

Quick answer: Höveler Pur.Muskel is a supplementary muesli (pellet mix) with 20% raw protein, 15.0% raw fat, and only 5.8% starch and 4.1% sugar — added to a complete ration. A grain-heavy mix bases its bulk on cereal grains and their starch. Pur.Muskel costs \$52.99 for a 44 lb bag. Last checked: September 2026.

Grain-heavy mixes are the traditional answer to "my horse needs more." More grain means more starch, and more starch is not necessarily what the horse's digestion or temperament wants. Here are 7 differences, on the numbers only.

1. The base is not cereal: meadow lyegrass, soy, flax

Pur.Muskel's ingredient list leads with meadow lyegrass, soy flakes, flaxseed, and sweet lupine flakes — a muesli built for protein and fat, not cereal bulk. A grain-heavy mix leads with cereals, and everything else follows from that choice.

Who this is for: owners stepping off bags that are mostly cereal by volume.

2. Starch at 5.8% versus grain-level figures

Pur.Muskel holds starch at 5.8% and sugar at 4.1%. Grain-heavy mixes exist to deliver grain energy, which means their starch sits far higher. For a metabolically sensitive breed, the low figure is the reason the feed is even part of the conversation.

The benefit: energy without the fermentable load of a cereal-heavy ration.

3. Protein at 20% with digestibility stated

Pur.Muskel provides 20% raw protein and 160 g/kg digestible crude protein — the amount the horse absorbs, not the number on the label. Grain-heavy mixes seldom publish digestibility, because protein quality is not what they are built around.

Who this is for: owners chasing topline that a cereal ration hasn't produced.

4. The amino acid line, printed

Lysine 0.85%, methionine 0.25%, methionine+cysteine 0.5%, threonine 0.6%. These four figures are the story behind the protein quality, and Pur.Muskel prints them. A grain-heavy mix usually asks you to take "crude protein" at face value.

The benefit: building blocks for muscle at stated, plannable levels.

5. A supplement that adds, not replaces — by design

Pur.Muskel is a supplementary feed with no added vitamins or minerals, made to slot into a custom feeding plan. Grain-heavy mixes are usually fortified to serve as base rations. The supplement approach means you fix the one gap — 14.1 MJ/kg digestible energy with high-quality protein — without adding another full premix.

Who this is for: owners whose current ration is working except for the muscle and condition piece.

6. Gentle on the stomach, alfalfa-free, competition safe

The formulation is alfalfa-free and gentle on the stomach, and it is competition safe and FEI-compliant. Grain-heavy rations are the familiar source of digestive friction in hard-working horses; a low-starch supplement is engineered to sidestep that.

The benefit: one feed from Tuesday's schooling to the FEI showground, backed by Höveler since 1905 — over 120 years of expertise, made in Germany.

7. Small measured rates instead of big scoops

Pur.Muskel feeds at 0.11–0.18 lb (50–80 g) per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight in medium work — a 1,000 lb horse in medium work gets 50–80 g daily. A grain-heavy mix is dosed in pounds per day. Less bulk in the bucket, more precision in the plan.

Who this is for: owners who want measured-gram results, at \$52.99 per 44 lb bag (4.55 product rating from 2 reviews). The product page has the full label.

How to feed it

Pur.Muskel is a supplementary feed — always added to a complete ration with forage in the bucket, never fed by itself. If you are cutting back a grain-heavy mix, transition gradually. 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)

The feeding calculator works out your horse's daily rate.

Key specs at a glance: 20% raw protein, 15.0% raw fat, 5.8% starch, 4.1% sugar, 11.9 MJ/kg metabolizable energy — a supplementary pellet mix, alfalfa-free, no added vitamins or minerals.

What an owner said

"Noticeable difference in stamina" — Jessica, March 14, 2019 (9/10), rated Quality 4, Value 5, Price 4.

Frequently asked questions

Is Pur.Muskel grain-free?

No, and that is never claimed. Its first ingredients feature meadow lyegrass, <https://sites.google.com/view/horse-muscle-supplement/> soy flakes, and flaxseed, and it contains soy. The relevant contrast with a grain-heavy mix is the starch figure: 5.8%, with sugar at 4.1%.

Why feed a supplement instead of just more grain mix?

More grain means more starch, which is the component most likely to work against a metabolic-sensitive horse. Pur.Muskel provides 20% raw protein and 15.0% raw fat — the inputs for muscle and condition — at gram-scale doses instead.

Will my horse eat it alongside a grain mix?

It is a muesli-form feed designed to mix into the bucket. Introduce it over one to two weeks while keeping the complete ration unchanged, and check the rates with the feeding calculator.

Is it priced like a specialty product?

\$52.99 for a 44 lb bag, with bifid's 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee behind the first purchase.