

# Sunrise Equine Veterinary Services, PLLC



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[www.SunriseEquine.com](http://www.SunriseEquine.com)

Fall 2014

## SEVS News

*Dr. Kirsten Frederickson*

Welcome to the fall newsletter. So much has happened it's hard to know where to start. Our long time lead receptionist, KC, retired at the end of July. We thank her for the many years of service and wish her a happy retirement! To take her place we have welcomed Desirae to our team. She has been an excellent addition and I'm sure you will enjoy your interactions with her.

It was an odd spring with the long winter and the neurologic EHV1 outbreak. We are happy to report that there have been no more incidents in our area since the beginning of April. We continue to see sand as a cause of colic frequently in this area due to our predominantly sandy soil. It can accumulate quickly in the intestines if horses are eating off the bare ground or at times of the year when the grass is low. Fall and early winter are prime times for sand colic before the snowpack is formed. Using rubber mats in feeding areas and hay saving nets such as the Cinch Chix nets can greatly reduce how much the horse nibbles straight off the sand trying to pick up stray pieces. Psyllium products such as Sand Clear are very safe and can be used twice a day every day if needed.

New on the horizon is a drug called Tildren. It has been available over seas for years and will become available in the US markets in September. When given as and intravenous injection, this bisphosphate drug will reduce bone absorption. Bisphosphates are used in humans to treat osteoporosis. Tildren is labeled for the treatment of navicular disease in horses, which is characterized by the degeneration of a small bone in the foot that can cause mild to severe lameness. It is also frequently used to treat other conditions where reducing bone loss is indicated. Navicular disease has many factors and can be difficult to treat since every horse responds differently. Treatment is often a process of trial and error in finding what helps in each individual case. Tildren will be a great treatment option to improve the health of the navicular bone and restore soundness.

In other news we are planning to purchase a new ultrasound machine at the end of the year. The new one will be not only capable of reproductive exams but also high quality scans of tendons, neck and back for performance issues and the abdomen for colic type issues. We are excited to be offering new and better services each year. We thank you for your continued patronage.

## Items of Interest

### Cat Castration Day

To help reduce the cat overpopulation problem, we are once again neutering male cats at a reduced fee.

When: Saturday, October 25th, 2014

Cost: 1 cat - \$70

2 cats - \$60 each

3 or more - \$50 each

Vaccinations available: PRCC \$16.00

Rabies \$11.00

Nail Trim: \$5.00

Drop your cat off Saturday morning between 8-9 am and pick him up between 2-3 pm. Cats MUST be in a carrier with a blanket.

Please call to make your cats' appointment!

## A CINCH To Fix Founder



The Hoof Cinch was designed to relieve the pain of laminitis by applying pressure to the front of the hoof wall where the laminae have failed. The constant pressure forces the hoof wall to grow back closer to the coffin bone, allowing them to realign. The Hoof Cinch typically takes 12-16 weeks and can be used on both acute and chronic cases of founder. There is no special trimming or shoeing required, but we suggest elevating the heels, trim the hoof for level and balance and apply the Hoof Cinch. Within hours you will see a more comfortable horse.

**For more information or to order, visit our website or give us a call today!**



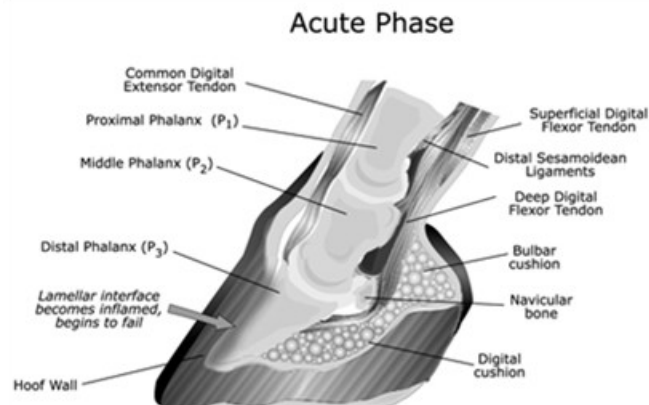
[www.hoofcinch.com](http://www.hoofcinch.com)

**1-855-44CINCH**

## The Hoof Cinch - A New Approach to Laminitis

### By Michelle Wiberg, DVM

Laminitis is a painful inflammatory condition within the horse's hoof that has troubled the horse community for centuries. Laminitis is the results of inflammation within the laminae of the hoof that hold the hoof wall to the third phalanx, or coffin bone. This inflammation can disrupt the normal blood flow and can often permanently weaken the laminae, interfering with the wall/bone bond. In severe cases the bone can actually separate from the hoof wall resulting in rotation and/or sinking of the coffin bone away from the hoof wall. This chronic, more severe form of laminitis is often referred to as Founder. Laminitis can occur in one or all 4 feet, but is most often seen in the front feet concurrently.



