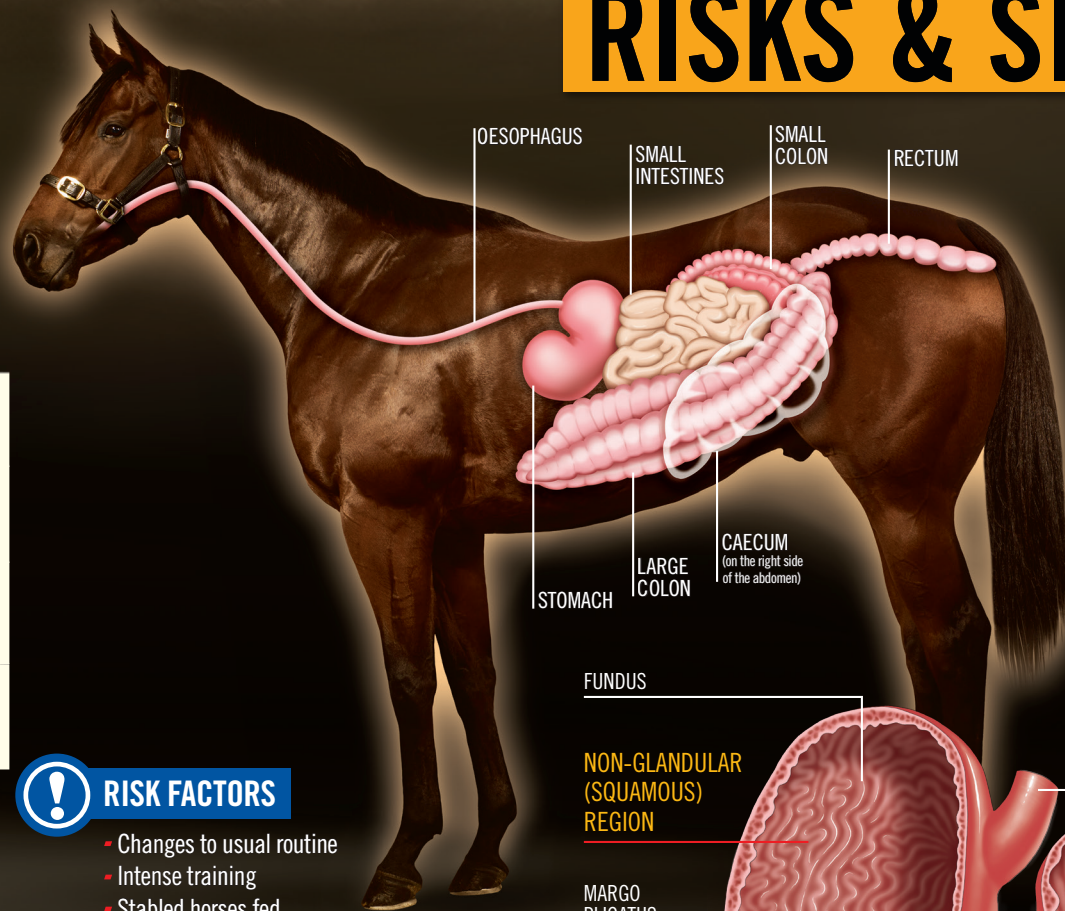


# EQUINE GASTRIC ULCERS

## RISKS & SIGNS



### RISK FACTORS

- Changes to usual routine
- Intense training
- Stabled horses fed twice a day
- Low forage, concentrate rich diets
- Restricted grazing
- Travelling, especially over 4 hours without food
- Box weaning or early weaning
- Illness or surgery
- Sales preparation of yearlings
- Breeding (especially stallions)

FUNDUS

NON-GLANDULAR (SQUAMOUS) REGION

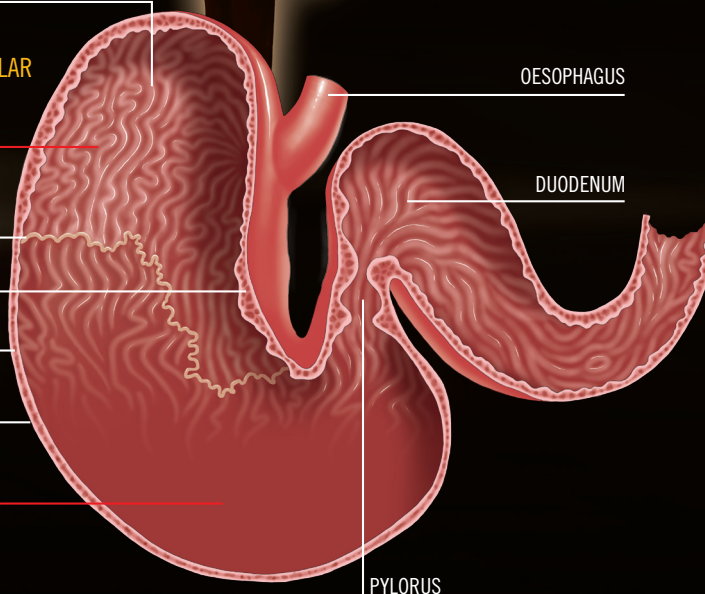
MARGO PLICATUS

LESSER CURVATURE

GREATER CURVATURE

BODY

GLANDULAR REGION

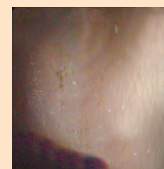


### WARNING SIGNS

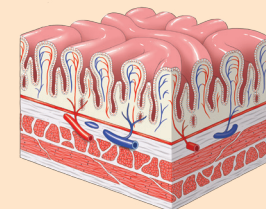
- Poor performance
- Sour disposition
- Unsettled in training
- Unwilling to work
- Poor appetite
- Avoiding hard feed and preferring hay
- Dull coat
- Lethargy
- Colic, abdominal discomfort or "girthiness"
- Crib-biting or wind-sucking

## IDENTIFYING THE DIFFERENT GRADES

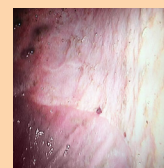
### GRADE ① NORMAL MUCOSA



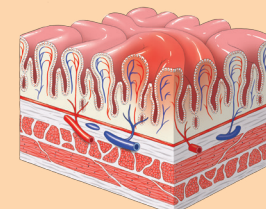
The epithelium is intact and there is no evidence of hyperkeratosis.



### GRADE ① INFLAMMATION



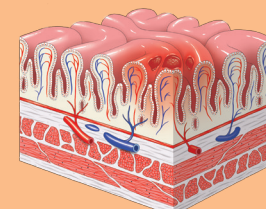
Ulcers have an intact mucosal epithelium, with areas of reddening and hyperkeratosis.



### GRADE ② EROSION



Small single or multiple ulcers.



### GRADE ③ PROGRESSIVE ULCERATION



Large single or extensive superficial lesions.



### GRADE ④ FULL ULCERATION



Extensive, often coalescing, lesions with areas of apparent deep ulceration.

