

Research & Innovation

We know that people are relying on Nutrena Feed to stand up to our exacting standards each and every time. Quality people, processes, and products come together in every way for our customers. What's inside the bag counts.

The Cargill Global Innovation Center

An ever-growing center of global expertise in animal nutrition.

Here, scientists from around the world are dedicated to understanding animal nutrition and how to apply it to meeting the needs of horses, dogs, cats, poultry, swine, cattle, and the people who raise and care for them.

By conducting both pure research and applied science, Cargill is taking the latest discoveries and turning them into the real world Nutrena solutions.



Emphasis on Nutrients Over Ingredients

Nutrena understands the nutrient content of ingredients varies widely based on seed type, climate, soil, and processing methods. We formulate our feeds accordingly to assure that every bag of Nutrena Feed delivers optimal nutritional value.



Verified Nutrition Analysis

We're able to select the most appropriate ingredients because we maintain current nutrient values for over 180 different ingredients from over 1,100 suppliers. Our data bank allows us to verify that ingredient composition of our feeds meets the specific, consistent nutrient values.



Proper Nutrition for Optimum Performance

Meeting minimum nutrient needs may result in animals only achieving minimum performance standards. By the same token, excessive quantities of a nutrient may have a negative effect on performance. Nutrena takes into consideration all these variables when formulating a feed.



The Truth About "Locked Ingredient" Feed Formulas

"Locked ingredient" formulas may not lock in consistent levels of nutrition. That's because the nutritional profile of each feed ingredient can vary from load to load depending on the seed type, growing conditions and time of harvest. As a result, one production run may produce the desired product, but the next batch can be quite different nutritionally.



Rest Assured with Our "Restricted" Formulas

Nutrena "restricts" the minimums and maximums that nutrient levels are allowed to vary – ensuring consistency in product appearance, palatability, and integrity. By restricting a formula, rather than "locking" a formula, you can rest assured that the nutrition your animal requires will be in every bag of Nutrena feed you purchase.



Research Partners

Cargill partners with leading universities to optimize research opportunities

Cargill's innovative research into the nutritional needs of horses is enhanced by relationships with some of America's leading universities. Partnering with these institutions gives us access to the specialized expertise we need to develop Nutrena products that are uniquely suited for all types of horses at every life stage.

Nutrena's Research Partners

Nutrena partners with leading research universities to conduct basic nutritional research and in-depth animal feed trials.

Leatherdale Equine Center, University of Minnesota

Michigan State University

Texas A&M University

University of Maryland

University of Wisconsin – River Falls



“Cargill’s partnership has been critical in advancing the care of horses and education of equestrians.”

Krishona Martinson, PhD, Profesor and Equine Extension Specialist,
University of Minnesota