Growth rings indicating chronic laminitis

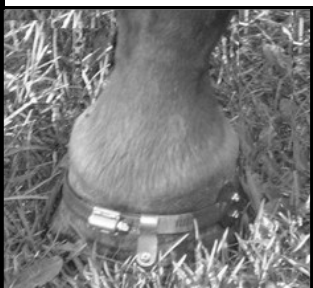
The exact mechanism by which laminitis occurs in horses is still being studied, but several risk factors have been identified. Some of the most common risk factors include fever or illness, obesity, grain overload, severe colic, retained placenta, sudden access to lush pasture (grass founder), excessive concussion (road founder) or abnormal weight bearing (support limb laminitis), and some metabolic conditions such as Equine Cushing's Disease (PPID). Some breeds also have a high prevalence of laminitis such as ponies, drafts, miniatures horses, donkeys, and Morgans.

Signs of acute laminitis include lameness, primarily in the front limbs, most noticeable when the horse is turning. The horse may be reluctant to move or have a hesitant gait (walking on egg shells). Heat in the foot and increased digital pulses may be felt. The horse may shift its weight frequently or have a "sawhorse" stance with the front feet stretched out in front to alleviate pressure on the toes and the hind feet positioned under him to support some of the weight from the front. The horse may also show pain in the toe region when pressure is applied with hoof testers. In chronic laminitis, rings may develop in the hoof wall that are wider at the heel than at the toe and in some cases the hoof may appear dished or slipper-like. The sole may be more prone to bruising (stone bruising) and may appear flatter (dropped sole). The white line may appear widened and the horse may be more prone to developing abscesses.



Typical "Sawhorse" stance seen in horses with laminitis

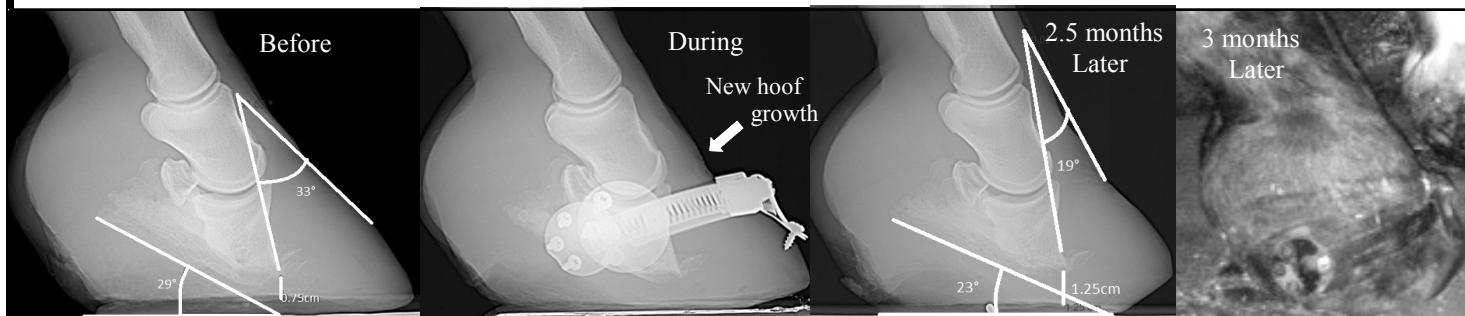
Treatment varies by case but often begins with diagnosing and treating a potential cause. Dietary restrictions are often made such as eliminating grains and pasture and feeding only grass hay. Anti-inflammatories or anti-endotoxemia drugs are often prescribed such as Bute, Banamine, or Equioxx. Horses should be housed on soft footing such as a deeply bedded stall or deep sand. If abscesses develop, they may need to be opened, drained and properly treated. Icing the feet may help decrease inflammation and prevent further damage. Your vet and farrier may work together to determine if certain techniques may be helpful such as corrective trimming, frog supports and therapeutic shoes or pads. Until recently, this was all we had for treating laminitis. Even after many different therapies and farrier techniques had been tried, horses would often have "flare-ups" of laminitis that would eventually progress to a chronic founder.



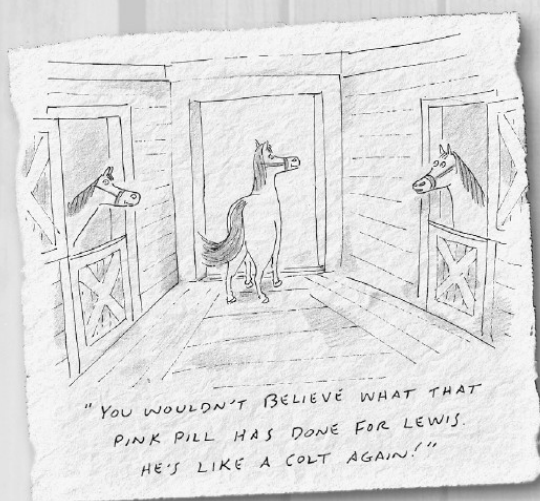
A new product was recently released called "The Hoof Cinch." This product is basically a hose clamp, that when properly applied to the horse's foot, relieves pain and applies pressure in a way that stimulates the foot to begin growing hoof in a more normal alignment with the underlying coffin bone. It has been applied in both acute and chronic cases of laminitis. In an acute case, a single application lasting 8-12 weeks may be all that is needed to stop the progression of the disease and restore comfort to the horse. In more chronic cases the results are slower but the hoof cinch has been shown to improve the coffin bone angle within the foot and start reversing the damage done by the disease. The Hoof

