

**Kramer, Erik**

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**From:** cathy mehrl <mehrl.cathy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2026 11:13 PM  
**To:** Kramer, Erik  
**Subject:** Frisky and Poppins,n  
**Attachments:** poppins.jpeg; frisky2.jpeg; frisky.jpeg

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Good morning,

Frisky is 15 yrs old and weighs 243 lbs. 3<sup>rd</sup> photo shows two adults and a 3 yr old to show scale.

Poppins is 17 yrs old, and weighs 195 lbs.

They are considered senior horses, and with proper care can live to 30-35 yrs.

I do not anticipate adding any more minis, but would like the option to have 4 as long as it does not decrease the chances of approval.

**Manure Output for Two Mini Horses**

**Daily:** ~3–6 lbs

**Yearly:** ~1,100–2,000 lbs (~0.5–1 ton)

**2 minis = ~2–4 cubic yards/year**

A **small pickup truck bed full** every few months as a visual.

**Composter:**

This what I have used in the past for vegetative debris and non-meat food scraps:



Since Rolling Hills is essentially sand dunes, all plants can benefit from some enrichment. The lot has a natural slope to the north, so any compost run off, would flow to a heavier treed area, and not affect any other lot.

Assuming a weekly refresh of shavings, and removal of any excess manure, we would subscribe to:

[Manure Removal – All-In Removal | Ocala, FL](#)

They do waste pick up and shavings delivery in one trip.

They also don't landfill the waste but compost it, and sell it to end users as soil amendment.

On site storage will be Commercial Rubbermaid rolling trash bins that hold 50 gallons each. (technically, it should be enough to contain 10 days of manure)

There will be 2 units- one waiting for pick up and 1 in the barn

L'



### **Pest management:**

We use integrated pest management.

Fly bait buckets use scent lures and drown the flies that enter.

A feed additive called Formula 707 that causes any eggs that are laid in manure not to mature into flies  
And fly predators (*Muscidifurax raptorellus*) monthly hatches of these fly killers during the muggy months.

### **Food storage and pests**

All pelleted food stored in metal containers with lids  
Minimal food stored on prem (Nutrena Safe Source Senior)  
This feed is a complete, calorie-dense senior feed  
Minis need very small amounts --0.5–0.75 lb/day per mini  
2 months per 50lb bag

### **Hay/Forage**

Feeding Schedule

Morning

1.5 lbs hay

0.25–0.5 lb Nutrena Senior (soaked if needed)

Evening

1.5 lbs hay

0.25–0.5 lb Nutrena Senior

All hay soaked for 30 minutes to remove staches and sugars

Typical hay bale is 50 lbs and should last a week for 2 minis.

Like most homes in Rolling Hills, we will have perimeter fencing for the entire lot, gated at the driveway. This is to contain the dogs, and will consist of posts and boards, backed by wire fence that cant be climbed by dogs

It will be 5 ft tall.

The area behind the house will be for the minis, will consist of an appropriate size run in barn, with enclosed storage for food, shavings, and the lawn tractor. I will have an improved conceptual lay out tomorrow.

I am waiting on my Vet's letter, but here is an article on Equine Metabolic Syndrome that affects 72% of mni horses and ponies.

[Equine Metabolic Syndrome | School of Veterinary Medicine](#)

Thank you,  
Cathy  
Mehrl









***The Healing Place Your Holistic Veterinarian***  
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To Whom It May Regard,

Regarding: Care for miniature horses

Metabolic Syndrome is of great concern with miniature equids and care must be taken in feeding and grazing. Limited grazing is necessary during many times of the year, based on grass quality and growth to avoid serious illness, which can result in great health issues and death.

Below is a summary of the issue for your information. But this requires these equids to be confined more than the larger equids. I am advising my client, the Mehrl family, to follow these restrictions to avoid health issues and maximize the health and lifespan of their miniature horses.

Dr Patricia Kallenbach DVM

4/24/2026

*Patricia J Kallenbach DVM*

**Metabolic Syndrome in Miniature Horses & Feeding Guidelines**

Miniature horses are at **significantly higher risk** for Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS), a condition characterized by abnormal insulin regulation that can lead to **laminitis (painful and potentially debilitating hoof disease)**. Research indicates that a large percentage of miniature horses and ponies show some level of insulin dysregulation, even when they appear healthy.

**Key Risk Factors:**

- Easy weight gain (“easy keepers”)
- Diets high in sugar and starch (grains, rich pasture)
- Limited exercise

**Recommended Management Practices:**

- **Forage-based diet:** Feed primarily low-sugar grass hay (timothy or orchard grass) at controlled amounts (~1.5% of body weight daily)
- **Limit pasture access:** Especially during high-growth seasons (spring/fall); use dry lots or grazing muzzles
- **Avoid grain and sweet feeds:** These increase insulin spikes
- **Provide balanced nutrition:** Use small amounts of a low-sugar ration balancer to meet vitamin/mineral needs
- **Encourage regular exercise:** Improves metabolic health and reduces risk
- **Monitor body condition:** Prevent obesity, a major contributing factor

Miniature horses require **carefully controlled, low-sugar diets and consistent management** to prevent metabolic disease. Education and basic feeding guidelines can significantly reduce health risks and improve animal welfare outcomes.