

Horsetail & Scouring Rush, *Equisetum* spp.



Identification: Perennial with dimorphic stems. Vegetative stem has whorls of fine green jointed branches. Reproductive stem is flesh colored, unbranched, with a single cone at its tip

Habitat: Moist to wet forests, meadows, swamps, roadsides, areas with high water tables

Animals Affected: Primarily horses

Toxin family: Thiaminase; causes Vitamin B deficiency

Other: Symptoms include weight loss, diarrhea and weakness, leading to immobility and death. No loss of appetite. All plant parts are poisonous. Becomes increasingly toxic when dry, in hay