Cinch can be applied and reapplied by your farrier by simply following the instructions and screwing the cinch into place. Radiographs of the feet, both before and after application, are important for monitoring progress with The Hoof Cinch. It is important to maintain proper farrier care throughout the Hoof Cinch application time period. Your vet may recommend that the toes be rounded back and the heels left slightly long to decrease the pull of the deep digital flexor tendon. Shoes with wedge pads may also be used, however the hoof cinch can be applied to a barefoot hoof. The Hoof Cinch can be left on until it begins to grow out, typically 2-3 trim sessions, or reused and reset as needed for more chronic cases. The hoof cinch will not harm a normal hoof and can even be applied to prevent laminitis in high risk cases.

**SEVS Case Study:** After 2 1/2 months, the degree of coffin bone rotation had decreased from 33° to 19° with the use of The Hoof Cinch. Solar angle has decreased from 29° to 23° and solar depth has increased by 0.5cm.



It is important to understand that once a horse has had laminitis, the horse is much more prone to developing laminitis again in the future. The laminae can be damaged in such a way that they may never regain their original strength. Owners of horses with a history of laminitis or horses that are at high risk for laminitis should take necessary preventative precautions such as feeding a diet consisting of primarily grass hay, limited or no access to grass and feeds high in sugars and starches, keeping the horse at an appropriate body condition score, and treating metabolic conditions appropriately.



## THERE'S A BUZZ IN THE BARN. ARE YOU LISTENING?

**Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction (PPID)**, formerly known as Equine Cushing's Disease, can go under diagnosed. Its clinical signs, which may include laminitis, delayed coat shedding, regional adiposity, lethargy and decreased athletic performance, are often overlooked or attributed to other ailments<sup>1</sup>.

Use Prascend® (pergolide mesylate) with regular check-ups to treat PPID and help keep the chatter down.

VISIT [PRASCEND.COM](http://PRASCEND.COM) TO LEARN MORE

**Important safety information:** PRASCEND is for horses only. Treatment with PRASCEND may cause loss of appetite. Most cases are mild. Weight loss, lack of energy, and behavioral changes may be observed. If severe, a temporary dose reduction may be necessary. PRASCEND has not been evaluated in breeding, pregnant, or lactating horses and may interfere with reproductive hormones in these horses. If your horse is especially sensitive to pergolide mesylate or similar products, PRASCEND should not be used. Refer to the package insert or visit [www.prascend.com](http://www.prascend.com) for complete product information.

**References:** 1. Wright A, Gehring R, Coetzee H (2008.) Pharmacokinetics of pergolide in normal mares. American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum, Abstract #36, San Antonio, TX.

[www.bi-vetmedica.com](http://www.bi-vetmedica.com)

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**Prascend®**  
pergolide mesylate

# Open House and Client Education Day

Saturday, November 22nd, 2014

12pm - 4pm

Please come meet our staff & enjoy refreshments with us!  
Place your bids on the silent auction items! Register for  
great door prizes to be given throughout the day!  
(Must be present to win ~ door prizes only)

## Schedule of Events

12:15 "Infectious Disease Control/Prevention" by Dr. Wendy Vaala

1:15 "Nutrition" by Rachel Mottet (Purina)

2:15 "Treating Scratches" by Dr. Michelle Wiberg

3:15 "Colic" by Dr. Kirsten Frederickson

## Ongoing Events

Bring in a fecal sample (1 fresh apple in a baggie will do) for a \$10  
parasite check provided by Merck Animal Health  
Test your horse knowledge with a fun quiz & get a prize!

Poisonous Plant Posters

New! Equine Skeleton!

## Silent Auction!!

*Great products and Services donated from  
local horse related businesses*

*Proceeds benefiting the local horse rescues*

## Directions

7 miles East of North Branch on Hwy 95 ~ go North on Poor Farm Rd  
(just East of County Road 9) 3rd place on the left.

More information on our website! [www.SunriseEquine.com](http://www.SunriseEquine.com)

## Dates to Remember:

Address Correction Requested

Sunrise Equine Veterinary Services  
39318 Poor Farm Road  
North Branch, MN 55056



- ♦ Cat Castration Day October 25th
- ♦ Open House and Client Education  
November 22nd
- ♦ Winter Dental Special: November  
through February. Office call will be free  
when you bring your horse(s) to our  
heated barn for dental floating!

