



## HEALTHY HORSES & HEALTHY WALLETS!

**The Texas Haynet** was developed by Little Thunder Stables, Inc, an equine rehabilitation center specializing in hoof problems.

Many horses would come to Little Thunder Stables that had founder and laminitis issues. These cases have almost all been because of too much sugar and starch in the equine's diet. To control the intake of sugar (starch will turn to sugar), coastal hay was soaked prior to feeding. This leaches out much of the excess sugar and starch, but also takes away minerals and other good components of the hay. It was

time consuming and back-breaking work! The horses would be fed and would quickly clean up their "allotted" hay and then stand around all day waiting for the next feeding at 5:00 pm.

Because this is not good for a grazing animal either, another solution had to be found.

Researchers discovered that slowing the rate of consumption of the hay by feeding it through a 2" or less hole, gave the liver time to function properly and filter out the excess sugar. Many different "slow" feeders were soon on the market for feeding flakes of hay, mostly in the form of hay nets or hay bags with small holes.

Little Thunder Stables owner, Leslie Davis, still needed to find a more economical way to feed cut grass hay to the equines which led her to start using round bales. The problem then, of course was to create small holes for them to feed through. Muzzles seemed to be the answer. However, some horses got very despondent with the muzzle and would refuse to eat.

Necessity is definitely the mother of invention and soon Leslie started experimenting with sports netting to cover the round bale. Most nets worked "okay"...but would not last as long as she thought it should. Good sports netting is very expensive and needed to last much longer than a few months. Different manufacturers were contacted and different netting was put to the test. Finally a great netting material was found that was soft enough to not be abrasive on sensitive muzzles, but strong enough to last a year! In fact some test farms are still using this netting material after almost 2 years!

**Slow feeding cut grass hay is extremely important for the health of all horses!** It gives the digestive system time to extract all the nutrients from the grass hay. Now the horse's flora and fauna can get healthy too! No more grass bellies, impaction colic is almost non-existent, the "hot" horse is now calm, the "aggressive" horse is more mellow and the herd is happier and taking more time for socializing and grooming and do not need to have their head inside the round bale every minute of every day!

Many great things happen when sugar is controlled. Of course one of the best "side-affects" from this type feeding of cut grass hay is that your hay will last many, many more days than it did before!

**Most users report a savings of 50% or more!** Wow! What a great side-affect to put on a warning label! On top of the money saved, since you no longer have to get the tractor out to move the round bale, set the bale out, etc. as often, much time is saved too! **This product is definitely a WIN – WIN** situation for horse and owner!

The **Texas Haynet** can be found at [www.TexasHaynet.com](http://www.TexasHaynet.com)  
or call Leslie Davis at 325-388-2727