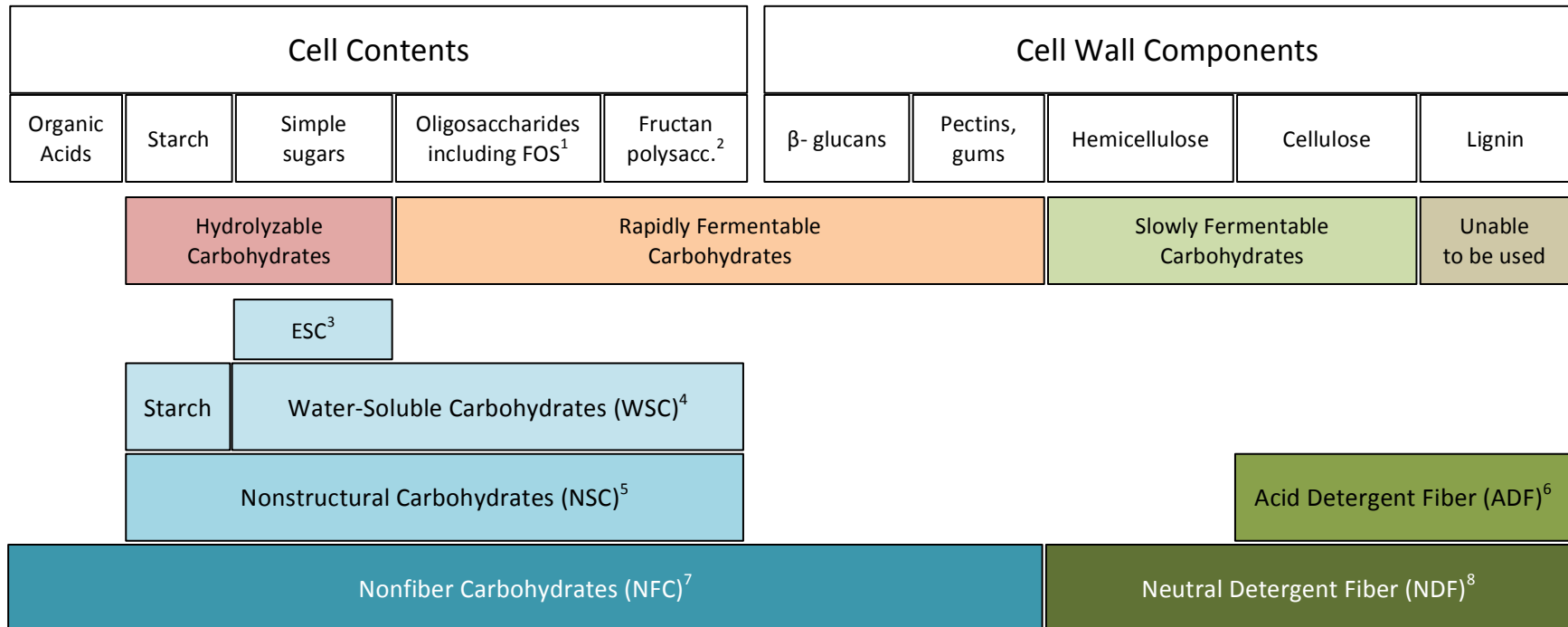


## PLANT CARBOHYDRATES



### NOTES

1. Oligosaccharides include fructo-oligosaccharides (FOS), now a common addition in concentrated horse feeds.
2. Fructan polysaccharides, often just called fructans, can be quite high in grasses that are rapidly growing or under stress (cold, drought, *etc.*).
3. Ethanol-soluble carbohydrates (ESC) is primarily a measure of simple sugars (mono- and disaccharides).
4. Ideally, the WSC content is less than 10% for overweight, laminitis-prone, or otherwise carbohydrate-sensitive horses.
5. Ideally, the NSC content is between 10% and 12% for overweight, laminitis-prone, or otherwise carbohydrate-sensitive horses.
6. Ideally, the ADF content is less than 40%, especially for senior horses and others with missing or damaged cheek teeth (premolars and molars).
7. Analytically,  $NFC\% = 100 - [\text{crude protein}\% + \text{NDF}\% + \text{fat}\% + \text{ash}\%]$ .
8. Ideally, the NDF content is greater than 50% (but less than 60% for senior horses).

Adapted from *Nutrient Requirements of Horses*, 6<sup>th</sup> revised edition, National Research Council, The National Academies Press, Washington, DC, 2007.