



Straight from the Horse's mouth

MILBOURN
EQUINE VETS

Newsletter

Dedication, Care and Trust

Foot Balance-How Do X-Rays Help? By Howard Newitt BVetMed, CertEP, MRCVS Advanced Practitioner in Equine Practice

Hoof imbalance is one of the most common problems associated with lameness in a horse's foot. It can be attributed to a variety of causes including conformation, the type of shoes fitted and how regularly the horse is shod.

Ideally the horse's foot should strike the ground as a unit, with the entire weight-bearing surface hitting the ground together. In the case of side-to-side imbalance (lateral-medial imbalance) the outside toe strikes the ground before the heel, with the inside heel landing first. This leads to uneven forces across the hoof and uneven loading of the lower limb joints.

Many horses tolerate a large degree of foot balance, remain sound and are able to compete to a high level. Others are more sensitive, with a minimal discrepancy adversely affecting performance.

X-rays are a tool that we are using more and more in conjunction with farriers to evaluate & correct foot balance..... Essentially a side to side (**Lateromedial - side view**) and front to back (**Dorsopalmar - front/back view**) x-ray is taken of each foot to show the position of the pedal bone and the rest of the bony column in relation to the external hoof wall.

These images can then be used by the farrier to trim to optimise foot conformation and correct any underlying imbalance. Severe imbalance is often evident without an x-ray but mild to moderate imbalance can be present in a "normal" looking foot. Foot balance x-rays are particularly useful in horses with poor foot shape or sensitive feet as well as those suffering from foot related lameness. Many elite sports horses have this procedure on a regular basis to pre-empt any problems. The stage of the shoeing cycle must be considered when interpreting the images, it is unreasonable to expect the feet to look as good when they are due for re-shoeing as when they are freshly shod.

Foot balance x-rays can be performed at the clinic or on your yard providing there is an area of level concrete under cover and mains electricity.

We are offering a special promotion during MAY & JUNE of £150 (plus callout and sedation if required) for foot balance x-rays of all four feet. We can then email the images to your farrier and discuss the findings to formulate a shoeing plan for your horse.



Dorsopalmar (front-back) view:

This view shows that this horse has an imbalanced foot with the coin placed on the outside of the leg. The distance from the bottom of the x-ray image to the lower edge of the pedal bone should be the same on both the inside and outside of the leg. The black lines representing the joint spaces should be horizontal in a well balanced foot.



Lateromedial (side) view:

The front edge of the pastern and pedal bones should be in a straight line on this view. In this horse, the long and short pastern bones are more upright than the pedal bone which is termed a broken back hoof pastern axis. This conformation is surprisingly common in hind feet.

Ask about our

Healthcare Plan

only
£13.50
per month

Useful Information:



We now have online forms for client registration and ordering repeat medication.

Please remember that it's a legal requirement for a vet to have seen your horse within the last six months to prescribe drugs.

We have a new telephone number for Milbourn Equine at Rye: 01797 208128



Please note our **new bank account details for online payments are: 30-90-28 69231668**

Ashford
01233 500505

Hawkhurst
01580 752301

Rye
01797 208128

Canterbury
01227 200992

www.milbournequine.co.uk



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April is Flu Awareness Month



If your horses Flu vaccinations have lapsed get them Back on Track this April and take advantage of a discounted primary course.



SPRING CLIENT EVENINGS

Wednesday 5th April 7pm
Bodiam International Arena,
Court Lodge Farm TN32 5UJ

Join us, in association with Merial as part of the Flu Awareness Month for talks on Infectious Respiratory Diseases, Biosecurity & Vaccine Reactions. Also a Horse Rescue Demo and Trailer Safety talk from East Sussex Fire & Rescue and a Raffle in aid of the BHS Changing Lives Through Horses programme.

Tuesday 25th April
Milbourn Ashford Clinic,
Sevington TN24 0LD

Come along and learn more about Equine Gastric Ulcers & Nutrition.



Keep an eye on our Website, Facebook & Twitter Pages for more information on our April Client Evenings!

Milbourn Equine choose Charity for 2017



Milbourn Equine will be fundraising and donating to the British Horse Society's (BHS) new programme, 'Changing lives through Horses' during 2017.

Changing Lives through Horses has been designed to help improve the lives of young disengaged people, using horses as the inspiration for change. The equestrian environment provides young people with structure and a sense of responsibility. Horses can help young people connect with society and improve their wellbeing. Key skills are developed by the individual that will serve them for the rest of their lives. More information can be found at <http://www.bhs.org.uk/changinglivesthroughhorses>



CASTRATION CLINIC-Monday 27th March

At our Ashford Clinic in Sevington.
Now is the perfect time of year to castrate your colts...

Take advantage of this great reduced price offer of £172

Please call 01233 500505 to book.

£200 Credit Voucher for our Clients

Barretts Land Rover and Jaguar are offering Milbourn Equine clients a £200 credit voucher towards their vet bills. All you have to do is buy a new or used car from Barretts Land Rover or Jaguar and produce proof that you are a client of Milbourn Equine Vets.

Terms and conditions apply.

Barretts



Official Land Rover Retailer



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Introduce a Friend

...and be rewarded!

It's easy, just complete the details found in our Reception (Card or Leaflet), and both you and the friend you introduce to Milbourn Equine Vets will receive a...

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