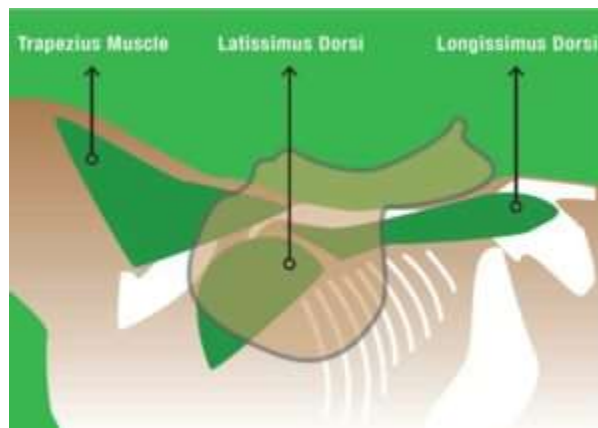


## SADDLE FIT IMPACT ON TOPLINE



Poor saddle fit can be a symptom of a much larger issue. If the musculature of the horse's back/topline area is not full and rounded, expressing high quality of muscle, many times a saddle will not fit correctly. In these instances, riders may try to overcompensate for this deficiency by using extra padding and/or trying multiple saddles. Poor saddle fit can cause pain and soreness in the horse with pressure and points that may pinch and be uncomfortable. This pain and pressure can manifest itself in a poor attitude or poor performance. In addition, saddle fit issues may show up in irritability during tacking up, hesitation or refusals to take action on one side vs. the other (think leads, etc.) and overall unpleasant disposition.



While poor saddle fit can come from a variety of areas, including size, shape and defects of the saddle, one thing that should be considered is that the topline of the horse is lacking and therefore causing issues with saddle fit. In extreme cases, when topline scores have been improved from a low grade to an ideal grade, the fit of the saddle is enhanced to a noticeable extent. Key muscles in the Topline area may impact the way that the saddle fits the horse. Enhanced nutrition by adding additional calories and amino acids combined can help to attain a better Topline. Purina Optimal in combination with Purina's Pur Athlete can provide this additional nutrients required.

If questions for the health of your horse do not hesitate to contact a Nutrition Consultant as our priority is your horse.

Keri Weir  
Equine Nutrition Consultant  
Purina Canada, Cargill Animal Nutrition /Cargill Ltd.

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Contact your Consultant Nutritionist today @Purina Connect,  
via Facebook on Purina Canada Equine, at 1-888-458-6914 or connect@equipurina.ca  
These will help you with the nutrition of your horses of all ages and types. They are there to share great moments with you for the good of horses in general