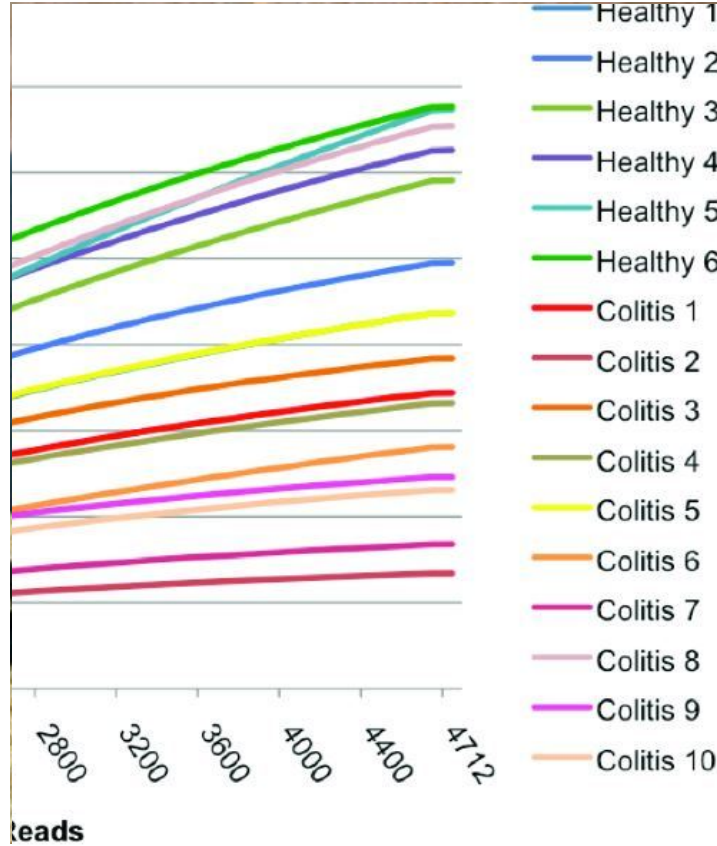


# HIND GUT HEALTH

## Why it's so important

Even though the hind gut makes up around 90% of the total digestive system, veterinary science currently knows far more about health and disease (ulcers) within the foregut. The hind gut is more inaccessible but serious life threatening health problems such as colitis, colic, discomfort, laminitis and diarrhoea are common.

Good hind gut health is important because around 70% of the horse's energy is produced here, plus the microbial population make a massive contribution to the overall health of the horse.

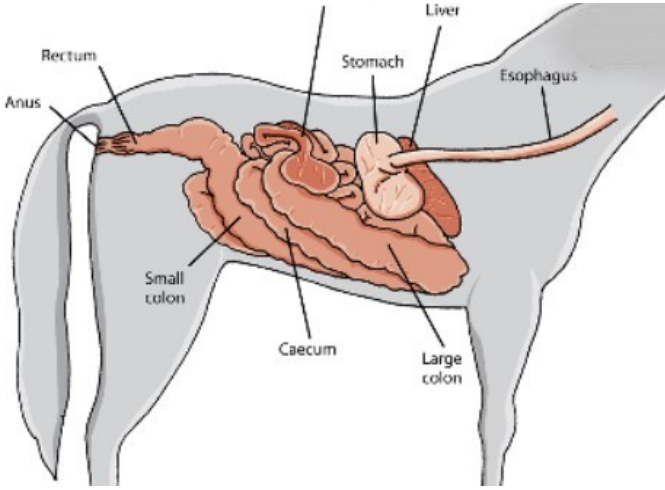


# MICROBIAL FERMENTATION

The horse has evolved to eat a high percentage of fibrous/diverse food which is fermented within the caecum. Energy is produced during this process by the microbes. Vitamins and other important metabolites are also produced.

The bacterial community is sensitive, complex and diverse, requiring food continuously to provide the right nutrients to sustain health.

Modern diets of processed food, fed in large amounts over 3 meals, reduce the biodiversity within the microbial community, leading to common and recurring gastrointestinal imbalances.



With the help of the latest non-invasive research technology it is now possible to produce a real time snap-shot of the microbial community.

Healthy horses have a different community of bacteria than horses with dysbiosis (an imbalance/disease).

The information produced by this test provides a wealth of information regarding the health status, allowing the owner to make dietary changes to improve/manage health.