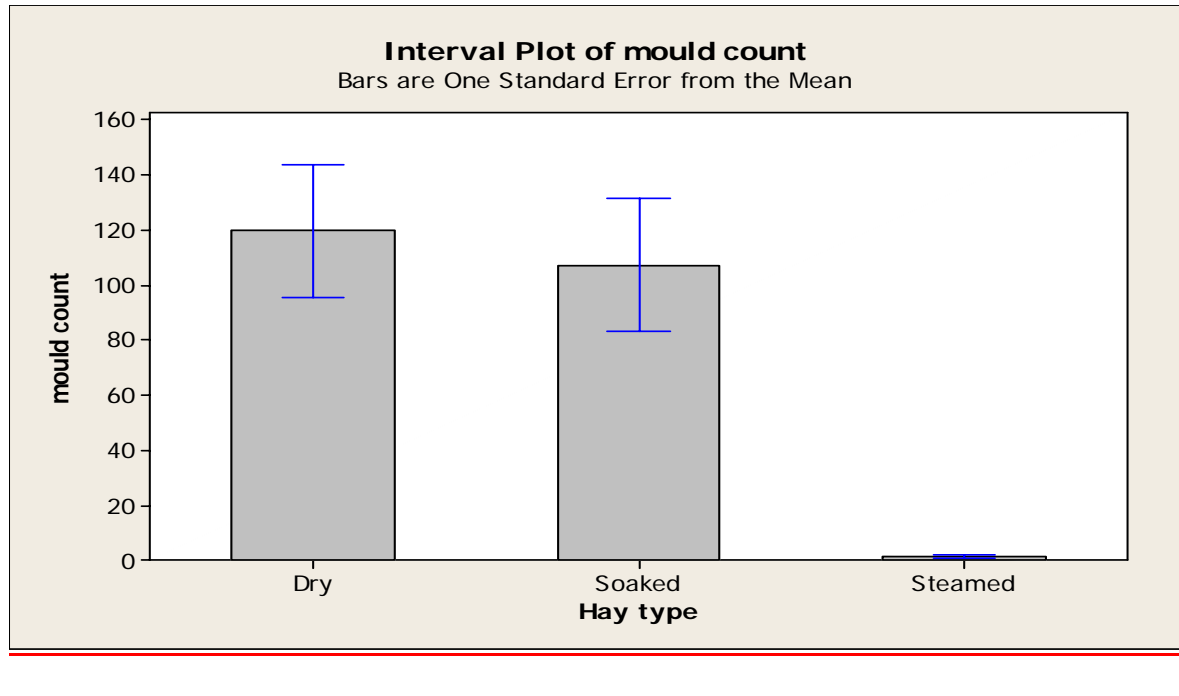


## Extract from Student's Research Paper

There is a significant effect of hay treatment type on mould count... Steamed hay contains significantly less mould ( $1.22 \pm 1.99$  spores) than both soaked hay ( $107.3 \pm 102.3$  spores) and dry hay ( $119.9 \pm 102.6$  spores) (Figure 1).

[Figure 1: Interval plot of mould count.](#)



### Conclusion.

In conclusion, whilst the practice of soaking hay is a common management factor employed for horses suffering from respiratory problems; steaming hay has a greater effect on lowering the mould count per gram. Whilst doing this it also maintains nutritional content of the hay, limits the detrimental environmental factors caused through soaking, and has the potential to improve the quality of hay fed to horses, based on the year of production. Therefore it can be suggested that steaming hay, rather than soaking, is more beneficial in lowering mould counts and maintaining the respiratory health of horses.