

Questions & Answers About ILLINOIS HORSE INDUSTRY RESEARCH & PROMOTION ACT Commercial Equine Feed Assessment

Q: What is this assessment?

A: The assessment is a result of a law (Public Act 93-0135) that calls for feed manufacturers to remit an assessment on equine feed sold in Illinois. The assessment funds a competitive grant program to support promotional and research activities which benefit Illinois horses.

Q: Why do consumers have to pay?

A: The program was approved by the legislature and the majority of horse owners voting in a statewide referendum. This allows horse owners from all disciplines and all breeds to support promotional and research programs fairly, without overburdening any one breed or sport.

Q: How much is the assessment?

A: It is \$2.00 per ton on equine feed sold in Illinois. If less than one ton of feed is sold, the assessment is prorated. For example, on a 50-lb. bag of feed, the assessment totals five cents (\$.05).

Q: What animals are included as equine?

A: Equine includes horses, mules, donkeys and ponies.

Q: Does the assessment apply to the sale of hay, non-mixed horse food ingredients (such as oats and corn), unprocessed grains, or grains that are processed for consumption by animals other than horses?

A: No.

Q: Who remits the assessment?

A: Manufacturers of commercial equine feed sold in Illinois. Commercial equine feed is a processed grain product or supplement that is labeled as being intended for equines.

Q: If feed is delivered to another state and a sale occurs there, is the assessment due?

A: No.

Q: Can the assessment be reimbursed?

A: The assessment is voluntary. Any one who buys commercial equine feed in Illinois may request reimbursement of any assessed amount that was paid on a qualified feed purchase

Q: How do I get reimbursed?

A: Reimbursement requests, along with receipts, must be submitted to the Equine Promotion Board no more than 60 days from the date the feed was purchased. Only original receipts will be accepted. You can get reimbursement forms from the Illinois Equine Industry Research and Promotion Board, 3085 Stevenson Drive, Suite 200, Springfield, IL 62703 or on the web at www.iepb.org.

Q: Can I receive reimbursement directly from the store where I bought the feed?

A: No. Only the Equine Promotion Board will issue reimbursements.

Q: What is the Equine Promotion Board?

A: The Illinois Equine Industry Research and Promotion Board consists of 12 appointed members representing the full spectrum of the Illinois equine industry. The Board is authorized to collect and distribute the funds generated through the assessment.

Q: What is the Equine Promotion Boards purpose?

A: The Equine Promotion Board was established by the Legislature to permit the Illinois equine community to self-fund needed projects, programs and activities. Money from the assessment is to be used for education, research, and promotional materials and activities to benefit Illinois equine and to increase public awareness of the equine industry, the value of equine activities as they relate to the preservation of open space and agricultural lands and also to increase the general safety of equestrians statewide.