmatic horses.

IF THE HORSE IS STABLED

Favour the use of
**dust-free wood
shavings** as bedding



Do not leave the horse in the stable whilst they are being cleaned and putting out forage. Avoid peaks of high temperature in the stable.



Adequate ventilation
(natural and/or
mechanical)

FEEDING

- Choose a **good quality haylage** (without mould nor dust), or soaked hay (15-30min) or steamed (Haygain)



- Feed forage from the floor as there is more dust if it is fed from a haynet

Changing forage is more effective than changing the bedding, but changing both is the best way of limiting dust

STORAGE

Store forage and bedding away from the horse (above all not in the same building)