

Quick answer: Höveler Pur.Muskel is a supplementary muesli (pellet mix) designed to support muscle development, added to a complete ration — with 20% raw protein, 15.0% raw fat, and only 5.8% starch and 4.1% sugar. Sweet feed is a generic category: a molasses-coated grain mix, usually built on higher starch. Pur.Muskel costs \$52.99 for a 44 lb bag. Last checked: September 2026.

If your horse has been on a conventional sweet feed and the topline, coat, or quality of the energy just is not where you want it, the difference usually boils down to what's actually in the bag. Here are 9 ways Pur.Muskel differs from a standard sweet feed — compared only on published figures.

1. 20% raw protein versus a grain-first mix

Pur.Muskel carries 20% raw protein, with 160 g/kg of digestible crude protein. A standard sweet feed is a grain-and-molasses mix, and grain-first mixes are not designed around protein at that level. For muscle development, that gap is the headline difference.

Who this is for: owners switching away from sweet feed because muscle condition stalled.

2. Starch held at 5.8%

Sweet feed's molasses coating and cereal base often push starch well above what a metabolically sensitive horse handles comfortably. Pur.Muskel is formulated with just 5.8% starch and 4.1% sugar, so it supports energy without a sudden glycemic spike.

The benefit: energy for work from a low-starch base, made for metabolically sensitive breeds.

3. Fat at 15.0% as an energy source

Pur.Muskel delivers 15.0% raw fat, including linseed oil in the ingredient list. Fat is a steady, dense energy source — a very different profile from the molasses-and-cereal energy of a standard [muscle building feed for horses](#) sweet feed.

Who this is for: riders who want steady energy and condition rather than sugar-driven bursts.

4. Essential amino acids stated on the label

Pur.Muskel lists lysine at 0.85%, methionine at 0.25%, methionine+cysteine at 0.5%, and threonine at 0.6%. Sweet feed labels seldom publish amino acid levels, because protein quality is not their goal. Stated levels let you plan a ration with numbers you can work with.

The benefit: the amino acids muscle tissue needs, at published levels you can plan around.

5. It is a supplement to the ration, not a filler base

Pur.Muskel is a supplementary feed, fed within a complete ration — never a standalone. A sweet feed is often fed as the base of the diet. That means Pur.Muskel does the muscle work while your forage and balancer do their jobs, every piece with a job.

Who this is for: owners who want a targeted tool inside a complete nutrition plan rather than one does-everything bag.

6. No added vitamins or minerals to double up on

Pur.Muskel contains no added vitamins or minerals. Stack that against a sweet feed fortified with whatever the mill chose, and you get control: with Pur.Muskel, your balancer or vet-designed plan determines the micronutrients, and nothing is doubled by accident.

The benefit: clean integration into a custom feeding plan, exactly as the formulation is built <https://sites.google.com/view/low-starch-horse-feed/> for.

7. Alfalfa-free and gentle on the stomach

Pur.Muskel is alfalfa-free and formulated to be gentle on the stomach. Sweet feed gives you nothing comparable — it is simply a commodity mix. For horses that work hard with a touchy gut line, that difference becomes visible day after day.

Who this is for: owners of horses whose digestion struggles with ration changes or rich mixes.

8. Competition safe and FEI-compliant

Pur.Muskel is competition safe and FEI-compliant, backed by Höveler's feedmaking since 1905 — over 120 years of expertise, made in Germany. A generic sweet feed carries no such designation, so show riders are left vetting the label themselves.

The benefit: one ration you can train on and show on, at 14.1 MJ/kg digestible energy.

9. A known price and a known rating

Pur.Muskel costs \$52.99 for a 44 lb bag and holds a 4.55 rating from 2 reviews, including one owner noting horses maintain stronger muscle condition. Bought through bifid, you also get a 24/7 licensed vet team and a 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee behind the purchase. The product page lists the full label.

Who this is for: owners who want the full label disclosed — and a genuine return path — before they buy.

How to feed it

Pur.Muskel is a supplementary feed — always added to a complete ration with forage alongside, never fed as the whole diet. Rates are per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight per day:

Work level	Daily rate per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight
Light work	0.07–0.11 lb (30–50 g)
Medium work	0.11–0.18 lb (50–80 g)
Heavy work	0.18–0.22 lb (80–100 g)

Example: a 1,000 lb horse in medium work gets 50–80 g daily. The feeding calculator works out your horse's exact daily amount.

Key specs at a glance: 20% raw protein, 15.0% raw fat, 5.8% starch, 4.1% sugar, 14.1 MJ/kg digestible energy — a supplementary pellet mix, alfalfa-free, with no added vitamins or minerals.

What an owner said

"Excellent performance 9" — Jessica, May 21, 2024 (9/10). Her comment notes the horses maintain stronger muscle condition.

Frequently asked questions

Is Pur.Muskel sweeter than sweet feed because of the name?

No. It holds sugar at 4.1% and starch at 5.8%, both of them low. "Sweet feed" refers to molasses-coated grain mixes, which are built on a starch-heavier principle entirely.

Can I replace sweet feed with Pur.Muskel one-for-one?

No. Pur.Muskel is a supplementary feed fed within a complete ration, not a standalone complete feed. Keep the forage and balancer where they are, and use the feeding calculator to set the daily rate.

Will the 20% protein make my horse hot?

Protein is not typically the driver of "hot" behavior — starch and sugar are the more common concern. Pur.Muskel holds starch at 5.8% and sugar at 4.1%, a conservative profile written for metabolically sensitive breeds.

Is it safe to feed during show season?

Yes. Pur.Muskel is competition safe and FEI-compliant, so it can stay in the ration through both training and competition.

What does it cost?

\$52.99 for a 44 lb bag. bifid also offers a 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee, so a first bag is a low-commitment trial.