

Quick answer: Höveler Western Sport is a high-energy, low-grain muesli built for medium to intensively trained horses, with 14% protein, 12.19 MJ digestible energy per kg, and 28% alfalfa. It is oat-free, competition-safe and FEI-compliant, and the 44 lb bag costs \$37.99. Best for dressage horses in regular work whose riders need steady, rideable energy and muscle support. Last checked: September 2026.

A dressage owner's quiet worry is this: the feed that fuels the collected work may also power the tension in the bridle. You want energy that arrives as swing and engagement, not as jiggling and spooking. Here are seven reasons this muesli, made in Germany with over 120 years of expertise, is formulated for exactly that kind of work.

1. 12.19 MJ of digestible energy per kg for collected work

Collected movements draw on fuel at a steady rate, not in bursts. Western Sport delivers 12.19 MJ of digestible energy per kg, backed by 11.21 MJ of convertible energy, drawn from a low-grain muesli base. That is enough energy for a full training session of transitions, lateral work, and half-passes. The energy sources are spread across alfalfa, oils, and fiber rather than dumped from starch. The benefit: a horse with the power to sit and the mind to stay soft.

Who this is for: dressage riders who need working energy that translates into activity instead of tightness.

2. 18.30% starch and 5.30% sugar — a profile chosen for a calm mouth

Dressage asks for relaxation ahead of it asks for power. Western Sport carries 18.30% starch and 5.30% sugar, figures that place it firmly in the low-grain category. Horses that get tight and quick on grain-heavy rations often keep a steadier rhythm when starch and sugar sit at these levels. The label prints every number, so you can line it up against your current feed and compare. Fewer highs in the feed means fewer corrections in the arena.

Who this is for: riders whose horses have historically braced or rushed after meals.

3. 28% alfalfa to support topline and muscle development

The ingredient list leads with 28% alfalfa, included for muscle development and peak performance. Dressage is a topline discipline: the horse carries himself, and that carrying is genuine muscular work. Alongside 14% crude protein, the mix supplies digestible crude protein at 107 g/kg, with lysine at 0.58%, methionine plus cysteine at 0.46%, and threonine at 0.53% — the key amino acids of muscle building. Feeding for the topline starts in the bucket, not only under the saddle.

Who this is for: owners building a topline through an step-by-step training program.

4. Oat-free, for oat-sensitive horses

Some dressage horses simply do not handle oats well. Western Sport is oat-free, built on barley flakes, corn flakes, and alfalfa instead. If your horse has ever turned reactive or unsettled on an oat-based ration, this formula removes that variable entirely. It is a deliberate European formulation choice with a practical payoff: fewer moving parts when you work through a change in your horse's way of going.

Who this is for: anyone managing **feeds for competition horses** a horse with a history of oat sensitivity.

5. Competition-safe and FEI-compliant through the season

Western Sport is competition-safe and FEI-compliant, so the feed stays the same from training ring to test day. That matters, because a last-minute feed change before a show is a self-inflicted risk — digestive or behavioral, and always at the least convenient time. One feed through the season leaves no transition period to manage. Verify specific rules with your event organizer, as the page itself recommends.

Who this is for: competitors who would rather not carry a feed-related variable on test day.

6. Inactivated brewer's yeast and 16.7% crude fiber for gut comfort

A tense, stabled dressage horse pushes his hindgut hard. Western Sport includes inactivated brewer's yeast and carries 16.7% crude fiber, a combination chosen to support comfortable digestion. Hindgut comfort reveals itself in the saddle as willingness, with a horse happy to step under himself. The 6.10% crude fat content also contributes gentle, steady energy. Comfort from the inside is the quiet foundation of a relaxed test.

Who this is for: owners of stabled competition horses where gut comfort is a daily consideration.

7. European craft, American service, and a risk-free first bag

The feed is made in Germany, where Höveler has made horse feed since 1905 — over 120 years of expertise. The buying experience is American: bifid rates 9.0/10 across 24,098 store reviews, a 24/7 licensed vet team is on call, and a 30-Day Money-Back Guarantee backs the first order. The 44 lb bag is \$37.99. If the muesli does not suit your dressage horse, you have a clean way out.

Who this is for: premium-minded riders who want the formulation sorted and the aftercare sorted too.

How to feed it

Daily amounts, per 220 lb (100 kg) of body weight:

Work level	Daily amount per 220 lb (100 kg) body weight	Light work	0.55 lb (250 g)	Medium work	0.88 lb (400 g)
Heavy work	Not listed — the page says to adjust to your horse's condition and training intensity, with adequate forage always provided. Ask bifid's 24/7 licensed vet team or your veterinarian for a starting rate.				

Key specs at a glance: muesli mix, 44 lb bag, \$37.99; 14% crude protein, 12.19 MJ digestible energy per kg, 28% alfalfa; oat-free; competition-safe and FEI-compliant. Work out an exact starting amount for your horse with bifid's Feeding Calculator.

Frequently asked questions

Is a "western" feed really right for a dressage horse?

Western Sport is formulated for any medium to intensively trained horse, not one discipline. Its 14% protein, 12.19 MJ digestible energy per kg, and 28% alfalfa support the muscle work and steady energy that dressage asks for. The discipline name describes the market, not the formulation.

Will it make my horse hot before a test?

The muesli is low-grain and oat-free, with 18.30% starch and 5.30% sugar, so energy also comes from 6.10% crude fat and 16.7% crude fiber. That profile is chosen to support steady energy rather than sharpness. Judge the

effect on your own horse at the labeled rate.

Can I feed it right through the show season?

Yes. Western Sport is competition-safe and FEI-compliant, so no feed change is needed before an event. Always check specific rules with your event organizer.

Does it contain soy?

It does. The ingredient list includes 1.5% soy extraction meal feed, so Western Sport is not soy-free. It is, however, oat-free, which fits oat-sensitive horses.

How much should I feed a horse in hard dressage work?

The page lists 0.55 lb (250 g) for light work and 0.88 lb (400 g) for medium work per 220 lb (100 kg) of body weight. For heavy work it gives no set rate; it says to adjust to condition and training intensity, with adequate forage always alongside. Bifid's 24/7 licensed vet team can help you land on a figure.