

NEWS FOR FARRIERS

What's New in Hoof and Frog Health

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Plexus Caudal Support Pads

Made in the U.S., Austin Edens' Plexus Pads feature a patent pending, common sense design.

Plexus Open Toe Caudal Support pads are designed to fit both fronts and hinds. The unique diamond-shaped holes provide greater locking strength for FootPro™ DIM and Vettec Equi-Pak. The extra length and width at the toe and heels accommodates any shaped foot and shoe modifications. The pads include a large frog plate, with heel check relief, for easy application on contracted heels. Frog plate stabilizers keep its tip anchored in place - even in the harshest conditions. The wedge pad features a 3-degree wedge for help in correcting negative palmar angles and tendon issues, while maintaining caudle support.



FootPro™ Cast

FootPro™ Cast is a resin impregnated fiberglass mesh casting material that is an affordable and user-friendly option for the treatment of hoof problems where support and protection are needed.

FootPro™ Cast provides protection from wear, helps strengthen and stabilize the hoof capsule and is excellent for therapeutic applications. It is wrapped dry with the help of adhesive holding the first layer, then wetted to activate the resin and cure it.



JUST A REMINDER

FootPro™ DIM is the Only Impression Material You Need

EASY TO MIX AND APPLY | SOFT AND FIRM VERSIONS | GREAT RESULTS

"I'm switching to FootPro™ DIM."

- Michael Moran

FootPro™ DIM is non-toxic, non-allergenic, dental grade silicone that is hand mixed to a moldable consistency and applied to the bottom of the equine foot with a pad to provide either a soft cushion (DIM20), or a firm supportive material (DIM40) when needed. Each box contains a total of either 4 lbs. or 2 lbs. (Equal Parts Catalyst and Base).



12 Points of Reference: The Knee

By Dave Farley, CF APF-I and Roy Bloom, CJF APF-I

The 12 Points of Reference article previously printed in the *Natural Angle* Volume 12, Issue 1, combined with the 12 points DVD "is a winning combination." We both use these steps on every horse we trim. Each of the 12 points can be linked to each other. We have all heard the statement, "Every action has a reaction." This is a very important statement when compared to the bones and joints in the lower limb of every animal we trim. Each digit of the lower limb could be normal for that particular equine. Likewise, there are several abnormal conformation faults possible for each digit in the lower limb of any horse. The more normal the conformation the easier to trim and shoe, if we pay attention and keep the limb balanced for that animal. The more deviation or abnormal the conformation of each bone and joint in the limb, the more important it is to properly trim and maintain that limb for the longevity of that animal.

AS SEEN
ON FPD'S
BLOG

PHOTO (RIGHT): Knees are turned out, however the foot is trying to be straight. This has resulted in a twist of the pastern and places the entire leg inside of center.

As you learn each of the 12 points, you will think of a particular animal you work on and start to wonder if you have done the best trim that you can. Proper trimming will improve the health of the limb as well as the health of the horse. If you improve the trim you will also improve the ability of that animal. If you improve the ability you will have a happy horse and a happy owner. Remember, every action has a reaction!



The first point of reference is the knee. We mentioned that the knee dictates the direction of breakover of that limb. As with each of the 12 points, we believe it is important to observe the horse at the walk as well as standing. Watch the limb as the horse walks toward you. Notice the action of the front limbs. Where is the knee in relation to the rest of the limb? Is the knee in the center of the limb (normal); as the horse moves, the knee breaks straight without the limb swinging in or out? Is it base narrow; toed out, as the knee breaks, the limb moves inward toward the center of the body, and the hoof swings toward the opposite leg? Is it base wide; toed in and as the limb breaks over it rotates out and the hoof wings outwards? After the horse is standing, we like to walk around the animal. Is the knee flat (normal) or is it angled out (base narrow) or angled in (base wide)? While this may seem a little confusing at first, a really cool thing will start to happen! After you watch a few horses move, and focus on the knee you will be able to predict the conformation of the rest of the limb before the animal gets closer to you. You will also be able to predict the wear on the hoof or shoe before you pick up a leg!

PHOTOS (RIGHT): Knees are turned out, feet follow knees and are turned out, leg is centered under knee and above foot.



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